

8 LIVES LOST DANGER OVER NO REPLY YET TAKE RECESS IN HARMONY NOT GUILTY

Wreck Off Long Island of The Rivers at Pittsburg Believed that War or Exercises of the Normal Democratic Senators Finding of the Jury in

Big Four Masted Schooner Have Begun to Fall Peace Will be Decided Very Soon Suspended for Three Weeks Caucus Over Panama Affairs the Case Against Mrs. Bechtel

ONLY TWO SAVED

The Augustus Hunt Was Bound for Boston from Norfolk—A Dense Fog Caused the Wreck, the Vessel Becoming Stranded—Quoquo Island Life Savers Made Heroic But Futile Attempts to Rescue the Crew—Last of a Fleet of Ten Four Masters That Were Lost at Sea.

New York, January 23.—Eight lives were lost in the wreck today off Quoquo, Long Island, of the four masted schooner Augustus Hunt, coal laden, for Boston from Norfolk, Va. Of the crew of ten, only two men were saved, Second Mate George Ebert, of Cleveland, Ohio, and a Swede, who was unconscious when washed on the beach and whose name could not be ascertained.

The vessel was in command of First Mate Conary, who took charge of her in place of Captain Robert Blair when she last left Boston. Soon after midnight during a dense fog the schooner stranded a few hundred feet from the beach and about a mile west of the Quoquo Life Saving Station. A life saving patrolman heard the cries for help of those on board and summoned the station crew. For hours the life savers were able to hear the cries of the men on the vessel which was near at hand, but in the fog they were absolutely unable to help the men. Time and again they launched their boats, only to have it hurled back to the shore by the heavy surf. The life savers also had recourse to the lines, but the shorts carrying the lines either fell wide or snort of the invisible mark. Soon after day light, masses of wreckage began to come ashore, indicating that the vessel was rapidly breaking up. About noon a spar with a man clinging to it was seen tossing in the outer line of breakers. After a line had been shot across it and made fast by the man he was pulled ashore and proved to be Second Mate Ebert. A few minutes later a sailor was seen on a mass of wreckage and a half a dozen life savers forming a human chain descended into the water and drew him ashore. He was unconscious and continued in that condition at a late hour tonight.

The cries of those remaining on the wreck continued to grow fainter and fainter during the afternoon and finally ceased altogether. One body drifted ashore, but was so disfigured as to be unrecognizable. It is believed that only the bow of the vessel remains on the bar and from this the exhausted seamen dropped one by one until they all were swept away.

Mate Ebert after being taken to the life saving station, had been strangled in the fog having mistaken the Shinnecock light for the headlight of a steamer. The officers believed they were at least twenty-five miles off shore and in no danger when the vessel suddenly struck and began to pound to pieces in the heavy sea that was running on the bar.

Great waves swept the vessel's decks, the masts snapped off like pipe stems and with the rigging were carried away by the tremendous seas. As the hull began to go to pieces, the members of the crew were driven toward shore, where they hung as best they could. Ebert was clinging to some wreckage on the deck when the whole mass went overboard carrying him with it. Ebert was unable to give the names of any of the crew, most of whom were shipped at Norfolk.

The body of the man washed ashore was tonight identified as that of Charles Hudson, of Malden, Mass. The rescued sailor revived sufficiently to be able to say that he was John Somer, a native of Finland who was one of the survivors of the wreck of the Schooner Joseph Phar near Cape Charles on January 2nd and who was shipped on the Hunt at Norfolk. Another unidentified body came ashore tonight.

Rich Radium-bearing Earth Discovered

Austin, Texas, January 23.—What is claimed to be the richest radium-bearing earth in the world has been discovered in the Llano gold and coal fields, 115 miles north of this city. Rumors of the discovery of earth bearing a large per cent. of radium in the Llano have been persistent for some time and today these rumors were verified by the return of a party of scientists who had visited the mines to investigate the reports. These gentlemen state that the Llano earth will produce a larger percentage of radium than any other known source.

From the Head Waters of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers Reports Show That the Rivers are Either Stationary or Falling—The Actual Damage at Pittsburg Will Amount to About One-Half Million Dollars. Suffering in Some of the Flooded Regions Has Been Great.

Pittsburg, Pa., January 23.—The flood danger at this point has passed. All day long both rivers continued to rise until 5 o'clock this evening, when thirty feet and one-tenth was reached at the Monongahela wharf. From that hour on, the waters slowly fell, until 10 o'clock the gauge registered 28 feet and stationary. The temperature has gone down considerably and a light snow is falling. The Allegheny is still full of running ice, but it is much thinner than early in the day.

From the head waters on both the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers the reports tonight show them to be either stationary or falling. At Oil City, the Allegheny is 13 feet and falling six inches an hour, and at Warren the river is stationary. At Greensboro on the Monongahela the mark is 15 feet, six inches and falling. Colder weather with snow prevails.

A round up of the damage done in the Pittsburg district demonstrates that owing to the timely warning given of the approaching high water, the actual damage done will not reach the high figures at first given out and will probably not exceed half a million dollars. To this amount, however, must be added the loss to the manufactories and mills through forced shut downs and to workmen through suspended wages, which will run the total close to the million mark.

As yet no loss of life has been reported, but the suffering in the flooded portions of Pittsburg and Allegheny has been great. A passenger train on the West Pennsylvania road this morning for Allegheny was caught by the rising water of the Allegheny river at Glassmere and the passengers had to be taken from the train by means of skiffs. More than a dozen skiffs were used to carry the passengers to the dry ground and after trip was made for nearly an hour to get all to the shore.

FIRE CAUSES PANIC

Masonic Temple in Chicago Damaged to Extent of \$20,000.

Chicago, January 23.—Fire in the Masonic Temple today caused a panic among the 400 occupants of the building and damaged the stock and fixtures of tenants to the extent of \$20,000. All occupants of the building escaped without serious injury through the bravery of the elevator men, who remained at their posts operating their cars while dense clouds of smoke filled the building. The fire started in the suite of five rooms on the fifth floor occupied by Robert Friedland and Company, manufacturers of X-ray apparatus. A lighted match carelessly thrown by an employe into a pile of excellent quality of paper in a corner of the room is believed to have started the fire. There were a large number of X-ray tubes stored in the company's rooms and these exploded the moment the heat reached them. Robert Friedlander, senior member of the firm, realized the danger from these tubes and worked all over the building the fire which spread rapidly. In a few minutes the entire suite and the lift shaft of the building was filled with flames.

The thousands of occupants of the building were alarmed when clouds of smoke filled every floor and they rushed to the elevators. Many women fainted in the scramble to get into the elevators, but none were seriously injured. That damage to property and injury to individuals was not greater was probably due to the efficiency of the dept. of the employes organized since the Iroquois fire. When the great bell at the top of the rotunda sounded the alarm of fire, every janitor and fireman in the building responded and long before the fire department had reached the scene, the Temple fire brigade had attached hose to the standpipes which extended from the basement to the roof of the structure and eight streams of water were turned upon the conflagration by the volunteer firemen.

Movement Inaugurated for Gordon Monument

Atlanta, Ga., January 23.—A movement for the erection of a monument to the late General John B. Gordon was begun here today when a committee to be known as the central executive committee was appointed for the receiving of subscription toward its erection. Sub-committees are to be appointed in every Southern city.

A Formal Declaration Made by the Government—War Like Preparations are Going on and the Prospect for Peace is Not as Bright—Newspaper in a War Like Editorial Says Hopes of Securing Demands Diplomatically Have Failed and Other Steps Must be Made.

Tokio, January 23.—3 p. m.—No reply has yet been received from St. Petersburg.

Seoul, January 23.—The Korean government has made a formal declaration of neutrality in the event of war between Japan and Russia.

Port Arthur, January 23.—High officials here say they believe war or peace will be decided upon today or tomorrow.

After the conference of the heads of all the departments of the Manchurian administration, orders were issued that a list of every available army and navy reserve man in Manchuria be drawn up, as well as a list of those indispensable for the civil administration which it is impossible to send to the front. It is claimed that the reserves total 40,000 men.

The bulk of the Port Arthur fleet is stationed just outside the mouth of the harbor. Naval and military stores in unusual quantities are being bought on the condition of immediate delivery. The admiralty authorities, answering inquiries on the part of ship owners, decline to define the right of neutral ships bound for Japan. Shipping rates have advanced a hundred per cent during the last fortnight, otherwise the traffic of foreign ships, especially in Japanese coal, which is obtained by indirect purchase, continues normal. The shipping companies, however, are preparing to withdraw from here. The authorities are considering the question of removing the non-combatants for those whose transportation ships are in readiness.

Owing to the disorder in the native city here among the colliers, because the government work has been stopped, large guards occupy the streets nightly.

London, January 23.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio says:

"An extraordinary issue of the Gazette has been published containing an imperial ordinance approving the various coast defense regulations and forbidding under stated penalties, the navigation of private vessels fishing within specified areas or the carrying out of marine work which might be inimical to Japanese naval interests. The decree is regarded as being highly significant.

The Kokumin Shimbun, in a war like editorial, declares that the arrival of non-arrival of Russia's reply does not affect the situation and says:

"Every hope of securing the legitimate demands of Japan diplomatically have been abandoned, and the government, therefore, is compelled to take such steps and to reserve to itself such as will insure perpetual peace."

NO SOLUTION OF MYSTERY.

Search for the Murderer of Miss Schaefer is Not Successful.

Bedford, Ind., January 23.—A court of inquiry in progress here since the identification of Miss Sarah Schaefer as the victim of an atrocious murder here Thursday night closed its session tonight without forming a solution as to the identity of the murderer or a motive for the crime.

Two men have been held as suspects and in one case, that of Theodore Bramham, held at Crothersville an alibi has been proven. The only evidence against the man detained at the Birmingham is his description and the fact that he was in hiding and resisted arrest.

A search is now being prosecuted for the writer of a mysterious letter, supposed to be a girl, where in are expressed statements that point toward a mutual acquaintance of Miss Schaefer and the unknown man with whom it is alleged she was seen Thursday night. It is believed that the discovery of the writer will enable the authorities to apprehend the murderer.

Blame for the Iroquois Fire

Chicago, January 23.—Upon the management and builders of the Iroquois Theatre has been placed responsibility for the fire horror in a report rendered to Mayor Harrison by fire chief. No criticism is made of the building department, although several violations of the building ordinance are noted. The grounds cited by the report for placing the responsibility upon the builders and managers, are similar to the statements which have been published.

The Board of Directors Adopt Resolutions of Thanks to all Who Have Been so Kind—A Statement is Made to the Public by President McIver—Work to Begin at Once on New Buildings—Temporary Accommodations Will be Provided for Remainder of This Year.

(Special to The Messenger.) Greensboro, N. C., January 23.—The Board of Trustees of the State Normal college in session at the college this morning decided to suspend the exercises of the school for three weeks. The five hundred students will go home Monday morning. It was thought best to postpone their going until then, in order to have time to make arrangements with the railroads for special rates for return tickets. Temporary accommodations will be made for all the students within the three weeks, so that every one can be kept at the college, on their return.

Steps in regard to the erection of permanent buildings have been postponed until after these temporary arrangements have been made, and another meeting of the board will be held for this purpose at a later date. It is estimated that it will take at least a hundred thousand dollars, and one year's time, to finish the permanent buildings, so the board decided it to be best to take more time in the consideration of the matter. The insurance on the burned buildings will realize the state about thirty thousand dollars, leaving an expenditure of \$70,000 to build the proper structures.

President McIver's Statement.

The following announcement has been made: Greensboro, N. C., January 23, 1904. Statement to the public: After very mature deliberation on the part of the board of directors and the officers of the institution, the faculty, and the students it has become evident that it is wisest for the State Normal and Industrial College to take a recess of three weeks, in order to give time for converting the students' building, now nearing completion, into a dormitory building for the remainder of the college year. Even after the students' building shall have been converted into a dormitory, it will not be practicable to care for all the students who occupied the main dormitory of the college this year. In a few days we will know for in the new dormitory, and appointments will be made. All students who lost their places by the burning of the main dormitory and who wish to secure boarding places for the next four months will please write me letters to that effect at the earliest possible moment. The board of directors has been for several days been attended by the Governor, the Treasurer, and the Auditor of the state, who have made valuable suggestions. In order that a dormitory building may be ready for occupancy next September, it is necessary that the board therefore has few weeks. The board therefore has conferred with architects, and secure plans and estimates of cost for the erection of one or more dormitory buildings, with a total capacity for accommodating four hundred boarders. This statement is made now so that there may be no doubt as to what the present and prospective students in regard to this important matter. The college will begin its work in the fall with at least as good equipment for taking care of boarders as it has ever had. Speaking for all connected with this college, I desire to express the profoundest appreciation of the numerous evidences of sympathy. The action of the citizens of Greensboro has been prompt, practical and substantial, and in addition to the many messages from sister institutions and friends throughout the country full of sympathy and cheer, there have been numerous voluntary contributions to lighten the burden which has fallen upon a hundred or more students who lost their trunks and clothing.

Very respectfully,
CHARLES D. McIVER,
President.

Congress Will Not Enact Any Financial Legislation.

Washington, January 23.—It has been determined practically definitely that no financial legislation will be enacted at the present session of Congress. Speaker Cannon deems it inadvisable at this time to enter upon the revision or even the amendment of the present financial laws, and it is quite certain that his influence will be thrown against any such proposition. His idea, as he has informed the President, is that no radical legislation of a financial or any other comprehensive character should be entered upon during the present session.

The Caucus Agreed on Two Resolutions That Will be Presented to the Senate Monday—They Call for Full Information Concerning This Government's Connection With the Isthmian Matters—Several Senators Expressed Themselves as Anxious for the Canal.

Washington, January 23.—The Democratic Senators were in conference for almost three hours today when they adjourned it was announced by Senator Gorman, chairman of the caucus, that the conference had agreed upon a resolution to be presented to the Senate asking for all the correspondence between the United States and Colombia since the negotiation of the Hay-Herran treaty. The fact was brought out in the course of the meeting that there are documents missing from the correspondence as published and the conclusion was reached that a resolution calling for all the missing papers would, if passed and complied with by the executive, meet all the requirements. The correspondence to be called for also will cover the period of the recent Panama revolt and all the official writing on that episode. The resolution will be presented Monday.

The conference also decided upon a resolution directing the Senate committee on foreign relations to make an inquiry into the events connected with the Panama revolution. Both propositions were agreed to by all the Senators present. The resolution of inquiry is so worded as to call for a statement from the President as to whether all the papers bearing on the situation have been sent in and if they have not been communicated and the reason for failure to communicate is the fact that the President believes that to make them public would be incompatible with the public welfare, then the President is requested to send them to the Senate in confidence to be used in executive session only.

The resolution asking for an inquiry by the foreign relations committee is directed toward securing an investigation into the Panama affair and its purpose is to show whether or not the administration had foreknowledge of that affair and in any way encouraged it.

There were a number of speeches but they related in the main to the phraseology of the resolutions. There was, however, more or less reference to the merits of the canal treaty, and in that connection several Senators expressed themselves as very anxious to secure the canal. Some went so far as to say they would vote for the treaty, but all condemned the methods of the administration in connection with the Panama uprising. Senator Money was among those who announced themselves for the treaty. Senator Clay and others expressed themselves as very desirous that an amicable arrangement be secured with Colombia, and in this connection hope was expressed that the government of the United States would see its way clear to accept the proposition. It was said that the United States should pay Colombia \$10,000,000.

KNOCKED DOWN BY CAR.

J. A. Rogers Came Near Meeting With Serious Accident Yesterday.

J. A. Rogers, an electrician, came near meeting with a serious accident in front of the post office late yesterday afternoon. He had started across the street from the Postal Telegraph office towards the postoffice. A street car was only a short distance from him when he started across the street but he did not see it and stepped on the track when the car was only a few feet distant. A gentleman who was standing on the sidewalk saw the danger Rogers was in and called to him to get off the track. He attempted to spring from the track but was struck by the fender of the car before he could do so. He was knocked to the pavement but fortunately he did not fall on the track. The motorman is said to have done all in his power to stop the car, but it was too near Rogers before he stopped in front of it that it could not be stopped in time to prevent the accident.

Those who witnessed the accident said that the car having a fender was all that saved Rogers from meeting with serious injury. With the exception of receiving a few bruises, Rogers was unharmed.

The Trial Lasted Nine Days and the Effort to Prove Mrs. Bechtel Being an Accessory After the Fact in Her Daughter's Murder Was Not Successful—Trial of John and Charles Bechtel on the Same Charges Postponed Till the April Term of Court—Jury's Verdict Applauded.

Allentown, Pa., January 23.—Mrs. Catherine Bechtel, the aged mother of Mabel Bechtel who was found murdered last October was today acquitted of the charge of being an accessory to the murder after the fact. Her trial occupied nine days and the jury deliberated one hour before rendering the verdict of not guilty. The gray haired defendant received the news of her acquittal with tears and expressions of joy. She was immediately released from custody and went to her home, accompanied by her sons, John and Charles, who are under indictment on a similar charge, but their trials have been postponed until the April term of court. Former Mayor Schardt, counsel for Mrs. Bechtel, says he has instituted an investigation by which he hopes to clear up the mystery surrounding the murder of the young woman.

Alois Eckstein and David Weisenberg, who were rivals for the affection of Mabel Bechtel, were both tried for her murder, and both were acquitted. Attorney Schardt made an eloquent plea for the acquittal of the accused woman and during his address directly charged Eckstein with having a guilty knowledge of the crime. District Attorney Lichtenwalner in his address explained that the theory of the commonwealth was that Tom Bechtel had killed his sister during a quarrel and asserted that the evidence added ground to the claim. Judge Trexler's charge consumed a half hour. The spectators attempted to applaud the verdict, but were checked by Judge Trexler.

U. S. SENATOR INDICTED.

Serious Charges Against Senator Burton by the Grand Jury.

St. Louis, January 23.—The Federal grand jury today returned an indictment against Joseph Ralph Burton, United States Senator from Kansas charging him, on nine counts, with accepting five checks of \$500 each from the Riato Grain and Securities Company, between November 2nd, 1902 and March 26th, 1903, for his alleged services in interceding with the postmaster general, chief postoffice inspector and other high office officials, to induce them to render a favorable opinion on matters affecting the permission of the Riato Company to use the mails. Major Hugh C. Dennis president of the company and W. B. McManey, associated with him, are named in the indictment as the men who made the check to Burton.

For several days past, William E. Cochran, chief postoffice inspector from Washington, D. C., Major Hugh C. Dennis and W. B. McManey, have been before the grand jury and it is believed the indictment was found on their testimony.

The purpose of Senator Burton's alleged intercession was, it is stated, to prevent the issuance of a fraud order against the Riato Grain and Securities Company.

As a result of his connection with the company, Dennis was indicted both in the federal court and state court, but the United States court acquitted him. Four indictments found in state courts against Dennis are still pending. The penalty provided upon conviction for the offense with which Senator Burton is charged is a penitentiary sentence of not more than two years and a fine of not more than \$10,000 and one so convicted shall be rendered incapable of holding office of trust, honor or emolument under the government.

United States Senators are immune from arrest except for certain specified crimes, while the Senate is in session. It is expected that the present Senate session will last until the summer, but United States District Attorney Dyer expects that Senator Burton will at once make arrangements for a speedy trial.

Washington, January 23.—Senator Burton made this statement today: "My connection with Dennis was simply that of a lawyer professionally employed to defend a suit or prosecution. Dennis was having some trouble with his company beside the indictment which was brought against him, and he came here to consult me regarding the case. It was while here that we visited the postoffice department and made the inquiries regarding charges against Dennis."

Senator Burton says that in the only connection he has had with the postoffice department relating to this case, he says he will go at once to St. Louis to defend the case.

The State Fair. (Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., January 23.—The forty-fourth North Carolina state fair will be held here from October 17th to 22nd.