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BIG BOILER BLOWS UP

The Durham Electric Lighting Plant Demolished.

FIVE MEN WERE INJURED

One Expected to Die and Another Seriously Hurt—Walls Levelled to the Ground and Boiler Thrown a Distance of One Hundred Feet—Other Buildings Struck by Fragments—Window Glass Broken by Concussion

Durham, N. C., Feb. 12.—Special.—At 5:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon the plant of the Durham Electric Lighting Company was destroyed by the explosion of one of the boilers.

The destruction is as near complete as could possibly be. The walls of the building were levelled with the ground; huge pieces of machinery were torn and twisted as if made of cardboard; brick, timber and iron were blown hundreds of feet, and one boiler was ripped open, as if it had been paper and carried a hundred feet or more from where the explosion occurred.

Four men were in the building at the time, and, strange to say, they are alive at this time, though one is probably fatally injured. A negro who was walking along the railroad track is thought to be seriously hurt. The wounded are as follows:

H. T. Brown, electrical engineer and superintendent of the plant; knee sprained and scalp wound. Injuries slight.

James Lumley, lineman; scalded about neck, face and arms. Thought to be fatal.

Clyde Dickson, engineer; number of scalp wounds and bruises about the body. Condition not serious.

Bill Burnett, colored, fireman; burned about face and hands, small scalp wounds, scalded. Painful, but not serious.

Alex Lyon, colored, who was passing the plant at the time of the explosion; scalp wounds, cuts on face and neck, and bruised. Condition serious.

The explosion was heard for miles around and the shock was felt all over the city. Many who did not hear the explosion felt the shock and thought it was an earthquake. An idea of the terrific force of the explosion can be obtained from the fact that a heavy plate glass in the window of the Morehead Banking Company, some four or five hundred yards from the plant, was broken, and hundreds of smaller glass, nearer the scene, were smashed, in some instances the sash being broken out with the glass.

When the explosion occurred Mr. Brown, Mr. Lumley and Bill Burnett were in the boiler room and Mr. Dickson was in the engine room. How they escaped instant death is a matter of profound mystery. After the explosion they were quickly taken from the wreckage, and Messrs. Lumley and Dickson were sent to the Watts Hospital; Mr. Brown was able to take care of himself and went to his home. Burnett was taken out and sent home. Physicians were quickly summoned and every possible attention was given the wounded men.

Those in the building did not have a moment's warning before the terrible accident. Bill Burnett, who was sitting in front of the boiler drying his feet, says that all he remembers is that the boiler reared up and left its foundation. The next he knew he was buried beneath hot bricks and his hands were badly burned in extruding himself. The boiler that did not explode was hurled some ten feet to one side, passing almost directly over the head of Mr. Brown. Mr. Lumley was also sitting in front of the boiler, and was thrown outside the building by the force of the explosion. He had to get assistance before he could free himself. Mr. Dickson was bending behind an engine, being some oil cups, and this saved his life, as the engine was bent into a shapeless mass.

The boiler that wrought such havoc was carried across the railroad about one hundred feet from the scene. It was split wide open from end to end and it cut away a part of a railroad bed house in its flight. A piece of iron pipe some six inches in diameter struck the Central Hotel, about ninety or one hundred yards away, and tore a large hole in the weatherboarding. The plaster in Mayor McCown's room in this hotel was jarred off and eighteen large glass in the windows of the building were broken out. Another piece of flying debris struck a cow belonging to Mr. J. R. Day and broke her back. This cow was about twenty-five or thirty yards from the scene of the explosion. At the court house, about two hundred yards away, the damage was equally as severe as at the Central Hotel. Some thirty or forty large window glass were broken. A plate glass window in the new building of Mr. J. W. Smith, opposite the hotel, was smashed out as if broken with an axe. Glass were also broken out of the building used by Hackney Bros., druggists; S. M. Snider, jeweler; Morehead Banking Company and others. The last named

building is about 450 or 500 yards from the scene.

The loss to the Electric Lighting Company is about \$25,000, on which there is insurance to the amount of \$10,000. The bulk of the stock of the plant is owned by Gen. J. S. Carr. New machinery had recently been placed in the building at a cost of from \$12,000 to \$15,000.

The explosion was due to a crystallized seam in the boiler that weakened it. It gave way under pressure of steam.

THREE MORE SPEECHES.

Debate on the Financial Bill Drags Along in the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 12.—The House spent considerable time today in pension and District of Columbia legislation and then went into committee of the whole, favorably reporting the bill granting transportation companies the right to transport through the United States in bond goods destined for the Mexican free zone.

The session of the Senate was almost wholly taken up with speeches on the financial bill by Messrs. Elkins of Virginia, Wolcott of Colorado and Butler of North Carolina. Mr. Wolcott's speech attracted most attention, especially the part of it in which he expressed his hope in the ultimate establishment of international bimetallism. In general he approved the pending measure, but insisted on its containing the declaration favoring bimetallism which the Finance Committee had added to the bill. He said that bimetallism in this country had received its greatest blow at the hands of the Bryan Democracy, which had openly advocated depreciated currency.

Mr. Butler based his opposition to the gold standard on the precariousness of the gold supply. He attacked the provision of the bill looking to the issue of national bank notes.

The Senate also passed a resolution making effective resolutions passed by the Continental Congress providing monuments for Generals Francis Nash and William L. Davidson, of North Carolina, to cost \$5,000 each.

REPORT AGAINST EWART

Sub-Committee of Senate Reports Unfavorably.

The Decision Unanimous—New Charges Overwhelming—Pritchard Kept Up Fight Though Discouraged—Davidson and Nash Monuments

Washington, Feb. 12.—Special.—The sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee today reported unanimously against the confirmation of Ewart as judge of the western district of North Carolina. The matter was discussed at length. All matters in committee in relation to appointments are confidential, but it is said that the new charges against Ewart, mention of which was sent to The Post at the time, taken in connection with the old charges, had a determining effect in the sub-committee reaching its conclusion. The full committee did not act today, but will take up the report perhaps next Thursday, its regular meeting day.

Senator Pritchard, who is fighting Ewart's battle for him, while discouraged, has not given up the fight, and even with an adverse report from the full committee will carry the fight into executive session of the Senate. J. J. Perkins has been appointed postmaster at Greenville.

The Senate today passed bills to erect monuments to Generals Davidson and Nash. The house has yet to act on these bills.

BRYAN IN RICHMOND.

He Visits the Legislature and Makes a Speech to a Large Crowd.

Richmond, Feb. 12.—William J. Bryan crossed the line into Virginia this morning.

Passing through Ashland, the seat of the Methodist College, Mr. Bryan received his first greeting. The students cheered him as the next President and were rewarded by some brief remarks. In Richmond Mr. Bryan called on Governor Tyler and then visited the legislature, which took a recess of five minutes in his honor.

He was called on for a speech, and made one of considerable length in declining to speak. The legislature resumed its work and Mr. Bryan returned to his hotel to prepare for the effort of the afternoon, when he addressed about fifteen hundred people. This evening he was entertained at dinner by the chairman of the State committee and afterward held a reception at his hotel. He leaves tomorrow morning to speak in Raleigh.

Only One Left.

Petersburg, Va., February 12.—The dwelling of Martha Smith in Sussex county, near Stony Creek, was destroyed by fire Saturday night and she and six children were burned to death. Only one member of the family, a boy, escaped. The fire is believed to have been incendiary. The charred bodies of the seven unfortunates were found in the ruins yesterday morning.

CHEERS FOR ROBERTS

The Commander in Chief Talks to the Troops

PRAISE FOR HIGHLANDERS

He Has No Doubt of the Success of the Movement to Begin From Modder River—He Will Let War Correspondents Send the News—Buller Explains Why He Decided Not to Try to Hold Vaalkrantz.

Modder River, Feb. 10—4 p. m.—General Roberts visited the camp of the Highlanders this morning, and made a brief speech to each battalion. He recalled their association with him in India and declared that they had helped to make him what he is. He added that he never made a campaign without the Highlanders and would not be willing to make one without them. He was glad that MacDonald reported well of them. He referred to the arduous marches the Seaforth Highlanders had made with him, and added that the brigade would have a shorter march now. Though it would not be a walkover, he did not have the slightest doubt of its success.

The brigade gave three cheers for the commander-in-chief and another three for Lady Roberts. In response to the cheering for the latter, General Roberts said that Lady Roberts was, perhaps, doing better work for them at home in helping the welfare of their wives and children.

British Bury Boers.

Koodoesberg, Feb. 10, via Modder River.—The British buried fourteen Boers yesterday who were killed in the fighting here. The expedition to this place prevented a projected Boer attack upon British communications between here and Enslin.

Dutch Colonists Destroy Property.

Modder River, Feb. 11.—Twelve hundred whites who were loyal to the British have left Barkley West, Cape Colony, owing to destruction of their property by colonial Dutch residents. Boers had made no attack on them.

General Roberts has promised press correspondents here that they will be allowed complete freedom of action in sending their reports.

Why Buller Withdrew

London, Feb. 12.—General Roberts cables the War Office from Modder River, under date of February 11, as follows:

"Received the following from Buller February 9:

"It was necessary, after seizing Vaalkrantz, to trench it as a pivot for further operations, but I found after two days that this was impracticable. It was also exposed to the fire of heavy guns fired from a position by which our artillery was dominated.

"It is essential to troops advancing to Ladysmith by Harding or Monger's Drift to hold Vaalkrantz securely. Accordingly we are not pressing the advance on those roads as I find that we cannot make it secure."

Major Doveton Seriously Ill.

Pietermaritzburg, Natal, Feb. 12.—News was received here yesterday that Major Doveton is seriously ill at Ladysmith. General White, commander of British forces at Ladysmith, obtained permission from General Joubert, the Boer commander-in-chief, for Mrs. Doveton to join her husband. She left here last night and is passing through the Boer lines today.

Another Casualty List.

London, Feb. 12.—The War Office issued a short list of casualties this morning. It shows that ten Highlanders were wounded in the fighting at Koodoesberg February 10. At Rensburg, February 9, one Australian was killed and five others wounded. Six Tasmanians are missing.

THE SECOND DISTRICT

Republican Convention Will Be Held in Tarboro April 26th.

Wilson, N. C., Feb. 12.—Special.—This afternoon the Republican executive committee of the Second district met in the courthouse. J. H. Arrington, of Halifax, presided. The members present were S. H. Vick of Wilson, L. T. Barnes of Bertie, W. M. Person of Northampton, J. B. Elliot of Wayne, J. W. Grimsley of Greene, J. B. Cameron of Lenoir. It was decided to hold the district convention in Tarboro, April 26. Representative White was only here between trains on his way to Washington. He was not present at the meeting.

Fire in Charlotte.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 12.—Special.—The National dairy kitchen, one of the best restaurants in the city, was destroyed by fire early this morning. The place was owned by George Rutledge. The fire started in the basement in a box of waste paper. The loss is about \$700 on fixtures and furniture; fully insured.

TREATY UNDER FIRE

Prospect for McKinley's Pet Not the Brightest.

MORGAN'S NEW ATTITUDE

He Suddenly Discovers That the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty Is in Force—Statement Issued by the State Department Regarded as a Weak Defence—Roosevelt's Opposition—The Press Severe on the New Treaty.

Washington, Feb. 12.—It is possible, but not probable, that there may be during the present week some official developments with regard to the Hay-Pauncefote canal treaty now pending in the Committee on Foreign Relations. No action has been taken since the convention was submitted last Monday, and no formal consideration has been given to the subject.

Thus far the Democrats on the committee have not given voice to opposition, but they sit quietly by while their spokesman, Mr. Morgan, defends and advocates the agreement and upholds the Clayton-Bulwer treaty on which it is based and which he has bitterly and consistently denounced ever since he has been in the Senate.

Mr. Morgan's attitude is astonishing to everybody, but it is supposed to be due in very large measure to his devotion to the interests of the canal construction bill, which it is on the program to take up and pass at the first opportunity. It is feared by Mr. Morgan and others that the submission of the treaty may in some way interfere with the bill. So he is determined that the bill shall be disposed of first. At the meeting of the Committee on Foreign Relations last Wednesday it was suggested to Mr. Morgan that ratification of the treaty would naturally enhance the success of the bill, and that as he was confident that it would be ratified he might let it be voted on. But Mr. Morgan is too wary a legislative veteran to back up his professions by practice, so he preferred to keep the bill to the front.

It is very difficult to ascertain just how much opposition there is in the Senate to the Hay-Pauncefote agreement, as those who are desirous of defeating it evidently think they can best do so by keeping quiet as to their plans and allowing their opponents to flatter themselves with false security. That a majority of the Senate favor ratification there is no doubt. It is equally plain that a number of them favor rejection and a certain other number amendment, which will be fatal, as the administration has already let it be known that the treaty must stand or fall as it is, that the negotiations with England cannot be reopened.

In this connection it can be stated that the formal defence of the treaty issued by the State Department Saturday is regarded as a very remarkable document, as ineffective as it was out of place. The argument that it has never been the contention of this government that England had by her own acts violated the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and that in fact it is in full force and effect and is so regarded by the administration, is generally regarded as weak and unsatisfactory in view of popular opinion and in out of Congress, and in view also of the written record of past administrations. There can be no doubt that the opponents of the treaty will use this ill advised pronouncement with good effect against the framers of the treaty when it is taken up, just as the newspaper press is now confronting Senator Morgan with his numerous speeches on the wickedness of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and with his repeated public assertions that it was dead long ago.

The makers of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty—the American makers—are chagrined at the criticism of their action by the press, but they are now asserting that, the first burst of indignation having passed, the necessary two-thirds vote for ratification will be secured. This is entirely problematical and a very rosy view. Twenty-nine Senators are probably all that will be needed to reject, and fifty-eight will be necessary to ratify.

The denunciation of the treaty by Governor Roosevelt will undoubtedly have its effect. He is a type of American and Republican for whom the argument set forth in the State Department's appeal for ratification has no attractions, although he presumably agrees with it in the denial of an existing alliance with England outside of the terms of the agreement. It will be something of a shock to Roosevelt's Republican friends in Congress and in the administration to learn of this positive expression of his views.

They will be compelled to admit that he is, at present at least, better qualified to judge popular opinion, and his Americanism is of such a type that his views are bound to find a favorable response throughout the country. It will be especially a surprise to Senator Lodge, a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations and Colonel Roosevelt's closest political and personal friend, to know that Roosevelt thus, in no uncertain way, gives voice to his honest opinion in spite of the sophistical arguments of the administration and its spokesmen in Congress.

gress: It is the opinion of everybody now, even supporters of the treaty, that Roosevelt's protest will serve at least to call a halt in Congress and force the treaty to wait until the sober second thought of the people can take effect.

ROOSEVELT SAYS NO.

Republican Nomination for Vice-President a Hat He Will Not Bite.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 12.—Governor Roosevelt this afternoon made a definite public announcement that he would not accept the Republican nomination for Vice-President. The following typewritten statement regarding his position upon this question was given out:

"In view of the continued statement in the press that I may be urged as a candidate for Vice-President, and in view of many letters that reach me advising for and against such a course, it is proper for me to state definitely that under no circumstances could I or would I accept the nomination for the Vice-Presidency. It is needless to say how deeply I appreciate the honor conferred upon me by the mere desire to place me in so high and dignified a position.

"But it seems to me clear that at the present time my duty is here in the State whose people chose me to be governor. Great problems have been faced and are being partly solved in this State at this time; and if the people so desire, I hope that the work thus begun I may help carry to a successful conclusion."

Governor Roosevelt had nothing to add to his formal statement except that in answer to an inquiry he announced that, as regards the Vice-Presidency, he was happy to state that Senator Platt cordially acquiesced in his view of the matter.

PROSPERITY OF MEXICO

English Capital Interested in a Railway From Mexico City to Honduras

Mexico City, Feb. 12.—A Chicago firm has taken a second issue of the State of Jalisco bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000 gold, the proceeds of which go to improvements in the city of Guadalajara. The same firm some time ago took a million and a half dollars bonds of that state. The taxable property in Jalisco has largely increased of late, principally by careful new assessments, and the resources of the government are correspondingly augmented.

The finance department has given a charter for a bank in the city of Campeche, with a capital of \$300,000, which may be increased as the business warrants. Campeche and the whole peninsula of Yucatan is prosperous as never before in its history. Planters are making money by the sale of sisal fiber at good prices in the United States, and many works of public improvement have been undertaken, in which native capital is largely interested.

A project is on foot in England for a direct line of railway from this city to the Yucatan Peninsula, with extensive lines into British Honduras, where the British government is disposed to give a subsidy. The line would place Yucatan in immediate connection with the Federal capital, and would open up a fertile agricultural region. It is favored by the government.

The city council has failed to accept the bids of three companies for paving 100 streets with asphalt, and the matter will be taken up on a new basis. The competing firms represent New York, Chicago and London capital. Undoubtedly some system of asphalt paving will be adopted, and possibly modification in prices may be made.

ANTI-TRUST BILLS.

The One Passed in South Carolina Would Hardly Recognize Itself.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 12.—An anti-trust bill passed the House tonight after being weighted down with amendments. As originally introduced it was a copy of the Texas law; then it was amended so as to resemble the Illinois law with slight modifications. This was subsequently cut up, destroying the original purpose of the bill. The tobacco growing district led the fight against the bill. It is expected that the Senate will kill it.

Flag Raised Over Two Islands.

Washington, Feb. 12.—A press dispatch from Manila says it is reported there that the United States gunboat Princeton raised the American flag over Batanes and Calagan Islands, the most northern of the Philippine archipelago, with the exception of Bayat Island, where the Japanese flag was found flying.

General Pinar Dies of Fever

Manila, Feb. 12.—A number of ex-insurgent officers are arriving here. They state that General Pio Del Pilar, insurgent leader, died of fever a fortnight ago in the Morong mountains. The leaders, after his death, decided that it was useless to hold on longer; so they disbanded their forces, which are now wandering in small gangs in the hills.

Date of Engagement Changed.

New York, Feb. 12.—The date of the contest, between Jeffries and Corbett has been changed from April 10 to May 10 at the request of Jeffries. This date, the managers say, is final.

Mr. James H. Pou will address the people of Pittsboro this morning on the question of white supremacy.

REST ON THEIR OARS

Kentucky Disputants Await Decision of Courts

THE RIVAL LEGISLATURES

Democratic Body in Louisville Makes Some Show of Doing Business—Republicans in Frankfort Adjourn for Want of a Quorum—Detectives Tracing Clues to the Assassination of Mr. Goebel.

Frankfort, Feb. 12.—The Kentucky Democrats refused today to accept the invitation of Governor Taylor to come to Frankfort and formally oust him from the office of governor, and, so far as outward appearances go, he is tonight the undisputed governor of the State. The State house and executive building were wide open, but the legislators who have been anxious to throw Taylor out did not appear. They remained in Louisville and from that town hurled abuse and swore they would never come to Frankfort. Sixteen Democratic Senators at Louisville passed a resolution that the presence of soldiers was the reason for not coming here, but it was not a valid reason, for there were no soldiers present other than a corporal's guard to preserve order and see that nobody assassinated Taylor. Resolutions were also passed demanding that Taylor vacate the office and turn it over to Beckham. Republican members of legislature got here today from London. Each house held a meeting, and appointed a committee to tell Taylor they were ready to do business. He sent back the laconic message, "Go ahead and do it." Then the houses adjourned for want of a quorum.

Detectives today took advantage of the absence of soldiers to attempt to find out who killed Goebel and from where the shots were fired. Three bullets were located in a tree in the square. It would appear likely that the assassin had drawn a bead on the tree and then waited until Goebel came between him and the tree. The bullets were not far apart, indicating that the assassin had steady nerve. A bill was introduced at Louisville this afternoon appropriating \$100,000 to hunt down the assassin. It was referred to a committee.

The general belief here now is that the Democrats will continue their present tactics until after the decision in the injunction case in the Federal courts in Cincinnati. Meanwhile the Democratic injunction proceedings to restrain Taylor from interfering with the meeting of the legislature at Frankfort will go on just as if Taylor had not thrown open the doors.

A WOMAN'S BRIGHT IDEA.

Lexington, Ky., February 12.—Mrs. Amelia B. Saffel, who keeps a boarding house in Frankfort, says she saw Goebel shot. According to her story she was in the State house yard when Goebel entered, and saw a man who was walking some distance behind him shoot him with a revolver. She saw the man run to the State house, enter the building and then go to the wounded man. She has described the man to Governor Taylor and will tell more about the shooting when Taylor gives her permission. She thinks the man was not a Republican and that he merely intended to wound Goebel slightly. Mrs. Saffel says she believes Goebel was dead two days before the fact was made public and was sworn in as governor when he was a corpse.

COTTON ADVANCING

The Foreign Market Reported Higher and Excited.

New York, Feb. 12.—Markets were closed here and in Chicago, it being Lincoln's birthday.

Owing to the holiday, the local cotton market was closed, but several private cable dispatches were received from Liverpool. The foreign market was reported higher and excited for both spot cotton and futures. The buying movement advanced spot cotton 3-32d on sales of 10,000 bales, while the futures market gained from 2 to 4 points. The close of the New York market resulted in higher transactions in Liverpool, the local buying and selling movements being confined to that market. Few American buying orders were executed abroad, keeping prices steady at the advance. During the afternoon the market showed an advancing tendency under buying pressure, offerings being particularly light. Buying continued up to the close, the net advance being from 4 to 7 points above Saturday's closing level. The New Orleans market opened firm and higher, the advance in futures amounting to 10 points. Transactions were reported liberal with trade excited in sympathy with Liverpool. The spot market ruled strong and higher.

[The sales of cotton on the Bahaghi market yesterday were twelve bales, from 8½ to 8¾ cents.]