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NO. 14.

GUNBOAT BLOWN TO ATOMS

Frightful Loss of Life Results From Bursting of a Defective Boiler on Board.

NEARLY 100 HURT, MANY FATALLY

There Were More Than 250 Men Aboard the Vessel at the Time, and of These 15 Sailors Are Missing—The Accident Occurred in the San Diego, Cal., Harbor Just Before the Vessel Was Scheduled to Leave.

San Diego, Cal., Special.—Twenty-eight members of the crew of the United States gunboat Bennington were killed and four-score sailors were injured, 24 seriously, at 10 o'clock Thursday forenoon by a boiler explosion that disabled the vessel in San Diego harbor. Fifteen sailors are missing. There were more than 250 men aboard the warship when the accident occurred, and many men were hurled or forced to jump into the sea by the terrific explosion, which lifted part of the deck and compelled the beaching of the ship. The Bennington, at the time of the accident, was lying in the stream just off the commercial wharf at H street. The warship had received orders from the Navy Department at Washington to sail this morning for Port Hartford to meet the monitor Wyoming and convey the monitor to Mare Island navy yard, San Francisco.

EXPLOSION TERRIFIC

Steam was up and everything was in readiness for the departure of the Bennington when the starboard forward boiler exploded with a terrific roar. The explosion was terrific. People standing on shore saw a huge cloud of steam rise above the Bennington. Columns of water were forced high into the air. A dozen or fifteen men were blown overboard by the force of the terrific explosion. Capt. Wentworth, who was looking at the Bennington when the disaster occurred, says he saw human bodies hurled over a hundred feet upward. The air was clouded with smoke which enveloped the ship. When the haze cleared away, only a few could be seen on the decks, while a number were floundering in the water. A boat was lowered from the vessel's side and most of the men in the water were picked up and taken on board.

On board the Bennington were presented terrible scenes. The force of the explosion had torn a great hole in the starboard side of the ship, and the vessel was already commencing to list. A section of the upper deck was carried away from stem to stern. Blood and wreckage was distributed over the entire space, the after cabin and that part of the ship adjacent to the exploded boiler resembling a charnel house. The shock of the explosion penetrated every section of the ship, blood and ashes being found as far as the stern of the captain's cabin. Great damage was done in all parts of the vessel. The boiler which exploded, it is said, resembled an unsafe. Commander Young stated that during a recent return from Honolulu the steam pressure was kept reduced in that particular one.

List of the Dead.

San Diego, Cal., Special.—Saturday night's summary of casualties aboard the gunboat Bennington, in San Diego Bay, gives a total of 60 dead and 50 injured, six probably fatally. A number of men are still missing, some of these may be dead, and probably a dozen of the injured will die of their wounds. Following is an official list of known dead, with ages, occupation and place of birth or enlistment:

Ensign Newton K. Perry, 26, Columbia, S. C.
Wesley M. Taylor, 28, seaman, Atlanta, Ga.
Bert A. Hughes, 19, seaman, Clarksville, Ark.

May Hinder Peace Progress.

Paris, By Cable.—Emperor Nicholas' cruise in the Gulf of Finland to meet Emperor William is the subject of certain newspaper reports that the German Emperor will influence the Russian Emperor over Far Eastern matters and will hinder the carrying out of the peace programme, while others are of the opinion that Emperor William will seek to estrange Russia from France.

Mine Superintendent Shot by Drunken Man.

Bristol, Va., Special.—A special from Big Stone Gap, Va., says: "This afternoon at Irondale, about five miles east of this place, Jasper Abshire shot and fatally wounded A. M. Hall, superintendent of Kelly and Irvin's mines. Mr. Hall is still living, but the physician says he cannot live but a short while. Abshire was drunk and rowdy and was asked to leave. He refused and Hall led him to the commissary door and let him go, whereupon he shot Superintendent Hall three times in the breast. Abshire was disarmed, but not arrested. A posse went from this place this evening to apprehend Abshire."

Andrew Kamerer, 25, fireman, Londonville, O.
Joseph Newcomb, 27, seaman, Boston.
Harry Mosher, 25, fireman, Newark, N. J.
Wilbur W. Wright, 32, steward, home unknown.
Michael G. Quinn, 31, fireman, Killenny, Ireland.
Clyde Haggblom, 25, Leadville, Col.
Kirley F. Morris, 24, fireman, Owensboro, Ky.
Warren Paris, 36, coal passer, Lansing, Mich.
Wm. C. Wilson, 19, seaman, Germantown, Cal.
Stephen W. Pollock, 24, coal passer, Honesdale, Pa.
Emil Dresch, 24, seaman, Newark, N. J.
Wm. Staub, 21, fireman, Bridgewater, S. D.
John L. Burns, 20, seaman, Chicago.
Glen Brownlee, 24, seaman, Galveston, Texas.
Wm. I. Cherry, 24, blacksmith, Salem, Mont.
Walter G. Grant, 23, coal passer, Chicago.
John Goika, 18, seaman, Milwaukee, Wis.
John McKone, 23, fireman, Leadville, Col.
Edwin B. Robinson, 23, seaman, San Francisco.
Charles O. McKeen, 25, coal passer, Pueblo, Col.
Charles J. Kuntz, 20, seaman, St. Louis.
Harry F. Saunders, 19, seaman, Springfield, Mo.
Fodie W. Kempton, 18, seaman, Loveland, Col.
Robert B. Carr, 18, seaman, Denver, Colo.
Harry F. Smith, 23, seaman, Harrisonville, Mo.
Preston Carpenter, 20, seaman, Arapahoe, Neb.
Robert L. Savage, 28, seaman, Waco, Texas.
Leroy B. Archer, 20, seaman, Fowler, Col.
Don C. Archer, 19, seaman, San Francisco.
Richard T. House, 21, seaman, Colorado Springs, Col.
Albert H. Schoregge, 21, seaman, New Ulm, Minn.
John C. Barchus, 22, seaman, Clarinda, Iowa.
L. J. Guthrie, 25, seaman, New York.
Matthew G. Chambers, 23, seaman, Lewiston, Idaho.
Frederick M. Brown, 26, machinist, San Francisco, Cal.
Josiah Ezell, 27, seaman, Waco, Texas.
Frederick J. Geiss, 29, coal passer, Cincinnati.
Claude H. Stevenson, 23, seaman, San Francisco.
Emile C. Hoffman, 25, blacksmith, San Antonio, Texas.
Joseph Hilscher, 24, fireman, Seattle, Wash.
Edward B. Ferguson, 36, chief machinist, San Francisco.
Elmer U. Brunson, 20, seaman, Chicago.

Four unidentified men of the new draft, who joined the Bennington at San Diego.

Seven men, names uncertain, known to be in flooded compartments of the vessel.

Thomas Burke, machinist.
Joseph Hunt, oiler.
George L. Clarke, chief machinist.
C. W. Brockman, gunner.
Unidentified number of men still missing.

San Diego, Cal., Special.—Forty-seven of the gunboat Bennington's dead were buried Sunday in a common grave in the little military cemetery on the crest of the promontory of Loma, high above the waters of San Diego Bay on the one side, and within sound of the booming surf of the Pacific on the other. Without the crash of drum or sound of brass, without pomp or parade, yet with simple impressiveness, all honor was paid to the nation's dead.

Having been acquainted with the recklessness of certain chaffeurs, an owner of a residence at the corner of two streets in England has pasted upon the outside of his house this placard: "Motor car drivers are requested to leave this house where it is."

President Roosevelt has ordered a full investigation of the affairs of the entire Department of Agriculture.

Fireman's Story of the Accident.

Fireman E. G. Hopp makes the first statement as to the cause of the accident. He says that shortly before the explosion one of the boilers was found to be leaking badly, and the boiler-maker was sent for to repair the damage. Before the latter came the explosion occurred. Hopp saw men all about him killed outright and he himself was stunned for a moment. The dead were given a military burial Sunday afternoon at the military reservation at Point Loma. Services were held at 2 o'clock on the Point, and launches will convey across the bay the living officers and men able to attend.

Telegraphic Briefs.

The world's largest dynamite explosion was set off Saturday afternoon at Portsmouth, N. H., and was fired by the daughter of the superintendent in charge of the work of removing the most dangerous menace to river navigation on the New England coast. Forty-five tons of dynamite were used in the explosion.

It is rumored that the czar has sent word to General L'Herminier that he will furnish him any amount of men and ammunition he may deem necessary for attaining an ultimate victory. This action indicates that Russia is not sincere in her expressions of a desire for peace.

NORTH CAROLINA FIREMEN

Great Parade an Event of the Gathering at Winston-Salem.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The firemen's parade which was witnessed by thousands, was a magnificent display of the fire-fighting forces of the Old North State. The parade formed on Trade street and, when it began moving about 10 o'clock the streets in that section were blocked with humanity. The line of march was as follows: Up Fifth to Summit, Summit, to Fourth, down Fourth to Main, down Main to Salem Square, and back up Main street to the court house, where it disbanded. First came three mounted policemen, followed by Chief Marshal A. S. Hanes with his aides; Winston Cornet Band, Forsyth Riflemen, automobiles, in which were officers of the association, mayors and other visitors; delegates in carriages; Danville band. Then came the companies in alphabetical order, headed by Asheville. Winston-Salem bringing up the rear. The fire companies marched in the following order:

Asheville Department—The chief's wagon and hook and ladder truck.
Charlotte Department—Chief's automobile and engine.
Concord Department—Hose wagon and hose reel.
Durham Department—Hose wagon.
Elizabeth City Department—Engine and hose reel.
Fayetteville Department—Hose wagon and hose reel.
Goldboro Department—Two hose wagons.
Henderson Department—Hose wagon.
High Point Department—One hose wagon and two companies.
Kinston Department—Hose wagon.
Newbern Department—Engine, hose wagon, hose reel and rag-time band.
Raleigh Department—Chief's buggy, two hose wagons, hook and ladder truck.
Rocky Mount Department—Hose wagon, engine and hacks.
Salisbury Department—Hose wagon.
Tarboro Department—One hose reel, Salem Boys' Band.
Salem Eagle Hose Company No. 4.
Winston Company No. 1; two engines and one hose wagon.
Winston Hook and Ladder Company.
Salem Rough and Ready Company, two engines, one hose wagon and one hose reel.
Winston Company No. 2, one engine and one hose wagon.

All the visiting companies showed up well, as did the local departments, which brought up the rear. The parade was a mile or more in length and was one of the best ever seen in the city.

Drowned in Tar River.

Tarboro, Special.—Ed. Lewis, a white man 55 years of age, was drowned in Tar river, just above the county bridge, Mr. Lewis, who had been working on a raft of wood, attempted to swim across the river and is supposed to have been seized with cramp or stricken with heart failure when within a few feet of the opposite bank. The body was not recovered until the afternoon.

Tar Heel Topics.

A suit has been instituted against the local camp of the Morgantown Woodmen of the World for alleged damage to the health of a son of Mr. W. P. Mabe when he was recently being initiated into the mysteries of the order. An operation became necessary, on account of injuries sustained on that occasion and he is just now beginning to walk about after an indisposition lasting over two months.

In an attempt to save the life of a friend who was drowning in the surf at Morehead Sunday afternoon, six men came near forfeiting their lives. A line of 25 men was formed from the shore in order to rescue the man, but the line broke, leaving the six men to the mercy of the waves. After a hard struggle one reached the shoal and showed the others the way in safety.

Governor Glenn was in the grand stand at Winston-Salem when it was struck by lightning and two negroes seriously stunned. He was not shocked in the least.

Governor Glenn will be tendered an informal reception and elaborate banquet upon occasion of his intended visit to Wilmington the latter part of this week where he goes to review the equipment of State Guards. Time and efforts are being expended freely for the success of the elegant entertainment.

A horse attached to the buggy of Mrs. Alice Fowler, a rural mail carrier from Burlington, became frightened at a passing train and ran away, hurling the occupant of the buggy to the ground with a violent force. The woman was painfully injured.

Mr. Plummer Wiggins, of Shelby, has purchased the entire outfit of The Scottish Chief, a paper hitherto published by Mr. M. G. McKenzie, at Maxton, and will in the future assume the management of the paper. The purchaser is a newspaper man of wide experience and ability.

The new boilers provided for the State hospital by an appropriation of the last Legislature have arrived and are being installed.

NORTH CAROLINA BREVITIES

Many Newsy Items Gathered From all Sections.

Charlotte Cotton Market.
These figures represent prices paid to wagons:
Strict good middling 10%
Good middling 10%
Strict middling 10%
Middling 10%
Tinges 8% to 10.10
Stains 7 to 8%
General Cotton Market.
Galveston, quiet 10%
New Orleans, quiet 10%
Mobile, dull 10%
Savannah, quiet 10%
Charleston, quiet 10%
Norfolk, steady 10%
Baltimore, nominal 11
New York, quiet 11
Boston, quiet 11
Philadelphia, quiet 11.25
Houston, easy 10 11-16
Augusta, steady 10%
Memphis, steady 10%
St. Louis, quiet 10%
Louisville, firm 10%

DAN TEACHY HANGED.

The Murderer of Robert Rivenbark Hanged at Kenansville—He Protested His Innocence to the Last.
Kenansville, Special.—Dan Teachy was executed here Thursday morning in the presence of about thirty persons, including, officers, guards, witnesses, physicians, ministers of the gospel and newspaper men, for the murder of Robert Rivenbark. At 9:30 the death warrant was read to him, to which he listened unmoved, although his sister, who sat by his side, was greatly agitated. He was then baptized and received into the Presbyterian church by the pastor and session of the Kenansville church. Prayers were offered by request by Rev. V. A. Royal, a Methodist minister, and Postmaster Jones.

Governor Glenn was intercepted by telephone at Warsaw on his way to Wrightsville, but refused to interfere. The prisoner was apprised of the fact and was earnestly requested to make a statement. The only thing he would say was:

"I am not guilty, but was convicted because people swore lies on me."

STORY OF THE CRIME.

On the night of Wednesday, March 4, 1903, near the village of Wallace, Robert Rivenbark left the home of his father about 8:30 o'clock and went to the home of one Easter Williams, colored, about one mile away, to secure her services as a laborer on his strawberry farm the next day. At this house were two negro women, one negro man and child. The evidence is that Rivenbark made a contract with the two women and the man to come to his place to work for him the following day, and started away in search of other hands. As soon as the door was closed and he had proceeded eight or ten steps from the house and there was no light visible except the moon, which was shining brightly, the negroes heard the quick, sharp report of a pistol, and almost immediately Rivenbark pushed the door open and fell inside the room saying he was shot. He was followed almost immediately by Teachy, who sprang upon him and beat and kicked him unmercifully. When he had finished with Rivenbark he turned to the negro woman, Easter Williams, and began beating her over the head with the pistol, which was still smoking in his right hand, and a stick in his left. While this was going on Rivenbark, having to some extent regained consciousness, got out of the door and started home. He proceeded about 150 yards down the road, when he fell exhausted, and began calling at the top of his voice for help. He was heard by Mr. Jim Dixon, a farmer near there, who came to his relief. He told Dixon that he had been shot by Dan Teachy without cause, and knowing he could live but a very short time, he wished to make a statement concerning the affair to some one while he was still in his right mind. Dixon then called Mr. Harvey Booth, who came to the road, and together with him heard the story of the killing from the lips of Rivenbark, who said that when he left the house he met Dan Teachy, who said: "By —, what are you doing here?" Rivenbark replied: "I am here to get these people to help me work my strawberries." Teachy then said: "Get—d you, they can get their living without work and I am going to kill you," and fired, with the result above mentioned. The ball took effect in the right side of the abdomen, causing death two days later, about 6:00 o'clock Friday afternoon, March 6th.

The case was hard fought through all the courts, but his conviction was at last secured, followed by his execution.

Tar Heel Topics.

Raleigh Post: Prof. Vernon Howell, of Chapel Hill, is here and has given a contract for rescuing his automobile Wednesday afternoon he took Mr. James F. Royster out for a ride and in Pullen Park, near the pool, the machine, weighing 1,600 pounds, plunged down a five-foot embankment. A contract has been given to Prof. Chas. Park, of the A. & M. College, to extricate it. Neither of the occupants were hurt.

Judge Allen has reduced the sentence of Raymond D. Bynum from 15 years' imprisonment to 12 years, this action having been taken yesterday after earnest efforts on the part of the counsel for the defendant.

TAR HEEL CROP CONDITIONS

Conditions For Past Week as Given Out by the Department.

The North Carolina section of the climate and crop service of the department of agriculture, issues the following official bulletin for the past week:

From July 17th to 20th, inclusive, the weather was generally dry and very warm. The mean temperature for the State at large was 81 degrees, or nearly 4 degrees daily above the normal maximum temperatures above 90 degrees, and reaching as high as 96 to 98 degrees occurred at most stations during the middle of the week. This period was quite favorable for farm work and for the progress of crops, although, coming so soon after heavy rains, it tended to fire or scald some crops on thin, sandy uplands. On the 21st showers occurred nearly everywhere, which were heavy in only a few places with minor damage to crops. The remainder of the week was showery. Too much rain continues to be received in a few counties, chiefly in the extreme west. On the whole the weather was favorable, and caused considerable improvement in crops, besides giving farmers an opportunity to finish laying by, which is about completed everywhere, except as regards late cotton and some young corn. The soil is in good condition, except lowlands which are too wet.

Cotton continues to do fairly well and looks thrifty, especially on dark lands; plants are making too much weed, which will make the crop late; it continues to bloom, but is not fruiting well in the east, though plants seem to be well loaded with young bolls in western counties; damage to cotton by shedding, rust, boll worm and lice is reported by comparatively few correspondents. Generally corn is doing well, though the yield will be below the average; a little old corn on sandy land was fired; young corn is thrifty, except that injured in bottoms by flooding. In some western counties, on account of excessive moisture, corn is tall and thin, but seems to be earing well; much grass is in the crop in places, especially in the west. Some fodder on old corn is ready for pulling. Tobacco is generally in fair condition, except that portions were injured by rains which caused weedy growth; dry weather caused considerable improvement in the growing crop, and made curing easier; cutting and curing will be general within a week. Peanuts, sweet potatoes, field peas and gardens were benefited by the period of dry weather. Some turnip and rutabaga seeds have been sown and are coming up nicely. Oat harvest is nearly over in the extreme west, in which section oats and wheat were considerably damaged in shock by wet weather; threshing wheat continues with good yields in only a few counties. Some hay was cut and cured early in the week, but the season has not generally been favorable for this work, though very favorable for the growth of the crop. Apples and peaches are ripening rapidly, but there is much complaint of fruit rotting and falling from the trees.

Rains reported: Nashville 0.30, Goldsboro 1.12, Lumberton 0.82, New Bern 1.10, Weldon 1.60, Hatteras 0.20, Wilmington 2.00, Pomona 1.00, Monroe 1.08, Angier 2.00, Raleigh 3.35, Greensboro 2.34, Asheville 0.50 and Charlotte 0.80.

Rogers Out on Bond.

Raleigh, Special.—Monday afternoon the case of the State vs. Policeman Isaac W. Rogers for shooting Deputy United States Marshal John C. Dockery came up before Justice Separk, many persons being present. The first motion was made by J. C. L. Harris, of counsel for Rogers, that he be admitted to bail. The second motion was by S. G. Ryan for the State that the warrant under which Rogers had been committed be amended so as to show secret assault, which is a graver offense than that with which he would have been charged on account of Dockery's condition being improved. As to the first motion counsel for the State held that a preliminary trial should be gone into in order that the court would know at what amount the bail should be fixed. W. B. Jones, representing the State, argued that bail should be \$10,000, as that could show that it was a secret assault and laying in wait. S. G. Ryan, representing the Dockery family, assisting the State, said that these motions were a surprise to him; that he thought the case would merely be continued and that the State was not ready to go into a preliminary hearing because of the absence of their most material witness, James H. Poir. He asked for a postponement of the hearing. Harris said that the preliminary hearing was not asked for; only bail was wanted, and that they could have the preliminary hearing at any time they cared for it. He added that he had seen Dockery twice and he seemed to be out of danger. The only witness introduced was Dr. Herbert A. Royster, who said that Dockery was sitting up two-thirds of the day and that his temperature and pulse were normal; that one bullet had been located over the shoulder blade and that his condition was good; and I consider him, as far as the bullet wounds were concerned, as out of danger, and that what he said was without consultation with other physicians. At this point counsel for the State and Attorney Ryan called the counsel for defendant aside for consultation.

Justice Separk announced that he would allow the warrant to be amended to charge secret assault, and he set the time for the preliminary hearing Tuesday, August 15, at 11 o'clock. Rogers quickly gave bond, signed by himself and C. B. Ray, Henry E. Litchford, E. V. Denton, N. B. Broughton and C. B. Edwards.

COTTON COMMITTEE HEARD

The Matter of Cotton Statistics Gone Over Carefully

CONFERS WITH SECRETARY WILSON

Representatives of American Cotton Manufacturers' Association Hold Conference With Secretary Wilson and Assistant Secretary Hays, Relative to Issuance of New June Crop Report.

Washington, Special.—The committee of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association had an hour's conference with Secretary Wilson and Assistant Secretary Hays Monday afternoon. After the mill men had taken their departure from the Department, a statement was issued, announcing that the question of issuing a new report on acreage was to be taken under consideration by the statistical board and that a final decision will be reached Wednesday.

The statement follows: "The Department of Agriculture has determined that the statistical board shall meet Wednesday, July 26, to consider whether revision of the June cotton acreage should be made from existing data or from a new inspection, and to make public their findings or estimate at 12 o'clock on that date or the earliest convenient date hereafter."

In addition to President Miller, the other members of the committee of manufacturers present at the conference were: T. A. Blythe, president Lincoln Manufacturers' Association, Philadelphia; Geo. B. Hiss, president Rhodoss Mills, Charlotte; J. W. Cannon, president Cannon Manufacturing Company, Concord; S. B. Tanner, president Henrietta Mills, Henrietta; and C. E. Bryant, secretary Manufacturers' Association. Mr. T. J. Hickman, of the Grant Mills Manufacturing Company, of Augusta, Ga., telegraphed both Secretary Wilson and President Miller that he was unable to attend. Very important was the suggestion, advanced by the visiting committee, that the Department issue a weekly, in place of the monthly, report. The committee is unanimous in the opinion that the weekly report would tend to prevent violent fluctuations in the price of cotton and would result in a steadier market. It was pointed out that cotton rose 1 cent in 5 minutes on the market of the last report, resulting in a situation demoralizing to large purchasers of spot cotton.

Just how Secretary Wilson and Mr. Hays accepted this suggestion for the abolition of the monthly reports is not known. Chairman Miller declined to discuss what took place at the conference, and referred the many newspaper men who called him over the phone at his hotel to Assistant Secretary Hays. The committee agreed, before leaving the Department, that Mr. Hays should make public what took place. Evidently Mr. Hays was not impressed with this assignment as mouth-piece of the conference. He talked rather vaguely about the conference and only in generalities. There is good reason for believing that growers and manufacturers of cotton alike were considered and that a statement, regiting in detail these subjects may be made public later. All of the members of the committee had their lips sealed, and would not even discuss this phase of the situation. The members felt that the task of making public such matters as should be given the public having been left to Secretary Hays, it would be discourteous for them to discuss what took place.

Assistant Secretary Hays said, in speaking of the conference: "As I understand, the committee came here to ascertain the facts with reference to the cotton situation and that the desires of the manufacturers are, for making the government reports as stable as possible. The attitude of the committee with reference to the issuance of a new report on acreage was neutral. I believe many of the manufacturers are owners of cotton and they are also buyers. They did not take sides. They presented no facts bearing on the scandal, and that subject was not considered."

"The committee's object is to secure an accurate report and one that will establish confidence. I have no hesitancy in saying this is what they will get."

Prior to the conference Mr. Miller and the members of the committee had an interview with Richard Cheatham, secretary of the Southern Cotton Growers' Association. They discussed the cotton situation at some length.

Telegraphic Briefs.

The world's largest dynamite explosion was set off Saturday afternoon at Portsmouth, N. H., and was fired by the daughter of the superintendent in charge of the work of removing the most dangerous menace to river navigation on the New England coast. Forty-five tons of dynamite were used in the explosion.

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