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The Evening Times

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BODIES NOT YET REMOVED FROM MINE

Conditions Improving and Work of Removing Them Will Probably Begin Today

FIRE STILL BURNING

Exploration of the Base of the Airshaft Which Leads to the Many Branches of the Ill-fated Where Scores of Miners Lie Dead

(By Leased Wire to The Times)

Cherry, Ill., Nov. 18.—Exploration of the base of the airshaft of the St. Paul mine which leads to the many branches of the ill-fated mine where scores of miners lie dead, was made at an early hour today with the plan that when the condition of affairs leading from the airshaft to the main shaft are ascertained, the work of rescuing and removing bodies was to be begun.

They are mine inspectors F. F. Morris, of Pittsburg, and R. Y. Williams, of the United States Geological Survey.

The word that the shaft was open and descent had been made spread through the town like wildfire. Men, women and children gathered before dawn at the mine shaft. The militia on sentry duty today prevented the grief-stricken crowd from approaching within one hundred feet of the airshaft.

There were angry mutterings when the men and women were repelled from the spot where they have practically lived for the past few days. The officers of the mine inspectors were up before daybreak and begin aiding in the recovery work.

In their descents Morris and Williams wore oxygen helmets and on the first attempt had only descended 35 feet when the lamp worn by Williams was extinguished by the steam in the shaft and he was hauled to the surface.

At the second attempt, made one hour later, the men descended 320 feet, until the water with which the mine had been flooded, was visible just below them and again the signal was given to haul up.

On this trip it was seen that the wood casing of the shaft had been burned and that it had caved in at several points, but the general condition was such as to warrant an effort to remove the bodies from the mine by way of the airshaft.

The final descent, which was made without the knowledge of the mine officials, indicated that there was practically no fire in the vicinity of the airshaft, although dense smoke and steam poured out of the passage.

Immediately after the men had been drawn up from their third descent President A. J. Earling and General Manager Bush, who were asleep in the same car, were aroused. Within fifteen minutes there was in progress a conference at which were present President Earling, General Manager Bush, James Steel, Acting Superintendent of the mines; Thos. Williams, top boss of the St. Paul properties; State's Attorney Eckert; R. Y. Williams and F. F. Morris.

After a brief discussion orders were issued by President Earling, calling for a force of carpenters, machinists and blacksmiths to report for duty within an hour. Soldiers from the detachment on duty were sent to bring the men requested and orders were issued for the construction of a tower over the airshaft and of a float to be used to carry the men down today in place of the steel buckets which have hitherto been in service.

The purpose of this is to prevent the accidental drowning of those who descend into the mine through a misunderstanding of signals or from any other cause. There are many feet of water in the bottom of the

METHODISTS VERY BUSY AT HICKORY

First Days Session Was Extremely Interesting and Attendance Very Large

ARE HARD AT WORK

Western North Carolina Methodists Have Gotten Down to Business and Much Was Done Yesterday—Mr. E. L. Durham Introduces Resolution—Sharp Talk Between Bishop Arthur and Dr. Christberg—Work of Dr. J. C. Rowe—Rev. W. W. Peete, Who Was Appointed President of Rutherford College Last Year, Was Transferred to Eastern Conference.

(Special to The Times.)

Hickory, Nov. 17.—The first session of the conference was an interesting one, for several reasons. The attendance was large and the reports of the eleven presiding elders were full of interest, in that all of them showed that the Methodist church in Western North Carolina is alive to the needs of the times. All reports that take so much of time in reading were referred to the proper committees with the instruction that they read and consider and report, saving the time usually consumed in reading them. The regular routine was moving along nicely when a resolution by Mr. Robert Lee Durham, the author of "The Call of the South," who is a member of the conference as a lay delegate introduced a resolution, signed by several laymen limiting the time that may be consumed in making individual reports, requiring rather that the reports of the work as such be made to the committees, and let the preachers chapter pass under the call of the 20th question, rather than items of report. This was the opening for the prayer and motion to table was lost, but on final passage the resolution was lost, but while the discussion was on came the most interesting time of the morning session, and perhaps of the whole session, as follows:

Raised a Rumpus.

Dr. H. F. Christberg favored the resolution, saying that the connectional officers from Nashville took the time of the conference that ought to be given to business, saying further that he was tired of the connectional officers, canvassing for Bishop's place taking the time.

Bishop Atkins called him to order, saying, "I cannot allow these men saluted." Dr. Christberg said he meant no slur. Bishop Atkins said he could not allow such remarks to be made.

Dr. Christberg said he was ready to surrender his credentials if the time had come that a minister could not be heard, and was sitting down again, when the bishop said there was no need of a show of temper, and asked that Dr. Christberg keep the floor and say what he had to say.

This appeared the doctor and he related that he would withdraw the remark, which ended the episode, the tension getting high as is ever seen in this body for the moment.

Held 112 Quarterly Meetings This Year.

No minister will attend this session of the conference with a deeper consciousness of having done his duty than will Doctor J. C. Rowe, the laboring presiding elder of the Salisbury district, the largest in the conference and one of the best. It has twenty-eight appointments and to all of these charges this faithful man of God has gone four times; the past conference, year making the total of 112 meetings held in the urgent request of those in the churches in many of their protracted meetings. Dr. Rowe is not only a faithful preacher but a theologian as well, who might interest people high up in the learned world. He made a good report, too.

Will Transfer to N. C. Conference.

Rev. W. W. Peete, who was appointed to the presidency of Rutherford College last year at Asheville, but who later on the urgent request of those in the North at St. John and Gibson in Richmond county, when the health of the latter failed, will it is learned, transfer to the North Carolina conference and take regular itinerant work. Mr. Peete is one of the conferences bright young men, well fitted for the work of the ministry, both in temperament and education. He will make his mark in that conference.

Mr. T. H. McNish, a representative of the Nashville Tenn. Publishing House is here to see the brethren as to accounts and to take orders for all they may need from headquarters. Mr. McNish is a layman that has attended

Railway Conductors and Guests at Banquet



Photo by Wharton & Tyree

Raleigh Division, No. 264, Order of Railway Conductors. Their annual meeting was held in this city last Sunday, when one of the most delightful banquets ever given in Raleigh was served at the Giersch's Hotel.

The members of the division who were present were Messrs. W. W. Newman, T. F. Willson, W. D. Smith, A. T. Pritchett, J. T. Brevard, T. E. Richardson, J. T. Singleton, James Gerow, O. H. Lanier, W. E. Bright, G. C. Heritage, W. Meacham, J. W. Drake, C. A. Sattenger, R. T. Snider,

J. B. Hogan, Sr., T. Williams, C. M. Baucum, G. W. Brady, W. J. Lynd, J. B. Davis, H. H. Thomas, D. B. Oglesby, E. H. Gooden, G. M. Lassiter, M. M. Green, W. K. Lewis, A. A. Parrish, M. G. Jones, Geo. W. Bradley, R. H. Adams, F. W. Meacham, F. J. Caruthers, J. A. Matherson, J. T. Kirkpatrick, J. W. Huff, John W. Keys, J. W. Foster, J. H. Ellington, L. J. Holland, S. T. Fountain, F. A. Lewis, L. T. Penny, P. B. Jeffreys.

The visiting conductors were: Messrs. H. L. Brow, Geo. W. Evans,

W. T. Cox, C. A. White, E. E. Maynard, W. G. Jones.

The guests of the division from the city were: Hon. J. S. Wynne, Col. C. E. Johnson, Hon. B. R. Lacy, Messrs. J. A. Mills, Virgil Walker, J. R. Ferrall, E. M. Czell, E. E. Britton, Geo. Hall, H. W. Purvis, Dr. H. A. Royster, C. E. Johnson, Jr., Walters Durham, G. P. Gannon, Walter Clark, Jr., Mr. Lynch.

Those desiring one of the pictures can leave their order with Mr. W. W. Newman.

PLANS FOR THE DEFENSE OF CANAL

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, Nov. 18.—Brigadier General Thomas H. Berry arrived here yesterday from Panama where he made a preliminary inspection of the sites chosen for the great forts which are to guard the canal. These locations are scattered from Porto Bello and Torro Point, on the Atlantic, to Laboon and Balboa, the Pacific terminal. The surveys for the beginning of construction are now under consideration by the war department, and it is expected that work will be begun early in the spring. The present plans call for an expenditure of about \$11,000,000, with more as the work progresses. When completed, the defenses will be the largest and undoubtedly the heaviest armed of any owned by the United States, with the possible exception of those now being built around Manila Bay.

It was learned that the greatest amount of money is to be spent on the Pacific side of the isthmus where the conformation of the land is almost an exact duplicate of that surrounding Port Arthur, where the fiercest fighting of the Russo-Japanese war took place.

The "tiger tail" at Panama is Sosa Point. There hundred and three meter hill has its counterpart in San Juan Mountain. The smaller hills, where so many Russians and Japanese died, are also practically duplicated. The bay on which Balboa is situated is almost exactly the same in shape as the roadstead at Port Arthur. It was said yesterday that the United States does not fear any attack on the canal from European nations, so the greatest forts will protect the Pacific side.

FLORIDA FAST MAIL WRECKED

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Columbia, S. C. Nov. 18.—The Florida fast mail of the Seaboard Air Line was wrecked today near Denmark. The train was derailed, the engine plunging two score feet from the track. Reports received here said that the fireman was killed and Engineer Pett injured, the conductor, express messenger and baggage-master also being hurt.

NEW CORPORATION TAX.

Secretary MacVeagh Making up Blank Forms to be Used in Collecting Tax.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, Nov. 17.—Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh is finishing the blank forms to be used in the collection of the corporation tax. It is expected they will be ready for distribution the latter part of next week.

The corporations throughout the country are very anxious to secure copies of the form in question so that their attorneys may be able to study them with the object of finding legal objections to their validity.

CONGRESS WILL INVESTIGATE TRUST

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, Nov. 18.—In the opinion of members of congress now here there will doubtless be a congressional investigation of the sugar trust scandals in connection with the expose of graft in the New York custom house. It is not improbable that at least half a dozen resolutions will be introduced in the house on the opening day of the session, December 6, reciting the charges against the New York custom house and sugar trust as published in the newspapers and directing that Speaker Cannon appoint a special committee of seven or nine members, with full powers, to investigate the charges and make such recommendations as may be necessary.

A resolution to investigate any government office is of a privileged character and if not reported within a week after its introduction the author has the right to call it up on the floor of the house and demand a vote. But as the administration is said to favor the investigation it is believed that the matter will be disposed of within a few days after congress meets.

WIRELESS SEARCH FOR ASTOR YACHT

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

New York, Nov. 18.—The greatest wireless search ever instituted was under way today for the Nourmahal, the yacht on which Colonel John Jacob Astor and his son Vincent, 17 years old, were cruising in West Indian waters when the terrific hurricane of last week swept the Caribbean and Atlantic.

The wireless net today was drawn over the waters in which Colonel Astor may be. At the request of friends of the missing millionaire the United Wireless Company sent out messages to all steamships requesting immediate news of the Nourmahal, which left Kingston between November 5 and November 10 as far as is known. At the same time that these revenue cutter Algonquin to leave San Juan, Porto Rico, and take up the search for the Nourmahal.

The departure of Mrs. Astor who secured a divorce from Colonel Astor a few days ago for Europe yesterday, served for a time to reassure Colonel Astor's friends. Mrs. Astor declared that she had no anxiety for her husband or her son.

Nevertheless the continued lack of news of the Nourmahal has served to increase the fears for the vessel's safety. Larger craft were wrecked by the terrific hurricane.

Every vessel in West Indian waters today was taking part in the search, according to advices received by Mr. Astor's friends.

Call for Statement of Condition of National Banks.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.) Washington, Nov. 18.—A call for statements of the condition of national banks at the close of business on November 16 was issued today by the controller of the currency.

AMERICA WILL GET NEW CARDINAL

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, Nov. 18.—It is understood in Catholic circles here that Pope Pius intends to create at least one American cardinal at the next consistory, which is scheduled to be held in Rome before the end of December.

The new cardinal will be essentially the social arbiter of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. He will be instructed to look out for the finances of American Catholicism, and that through his efforts the deficit of \$2,000,000 which now confronts the Vatican will be covered. This information reached Washington recently through official and private advices.

The appointment of an American cardinal is regarded as extremely important, in that it embodies the views of the entire American hierarchy. He will mingle, as far as is consistent with the dignity of his office, with all the members of the American society circles, both official and resident.

So far the dispatches show that the candidates considered for the appointment are Archbishop Farley of New York City, Mgr. Diomede Falconio, the papal delegate, a registered voter and the only American citizen in the pontifical diplomatic service.

Whether the promotion of Mgr. Falconio would be regarded as a strictly American appointment is not made clear. Great pressure is being brought to bear to have a young man appointed to the cardinalate. This influence is exerted too, in behalf of either a Jesuit or a Dominican.

It is possible that two Americans may be made cardinals and this is the case, Mgr. Falconio will be one of them.

Cardinal Gibbons has said he will be glad to have a colleague in this city, explaining that there is enough work to be performed here for even more than two cardinals.

Mr. Falconio, who is sixty-seven years of age, came to the United States in 1860 and was naturalized eight years afterward. At the election of 1872 he voted for President Grant.

FOOTBALL ABOLISHED.

Georgetown University Has Abolished the Game.

(By Leased Wire to The Times.)

Washington, Nov. 18.—The first to take a radical step against football, Georgetown University has abolished the game. The faculty put it under the ban "until such time as the rules exclude all possibility of danger to life and limb."

COBLE CASE BEING TRIED IN GUILFORD

Father and Brother-in-Law of Simpson Coble Now on Trial

COURTHOUSE PACKED

Tremendous Crowd Hearing Trial of Hiram Elliott and Dan Coble For Murder of Kinsman, Simpson Coble—Evidence Shows Remarkable State of Affairs—Fight, Which Resulted in Murder, Happened at Blockade Distillery in Greene Township—Dan Coble Swears He is Innocent of the Murder of His Son.

(Special to The Times)

Greensboro, Nov. 18.—All of yesterday was consumed in taking evidence in the preliminary hearing of Hiram Elliott and Dan Coble, charged with the murder of Simpson Coble in Greene township last Tuesday morning, an adjournment being taken at 5:30 until today at 9:30, with Daniel Coble, father of the dead man on the stand as the first witness for the defense.

Every inch of space in the courtroom was occupied throughout the day, there being fully 500 citizens from Greene township present.

Most of the day was consumed by the state, Judge Shaw announcing at 4:30 that the state would rest, and Colonel Barringer immediately placed Dan Coble upon the stand.

The evidence presented by the prosecution showed a remarkable state of facts for a community so thickly settled as the one in which the crime was committed. The testimony of the witnesses introduced by the prosecution showed that a blockade still was being run on Daniel Coble's land and that Henry Holt and John Amick were operating the plant jointly and dividing the profits from the sale of whiskey. As rent for the land Dan Coble was getting half a gallon of whiskey, while Hiram Elliott received a quart a day for watching and seeing that the revenuers did not run upon the operators without warning.

On Tuesday, the day of the murder, a number of people were at the still, some remaining most of the day and all drinking beer freely, but none got drunk. Late in the afternoon H. Elliott and his brother-in-law, Sloop Coble, had a quarrel because Elliott persisted in teasing Sloop, about his father getting married at 72 years of age. Simpson and his father had fallen out by reason of this coming marriage and it was a sore spot with him. Elliott brought the matter up again, saying that Sloop would have a new mother next Sunday, the day set for the marriage, whereupon Sloop, cursed him out. Elliott got very angry, declaring he would not take such a cursing from any man and went to his house, a short distance away, carrying a rifle with him and returning with a potato hoe. Later he left and Simpson followed him, the fight which resulted in Simpson's death taking place a short distance from the still.

A strong chain of circumstantial evidence has been woven around the two defendants and it is freely predicted that they will be held for court without bond.

Later in the afternoon the defense placed Daniel Coble, father of the dead man, on the stand and his cross-examination was in progress when adjournment was taken until today.

Coble was exceedingly nervous, showing considerable emotion in describing the events that led up to the finding of his son's body in a 20-foot gully the morning after the crime was committed. He declared that he was as innocent of the murder of his son as a man in New York.

During the cross-examination counsel for the state and defense engaged in a number of sharp tilts regarding the competency of testimony, counsel for state charging the defense with trying to play upon the feeling of the court when the witness told of his years of service in the Confederate army and his fame as a fiddler.

At 5:30 an adjournment was taken until today at 9:30.

Hundred Thousand Dollar Fire.

Lowell, Mass., Nov. 18.—A loss of \$100,000 was caused by a fire in the Davis & Sergeant Lumber Company's mill on Middlesex street, early this morning. The blaze was fought by all the fire apparatus in the city.

RALEIGH MAN BADLY HURT BY FALLING

Fell From Painter's Platform to Floor and Fractured His Skull

CASE IS HOPELESS

R. W. Harris, Who Says Raleigh is His Home, Perhaps Fatally Injured in Fall at West Durham—Unable to Locate His Family Here—Wife Beater Given Chase by Durham Officer—Retailer Up Before the Recorder's Court—Mr. Acree to Go to India—Methodist Stewards Appointed.

Durham, N. C., Nov. 18.—R. W. Harris, a white painter, working on the new Erwin cotton mill at West Durham, was perhaps fatally injured yesterday morning by falling from the painter's stage to the floor below and fracturing his head. The drop was fourteen feet and he fell with full weight upon the right side of his skull. Workmen about him picked him up and bore him to medical aid, later taking him to the Watts Hospital, where an operation was performed with but the smallest show of relief to the injured man. Before he went under the anesthetic Dr. B. U. Brooks questioned him as to his residence and family. He spoke concisely but described his home in Raleigh at the intersection of Tarboro and some other street which the physicians later looked up. The streets which he mentioned parallel rather than cross and his location of his home did not help in finding his mother and his brother, J. W. Harris, both of whom he said live in Raleigh.

The operation at the Watts Hospital revealed a fracture that is almost hopeless. Besides the break of the bones in the head, there are possibly other injuries to the body and at midnight the patient was unconscious and apparently improving none. He is in a desperate condition.

Nobody knows how he came to fall but it is supposed that it was one of the unaccountable accidents. The workman's position was not regarded as necessarily perilous.

Mr. Harris had been here but a short time. Further than his two relatives in Raleigh, nothing is known of his family. He is fifty-six years of age and is unmarried. The West Durham people up to 11 o'clock last night had not succeeded in finding any friends or relatives who could give information as to his family or his past life.

The fire companies were called out early last night to the residence of Rev. G. T. Adams, near Trinity Methodist church. The blaze was not a very sizable one and was kicked out before the firemen reached the house, though the fire created some excitement that was still burning when the smoke, even, had ceased to issue. There was no need of the hose and it wasn't unwound.

The Durham officers created consternation in certain quarters last night when Patrolman Chandler started out to capture John Colley, who was charged with beating his wife. The negro has a reputation for feeblefootedness that the officers remembered quite well and when Chandler saw him, the negro returned the glance and pulled off his hat. They had it hot through the streets and the policeman pulled his gun for effect. It had it, made the negro take off a second or two to the hundred yards, and he escaped.

The fellow had beaten his wife, as is his wont, and seem to have whipped her along the streets, marking her severely. He is one of the fellows who is always wanted and is rarely at home when a call is made.

The recorder's court yesterday had the retailers up and while ex-Policeman W. H. Ferrell was acquitted, Monroe Hall, his assistant in the business, was convicted and sentenced to ten months on the roads.

The defendant appealed from the judgment and his bond was fixed at \$300. He gave it speedily. The chief witness against him was Officer Bishop, who testified that he saw the transaction in which a half pint of corn whiskey was exchanged for 25 cents and the booze went under the counter, while the money came over it. The officer searched the purchaser and found the whiskey.

Ferrell owned the place. It was a

(Continued on Page Eight.)