

STORM WIELDS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION

Texas And Oklahoma Get A Heavy Blow From Raging Elements

MANY PEOPLE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN KILLED

Damage to Property Will Go Far Up in the Thousands--Railway Service Crippled and Communication Cut Off

Dallas, Texas, April 23.—Twenty persons perhaps more, met death last night in a rain, electrical and wind storm general over nearly all of Texas and Oklahoma. Resultant floods have interrupted communication by rail and wire. In some places the rain and wind continued today. Austin felt the brunt of the storm, which, in places, reached cyclonic proportions. The death list at the capital is expected to be at least fifteen.

In the Thrall oil fields, near Taylor, Texas, tanks containing 150,000 barrels of oil were set on fire. The loss, it is said, will be \$75,000. Lightning is believed to have started the flames. Lightning started a fire in an oil warehouse in Dallas, causing a loss of \$120,000.

In Oklahoma, the Canadian river, at Chickasha, cut a new channel two

miles from its old bed. Ten passenger trains were marooned there. The Santa Fe Railroad lost one thousand feet of track at Purcell and bridges are threatened at several points on that road by swollen streams.

Bursting of a gas main at Alford, Texas, caused by water undermining the line, has left Dallas and Fort Worth without natural gas since 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon and it was not known early today when the break would be repaired.

Reports from Fort Worth said many big plants, which depended on gas for fuel, were shut down.

At Bay City four inches of rain in less than two hours early today was reported.

Dispatches from Shawnee, Okla., state that several persons were injured, three dangerously, when a tornado destroyed the home of a farmer. The property damage is reported as being heavy.

EX-GUARD UNDER INDICTMENT

Serious Charges Brought Against a Durham Man.

Durham, N. C., April 23.—Charlie Mangum, former guard of the Durham county home and a son of W. T. Mangum, was indicted this morning on three charges. The first for simple assault and other two for assault with a deadly weapon, one being with the butt-end of a buggy whip and the other with a rifle. He was released on \$200 bond.

The criminal charges were brought against Mangum by W. P. Perry, who alleged his son, Wesley Perry, was beaten by Mangum, who had struck him with both weapons. It is also expected criminal charges will be brought against Captain W. T. Mangum.

RUSSIAN AIRSHIPS ON WARPATH

Bombarded German Positions and Do Much Damage, Petrograd Reports

London, England, April 23.—A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says: "There was much activity yesterday as the part of the Russian airships."

"They dropped fifteen bombs on the German aerodrome at Sankt Petersburg. Considerable damage was done to German trenches."

Minnesota Arbor Day.

Arbor Day, Minn., April 23.—Today is Arbor Day in Minnesota, by order of Governor Hammel. The event is being celebrated by school children, civic societies and citizens generally.

Water in Cape Fear river at Fayetteville, N. C. at 8 a. m. yesterday 15 feet.

WM. BARNES HAD TWO SIDES

A Political "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," Says the Colonel

Syracuse, N. Y., April 23.—During the second day of his cross-examination in the Supreme Court here today, Theodore Roosevelt said he regarded William Barnes as a sort of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," who, like other politicians, had his good side and his bad side.

The Colonel said he did not, as suggested by William Ivins, try to sever the ligaments between the Siamese twins of politics, but endeavored to have the "Dr. Jekyll" in them absorb the "Mr. Hyde."

It was the Colonel's fourth day on the stand and he seemed to be as fresh as on the first day. The Colonel admitted he had complied with many suggestions made to him by Mr. Barnes in regard to filling offices while he was Governor.

TORPEDO SQUADRON OPENS FIRE

Russian Boats Shell Turkish Coast, With Marked Effect

Petrograd, April 23.—The Russian Black Sea torpedo squadron bombarded the Turkish coast, between Archaz and Aratschin, April 19th, a 15-mile strip of coast in which is located the headquarters of the Turkish army operating in that region. It was swept with shells and the barracks and provision stores were ignited and destroyed.

A large number of Turkish coastwise vessels, laden with ammunition and supplies, were sunk.

Baptists Celebrate in First Church.

Hopewell, N. J., April 23.—In the Hopewell Baptist church, which is today 200 years old, and is said to be the first erected in America, by that sect, anniversary exercises will be held today and tomorrow. The walls of the old church are of red brick, and the interior is of pure colonial style, and remain the same as when the building was completed.

Washington, April 23.—Attorneys for the Chesapeake & Ohio, Norfolk & Western, Seaboard Air Line and Atlantic Coast Line will appear today before the Interstate Commerce Commission Steamship Company and the Virginia Navigation Company, in connection of the Panama Canal Act.

LIVES LOST BY FLOODS.

Austin, Texas, April 23.—Between fifteen and twenty lives were lost in the floods which swept Waller and Shoal creeks last night, it was estimated today. Houses were jammed in masses again bridge and many buildings were flooded. The dead include Thomas Quinn, a city fireman, who was engaged in rescue work.

HARRY THAW TO GET HIS CASE BEFORE A JURY

Court Decides That His Sanity Can Be Tested That Way

THAW IS HAPPY

Looks Upon It As a Victory—Decision Announced This Morning By Justice Hendrick.

New York, April 23.—The question of the sanity of Harry K. Thaw will be determined by a jury. Supreme Court Justice Hendrick in a decision today granted the application for a writ of habeas corpus.

Thaw was in court when Justice Hendrick announced his opinion. His face at once lighted-up with pleasure. He was kept busy for nearly half hour shaking hands and receiving congratulations before he was taken back to the Tombs.

"It will be good news to my mother," he told the newspaper men. "That is all I want to say for publication."

MAKE DENIAL OF PUBLISHED REPORT

Raleigh, N. C., April 23.—In a letter to a local newspaper received today M. McD. Williams, of Faison, writes that he was incorrectly quoted in a statement made by him and printed in newspapers here and elsewhere in the State last Wednesday relative to the death of former Congressman John M. Faison. Mr. Williams declared he did not deny that Faison had committed suicide, but that he asked the inquirer to express it in different terms.

VEIL OF MYSTERY OVER CRUISER

Attention Once More Directed To German Sea-raider, Just Out Dry Dock

Newport News, Va., April 23.—The German auxiliary cruiser, Kronprinz Wilhelm, which was removed from dry dock out into the stream yesterday afternoon, donned veil of mystery this morning and until Commander Thierfelder attempts a dash pass the Allies' cruisers, awaiting off the Cape, or notifies the United States government that he desires to intern his vessel, it is evident developments will be guarded with the strictest secrecy, in order that no information in regard to the sea-raider's movements may reach the enemy through official sources.

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STIRRING TIMES NOW IN TOWN OF SOUTHPORT

Sensation Sprung at Political Meeting Last Night

COERCION CHARGED

Prominent Lawyer Declares Pilots' Association Guilty of Such Act—Water and Sewerage Advocates Ahead So Far.

Special to The Dispatch. Southport, N. C., April 23.—The larger cities may have their political fights, but none can be fiercer than one prevailing at Southport. There are three wards and two aldermen from each ward and a mayor to be elected by the whole town, and unlike in other cities the wards have had meetings on different nights, and all this week have been nominating candidates for aldermen, and next Monday night a candidate for mayor will be nominated. The bone of contention has been the matter of the \$40,000 for water and sewerage. The present board of aldermen contracted for the bonds and the waterworks plant. Those who wanted the matter left to the vote of the people—saying the majority of the people of the town were against the proposition—would vindicate their position by defeating the old board. Thus, the fight.

Tuesday the first ward was to be the bat, and the old board went down in defeat—T. M. Thompson and J. E. Hutchison defeating W. C. Armstrong and M. G. Thompson. Wednesday the old board won a sweeping victory—W. H. Pyke and G. F. Drew being nominated. Last night the second ward came to the bat and another victory for water and sewerage and the old board nominated—T. B. Carr and Capt. J. B. Church, who was the sewerage and water candidate instead of Capt. L. J. Pepper, who declined to run.

Up to this time it was only voting and smooth sailing, but upon a motion to make the nomination of Carr and Church unanimous the fireworks broke loose. Capt. J. J. Adkins, a prominent member of the Cape Fear Pilots' Association, arose and said that despite the fact that he and the anti-sewerage folks had met defeat in the convention that they meant to have an independent ticket in the field election day, May 4th. Then City Attorney R. W. Davis turned loose the big gun of the evening. He stated that he came into the convention with the purpose of abiding by the result, and if the other folks were to be bolted he thought that they ought to retire from the convention then and there. He stated further that he had been reliably informed that an association in the town—composed of the members of the opposition—had gone to Capt. L. J. Pepper, who was the only member in favor of water and sewerage and a member of the present board of aldermen, and had told him that he must not stand for re-election, and if he did he must retire from the Pilots' association. Mr. Davis denounced in no uncertain tones what he termed as coercive means. Captain Adkins replied that his association had taken no such action as charged by Mr. Davis, and that the association was not responsible for what some individual member might have stated. Captain Pepper, also a member of the Pilots' Association, stated that Mr. Charles St. George, a member of the association, had stated to him that the association had decided that he must not run for alderman and that if he did he would be expelled from the association. He stated, however, that Mr. Thomas St. George, another pilot, had said that he thought every man ought to have the privilege of voting as he pleased.

There are 13 pilots—organized in a rather close corporation, and Captain Pepper has been the only one who favored water and sewerage for the town, and the statement that the others would make him refuse to stand for renomination or turn him out of the association—something similar in its aspects to a labor union—the outside pilots—only two or three in number—being regarded by the association folks in the nature of scabs caused much comment here yesterday and last night. The Cape Fear Pilots' Association is a sort of legalized monopoly as reference to Section 4957, of Pell's Revisal will indicate, it being fixed that not more than 20 pilots

WARSHIPS ENTER AND STORM FORTS

Fire Kept Up For Three Hours, Says Havas Dispatch

FORTS REPLIED IN STRONG WAY

Athens Dispatch Indicates That Bombardment of Smyrna Forts Has Been Resumed.

Paris, France, April 23.—Four British warships entered the Dardanelles yesterday (Thursday) and bombarded the forts for three hours, according to a Havas dispatch.

The Turkish fortifications also were subjected to an indirect fire from the Gulf of Saros. They replied vigorously to the attack of the warships. French mine-sweepers are continuing their operations actively.

A Havas dispatch from Athens says Chios has reported heavy firing near there yesterday morning, leading to the supposition that the bombardment of the Smyrna forts has been resumed.

ITALY BICKERING STILL WITH AUSTRIA

Rome, April 23.—Baron B. De Macchio, the Austrian Ambassador, had a long interview this afternoon with Foreign Minister Sonnino, which is interpreted as an indication that negotiations between Italy and Austria are being continued.

CZAR NICHOLAS AT LEMBERG

Went There to Confer With Grand Duke Nicholas

STILL HOLD GRIP ON VITAL HILL 60

Bombardment of Ypres Also Looks Large Today

CIVILIAN POPULATION IN GRAVE DANGER

No Official Word in Explanation of Stoppage of Shipping Between Holland and Great Britain—Germany Expects Extensive Operations By Land at Dardanelles.

London, April 23.—The British forces, despite repeated German rushes, hold their grip on Hill No. 60, near Ypres, and the fighting in that locality today shows signs of developing along the wide front with intensity, even rivaling the German attempt to break through the British line last fall.

The city of Ypres, whose historical structures were shattered by German projectiles last October, is again the target for heavy shells. Seventeen-inch missiles now are being used and unless the civilian population has fled or taken to its cellars the losses among the people must be heavy.

There has been a lull in attacks and German counter-attacks, according to the British official report this morning, but it has been assumed that both sides are awaiting reinforcements and the tone of the British communications indicate that the issue has not yet been finally decided.

No official explanation is forthcoming of the stoppage of shipping between England and Holland. One theory is that this is a stroke at spies. Another is that the area is being cleared for naval action. The last explanation seems incomplete, however, for if steps were being taken to clear it for a marine zone vessels bound for Scandinavian ports, also would be held up.

Although Great Britain is silent Germany is apparently expecting extensive land operations near the Dardanelles. It is common knowledge that the Allies' troops are being landed in European Turkey.

EXPLOSION IN COTTON MILL HURTS SEVERAL

Boiler Blew-Up Yesterday in The Erwin Mill in West Durham

LACK OF INDICATOR

Caused Explosion, as Amount of Steam Pressure Couldn't be Told

Durham, N. C., April 23.—It was learned today that the Flasher boiler in the Erwin Cotton Mills, of West Durham, exploded yesterday morning at 8 o'clock and seriously injured James Hall, painfully injured George Gunter and J. R. Jones was also slightly injured.

The cause of the explosion was that the steam indicator on the boiler was taken off for repairs and it could not be told how much steam was in the boiler and this allowed the pressure to get so strong that an explosion was caused.

DOCKERS ARE NOW HARD AT WORK

Laboring Overtime and Hopes Held Out For Better Conditions

Liverpool, April 23.—Dockers are now working overtime freely, and strong hopes are entertained that better conditions will soon be realized. More than sixty vessels are in port at this writing awaiting discharging berths and the quay spaces are crowded with goods largely owing to inadequate transport facilities.

This congestion and delay has had the result of making shippers avoid Liverpool if possible. Egyptian cotton for American spinners was formerly sent from Alexandria to Liverpool and then loaded on the regular liners for New York, but the continual delay has necessitated shipments to be made direct, and according to mail advices the steamer "Ikala" is taking a full cargo of 11,743 bales of Egyptian cotton from Alexandria to Boston thus avoiding the delay and labor charged at Liverpool.

FLOUR IS MUCH CHEAPER IN TURKEY

Athens, April 23.—Flour in Turkey is at present much cheaper than in any of the other countries of Europe. This is due mainly to the large stores of grain wisely accumulated in the government stores. Turkey's last harvest was estimated as worth \$250,000,000, of which the government is said to have obtained four-fifths.

It is reported that there are heavy losses to the government supplies from rotting, but there appears to be no reason to expect that the stock on hand will not last until the next harvest.

The next harvest, however, will be a small one, owing to scanty sowings, and many experts prophesy that the result will certainly be a general famine in Turkey next autumn.

THE SUFFRAGETTE AGAIN APPEARS

London, April 23.—The Suffragette, the weekly organ of the Women's Social and Political Union, which was suspended on the outbreak of the war, is making its reappearance. It will be edited by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who has just returned from the United States.

For the present, the journal will deal chiefly with the women's side of the war situation.

ANOTHER BRITISH TRAWLER SUNK

Grimsby, England, April 23.—The British trawler, St. Lawrence, was torpedoed and sunk in the North Sea yesterday by a German submarine. Two members of the crew were killed.

Seven survivors were brought here today by the trawler, Queenstown, whose skipper reported that the submarine fired on his vessel while engaged in the rescue of the crew of the St. Lawrence.

ALLIES MAY HAVE HELD OUT BAIT TO BULGARIA

Sofia, April 23.—General Sir Arthur Paget's reception here by King Ferdinand has started a number of rumors among the coffee houses relating to concessions offered to Bulgaria by the Allies. These rumors variously have it that the British and French have offered King Ferdinand the position of commander-in-chief of the Allied forces advancing on Constantinople, that a Bulgarian army should enter Constantinople and remain in it pending the settlement of peace, that one of the daughters of Emperor Nicholas of Russia should marry Crown Prince Boris of Bulgaria, and that the Russian Czar would personally visit Sofia to take part in the ceremony of consecrating the new cathedral here.

VICTORIA CROSS FOR COMMANDER

London, England, April 23.—The King has granted the Victoria Cross to Commander Henry Peel Ritchie, Royal Navy, for the following "conspicuous act of bravery."

"On November 28th, when in command of the searching and demolition operations at Dar-es-Salaam, East Africa, though severely wounded several times, his fortitude and resolution enabled him to continue to do his duty, inspiring all by his example, until at his eighth wound he became unconscious. The interval between his first and last severe wound was twenty-five minutes."