

MARION PROGRESS

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FOUR KILLED, MANY INJURED

Cause of Explosion in the New York Navy Yard is Not Known.—Investigating.

New York.—Four men were killed and 10 others injured, five of them dangerously, in an explosion which occurred on the submarine E-2, while the craft was undergoing repairs in dry dock at the New York Navy Yard. One of the men killed was an enlisted electrician and the other three civilian workers.

The dead: R. B. Seabert, electrician, second class; James H. Peck, civilian, general helper, Brooklyn; J. P. Schultz, civilian, machinist, Brooklyn; Joseph Logan, civilian, general helper, Brooklyn.

The injured: L. C. Miles, chief electrician, Brooklyn; Ramon Otto, electrician, Middleburg, Md.; Guy H. Clark, Jr., Frankfort, N. Y.; John Holsey, Baltimore, Md.; James Lyons, civilian; Henry Zoll, civilian; Otto Hassert, civilian; Richard Heyne, civilian; Michael Peyser, civilian; August Kaplin, civilian.

Although the detonation was terrific, the submarine itself, from the outside, shows none of the effects of the explosion, the second fatal accident of its kind in the history of the United States Navy. The interior apparatus was badly shattered but so tight was the vessel's shell that there was no means of escape for gas which accumulated and it was more than an hour after the blast before the work of recovering the bodies could be completed.

A statement indicating that the new Edison storage battery was not in any way responsible for the explosion on the submarine E-2 at the New York Navy Yard, was made by Miller Reese Hutchinson, chief engineer for Thomas A. Edison and a member of the Navy Consulting Board.

CALLED TO DEFEND NATION.

President Wilson Begins Work of Quick Mobilization.

Washington.—President Wilson has begun work to put into operation the plan he outlined in his last message to congress for preparing the nation's manufacturing, railroad and other business resources for quick mobilization in case of emergency. It became known that he has written to the heads of all of the principal engineering organizations asking that they appoint representatives to collect data for use in organizing business for national defence, in time of danger.

The letters, one of which was made public in New York, by W. L. Saunders, president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, went also to the presidents of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers and the American Chemical Society.

Renews Promise to Punish Bandits.

Washington.—General Carranza renews his assurances to the United States that he would make every effort to punish those responsible for the murder of American mining men near Santa Ysabel.

A dispatch from Consul Silliman to the state department, dated at Queretaro said Carranza had personally assured Mr. Silliman, in reply to the department's demand that the murderers be run down, that he "had issued orders for the immediate pursuit, capture and punishment of those responsible for the atrocity."

Simultaneously in a dispatch to Eliseo Arredondo, his ambassador designate here, General Carranza announced that he was about to issue a decree permitting any citizen of Mexico to execute any of the bandits "without formality."

Special Message from Governor Stuart

Richmond, Va.—In a special message to the general assembly, Governor Henry C. Stuart recommended legislation which would give state troops right of way on all railroads when called on active service; a "fair and reasonable" workman's compensation law, a preferential primary for selection of candidates for state offices; and the appointment of a commission to study land mortgage banks and other forms of rural credits with a view to the establishment of such a system in Virginia.

Convicts Will Be Kept on Road Work in Western Section.

Asheville, Jan. 13.—Convicts now employed on roads in western North Carolina are to be permitted to remain here was the promise made here yesterday by Governor Craig, who had come from Raleigh especially to investigate the proposed removal of the convicts from several of the roads in this section for the purpose of hiring them out to private interests.

Governor Craig's promise was reiterated by Prison Supt. J. S. Mann of Raleigh, who also promised the mountain people the use of the convicts until the roads they are building are complete. It was generally understood at the meeting that the two negro camps will probably be consolidated and placed on the road from Old Fort to Swannanoa Gap until August 1, after which time they will be sent to Madison County for work there.

Members of the Board of Trade, the good roads association and numerous other civic bodies were present at the meeting at the Board of Trade rooms yesterday, at which time Governor Craig met with the citizens to discuss the convict situation. Interesting talks were made by J. W. Pless, of Marion; P. H. Mashburn, of Old Fort; C. A. Boone, of Black Mountain; P. A. Rideout, state engineer at Old Fort in charge of the work on the mountain; Highway Commissioner Guy V. Roberts, of Marshall, all of whom were a unit in urging the use of convict labor on the mountain roads and that the convicts be kept on the main thoroughfares until they are completed. Governor Craig explained that he thought good roads in this section would benefit the entire State, especially as the roads on which the convicts are at work comprise part of the State highway leading to Tennessee and across the State in the other direction.

The statement was made that the Round Knob road will probably be open to tourist travel by June 1, which will add greatly to the value of this section as a Summer resort.

Good Roads Meeting at Dysartsville—May Vote Bonds.

Dysartsville, Jan. 17.—The good roads meeting held here Friday night was well attended, there being more than seventy-five citizens in attendance who expressed themselves in favor of improving the roads. A number of men made very interesting talks. The sentiment of the meeting seemed to be unanimously for a bond issue. A committee consisting of R. E. Roper, J. C. Upton, James Walker and Carson Jarrett was appointed to confer with the State engineer of good roads and also others who have had experience in road building.

The next meeting will be held Monday night, January 24, at the Dysartsville school house at 7:30. It is urged that every citizen in the township attend.

The great mid-winter sale will begin at the store of P. A. Reid & Co. this (Thursday) morning at 9 o'clock and continue nine days, ending Saturday night, January 29. A desirable line of goods is offered at very attractive prices. Read the page ad. of bargains in this paper today.

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

Brief Mention of Some of the Happenings in McDowell County—Items About Home People.

NEBO

Nebo, Jan. 17.—The box supper given last Friday night was a decided success. The proceeds amounted to about \$45.00, which will go to the benefit of the school.

Will Landis of Dysartsville spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives here.

Miss Cheley Sigmon was shopping in Marion Saturday.

F. N. Sigmon is in Jacksonville, Fla., on a pleasure trip this week.

J. C. Goforth of Woodlawn spent one night last week with his sister, Mrs. G. D. Taylor.

John Setzer of Gastonia spent a few days last week with his sister, Mrs. W. J. Bowman.

Ed DeVault of Glen Alpine spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Sigmon.

HANKINS

Hankins, Jan. 17.—Misses Delia Gibbs and Miss Myrtle Brown spent Sunday with relatives at Ashford.

James Lackey of Jacksonville, Fla., Percy Barnes and Fred Lentz of Marion were visitors here Sunday.

Fred Barnes and Joe Hall attended the box supper at Nebo Friday night.

Mrs. S. W. Cannon has been quite ill for some time but is improving.

Hankins school is reported as progressing nicely with Misses Delia Gibbs and Myrtle Brown as teachers. Reports show that the pupils are interested in the school work. The enrollment is very large.

GARDEN CITY

Garden City, Jan. 18.—Garden City school is progressing nicely. The boys have organized a Betterment Club which is doing good work. The girls have a Sewing class which in time will no doubt prove a success. Following is the school honor roll for the past week: Rena Jameson, Rebecca Hennessee, John Ray Jameson, Carl Haney, Dillion Woody, Ernest Gibbs, Lee Quinn, Zura Walker, Reddie Bird, Cecil Woody, Mira Quinn, Wilhelmina Grindstaff, Ruth Chapman, Billie Gibbs, Frank Haney, Lula Mae Gibbs, Caskie McCormick, Virginia Quinn, Addie Quinn, Vescoe Shuford, George Shuford, Douglas Woody, Wilburn Walker, Rena Patton, May Shuford, Josie Ellis, Dock Ayers, Charlie Gibbs, Robert Chapman and Avery Woody.

Stanley Gibbs, who has been in the West for some time, is visiting his brother, H. A. Gibbs.

J. L. Suttles, who has been residing at Garden City for the past seven years, is moving his family to J. D. Blanton's farm at Greenlee where he will superintend the work on the farm.

J. E. Jameson had the misfortune of losing a fine cow from the effects of swallowing a wire from a cotton meal sack.

Miss Dora Gibbs is spending a few weeks with her aunt, Mrs. James Avery, at Ashford.

Ervin Mason has entered the graded school at Marion.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Jameson have both been on the sick list, but are improving rapidly.

Miss Blanche Houck and John Ray Jameson spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Ray.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Patton are visiting their son, J. G. Patton.

Judge M. H. Justice and Judge W. J. Adams have made an exchange of courts by commission of Governor Craig who designates Judge Justice to hold McDowell, beginning January 24, a term of two weeks; McDowell two weeks, beginning February 21; Henderson, beginning March 6, two weeks; Yancey, beginning March 27, two weeks; Transylvania, starting April 7, two weeks; Rutherford, two weeks, beginning May 1.

Williams-Swann.

The marriage of Miss Alma Swann of Nealsville to Mr. George Williams of Old Fort during the week came as a surprise to friends. The wedding took place at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. W. S. Giles. Rev. M. B. Ridenhour performed the ceremony, which was witnessed only by a few close friends and relatives. Mr. Charles Green was best man and as the wedding march was being played the bride entered with Miss Etta Simmons, of Morganton, who gave her away. After congratulations, dainty refreshments were served. Numerous gifts were received.

After spending the night at the home of the bride's sister, the happy couple left Tuesday on No. 11 for Asheville, Waynesville and Knoxville, Tenn., where they will spend their honeymoon. After a stay of two weeks they will return to Old Fort, where they will make their home. Mr. Williams holds a position with the Union Tanning Co. Their many friends wish for them much happiness and success through life. F.

Captured Bear on Linville.

Mr. S. N. Gray, of Nebo township, was in town this week and reported the capture of a large black bear on Linville mountain recently. Mr. Gray says the bear was captured after a strenuous race of six days duration. He claims to have some of the best bear dogs in this part of the State and hopes during the remainder of the winter months to capture a number of bears, since he says they are unusually plentiful in the vicinity of Linville and Shortoff mountains.

Court Next Week.

Superior court will convene here next Monday, January 24, with Judge M. H. Justice, of Rutherfordton, presiding. This will be a two weeks term for the trial of civil cases only. There is a heavy docket.

Clerk of Court Thomas Morris is in receipt of a letter from Judge Justice stating that it will be impossible for him to reach Marion on Monday morning and that court will not convene before 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Births and Deaths for Year 1915.

According to the report of Register of Vital Statistics Thomas McGuire, during the year 1915 there were 228 births in Marion township and 84 deaths, making the net gain of births 144. In the town there were 49 births during the year and in the township outside the city there were 179. There were 17 deaths in Marion and 67 in the township outside of the corporate limits for the year.

Mr. McGuire's report follows: Births in Marion: Boys 23; girls, 26; total 49. Deaths in city: Males 9, females 8, total 17. Births in township, outside of city: Boys 93, girls 86, total 179. Deaths in township, outside of Marion: Males 35, females 32, total 67. Total for entire township, including town of Marion: Births 228, deaths 84.

Between the war and the automobile the unhappy horse is kept continually sidestepping sudden death.

OVER THE OLD NORTH STATE

Brief Notes Covering Happenings in This State That Are of Interest to All the People.

Ex-Judge Foushee is ill at his home in Durham.

Durham county has let the contract for a new court house to cost \$22,500.

A party of Rockingham farmers visited Catawba county last week to study diversification and co-operation.

Four special elections held in Buncombe county last week for improvement of educational facilities carried by good majorities.

A memorial service was held at Monroe in honor of Robert Ney McNeely, who lost his life with the sinking of the British liner Persia.

The sight of the right eye of William Merrill, of Beaufort, aged nine years, was destroyed by an accidental shot from an air rifle in the hands of a comrade.

The second annual report of the Catawba Rural Credits Association made by George R. Wooten, secretary-treasurer, shows a total of 296 shares with a total present value of \$8,759.21.

The Fourth Annual Convention of the North Carolina Conference for Social Service will be held in Charlotte, January 23 to 26, 1916. This is going to be a largely attended and a very profitable convention.

The census bureau reports that the value of products manufactured in Winston-Salem during 1914 was \$37,288,000 as shown from the census of manufacturers. The population July 1 of that year was estimated at 29,000.

Announcement has been made that Governor Craig had purchased a fine residence lot in Asheville and that he will begin almost immediately the erection of a fine home to be occupied by himself and family when his term as governor is ended.

Surveyors are laying off the line of a proposed extension of the Kinston Carolina railroad from Pink Hill, Lenoir county, to Chinquapin, Duplin county. The distance is about 18 miles. It is practically certain that the extension will be built.

Nearly \$500 was subscribed in a few hours at Lexington for the organization of the Davidson county fair, which it is planned to hold in Lexington this fall. A further canvass will be made of Lexington and the county and sufficient funds are expected to be found to set the enterprise going.

The Hendersonville authorities are planning for a \$150,000 new water supply and system to be installed at once. Hendersonville has been in need of a more adequate supply of water for several years. It will be necessary to construct a pipe-line for a distance of 14 miles to the head of North Fork and Big Creeks.

Every dairy cow in Buncombe county must undergo the annual tuberculin test, according to an order passed by the Asheville commissioners, and as the last session of the legislature passed the Nettles bill providing that where the city ordered such tests the city should pay the expenses, Asheville foot the bills.

Mr. J. D. McVean, who has been in charge of the pig club work in North Carolina having been assigned to this state to do co-operative work for the Animal Husbandry Bureau of the United States department of agriculture, will on February 1st go to Washington, where he assumes charge of the pig club work in the United States.

The successor to Dr. D. H. Hill as president of the North Carolina College of Agriculture, and Mechanic Arts will be chosen by the trustees at the annual meeting in May. This conclusion was reached by the trustees, who were in special session to receive the resignation of Dr. Hill, who will take up his new commission as historian to prepare the history of North Carolina's part in the Civil War for the North Carolina Division United Confederate Veterans at the close of the present college term. The resignation was accepted with regret.