



\$25,000,000 LOSS DUE TO EXPLOSION

Three Known to Be Dead; Many Severely Injured.

19 BIG WAREHOUSES BURNED

Country Many Miles Around Is Literally Showered With Bursting Shrapnel.

FIVE STATES FEEL SHOCK

Cause Believed to Have Been Fire on Barge, Which May Have Been Incendiary.

NEW YORK, July 30.—Property loss estimated at \$25,000,000 was caused early today by a series of terrific explosions of ammunition awaiting shipment to the entente allies and stored on Black Tom Island, a small strip of land jutting into New York Bay off Jersey City.

The loss of life cannot be determined definitely until there has been opportunity to check up the workmen employed on the island and on boats moored nearby.

Three Known Dead, Many Injured.

Three are known to be dead and at least five more are missing. Scores of persons were injured, some of them probably mortally.

The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, trinitrotoluene and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells, which literally showered the surrounding country and waters for many miles around.

19 Huge Warehouses Burned.

Fire that started soon after the first great crash, which spread death and desolation in its wake, destroyed 13 of the huge warehouses of the National Storage Company on Black Tom Island and six other warehouses in which were stored merchandise valued at between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The flames, shooting into the clouds, were reflected against New York's "skyline" of towering office buildings, which only a few moments before were shaken to their foundations as by an earthquake. Miles of streets in Manhattan alone were strewn with broken glass and shattered signs.

Fatalities Probably Few.

Early reports of heavy loss of life were impossible of verification, and the authorities asserted the number of deaths probably would be small. It was said that, owing to the extent of the wreckage, it might be several days before the exact figures could be obtained.

The cause of the disaster had not been determined tonight. Officials of the National Storage Company and the Lehigh Valley Railroad, which also suffered heavily through loss of property, declared, however, that reports to them showed a fire started shortly after 1 o'clock this morning on a barge belonging to an independent towing company that had been moored alongside a dock used by the railroad company to transfer ammunition shipments from trains to vessels in the harbor.

Plot Rumor Being Investigated.

The barge, it was said, was there without authority of either the railroad or the storage company. The officials refused to disclose the name of the independent towing company, saying they were investigating "to ascertain whether the barge purposely had been set on fire as the result of a plot."

A statement issued late today by the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, after a conference between heads of all departments here, said:

Twenty brick storage warehouses of the National Storage Company, operated by the National Storage Company and six others owned by the storage company leased by the Lehigh Valley were destroyed. Several others of the brick warehouses were badly damaged and some minor damage was done to the Lehigh Valley freight elevators. In addition, as far

BERLIN REVIEWS WAR CONQUEST

PRISONERS IN SECOND YEAR GIVEN AS 2,658,000.

Ninety Per Cent of German Wounded Said to Have Returned to Front—Large Area Occupied.

BERLIN, July 30.—By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—The German government issued officially the figures relating to the conquest at the end of the second year of the war in a statement which reads:

"The central powers occupied 431,000 square kilometers, against 180,000 a year ago.

"The central powers, Bulgaria and Turkey captured 2,658,000 enemy soldiers, against 1,655,000. Of those taken prisoner by the Germans, 5947 officers and 348,900 men were French; 3015 officers and 1,202,000 men were Russian, and 947 officers and 30,000 men were British.

"The war booty brought to Germany, in addition to that utilized immediately at the front, comprised 11,935 cannon, 4,700,000 shells, 3450 machine guns and 1,556,000 rifles.

"According to the list of statistics of German wounded soldiers, 90.2 per cent returned to the front, 1.4 per cent died, the rest were unfit for service or were released. The military measures of the central powers, in consequence of vaccinations, were never disturbed by epidemics."

CROSSING ACCIDENT FATAL

Meridian Men Mortally Injured When Train Hits Their Auto.

HUNTINGTON, Or., July 30.—(Special.)—An automobile carrying A. V. Robinson and Frank Wigart, both of Meridian, Idaho, was hit by an O. W. R. & N. train this afternoon on a crossing near Weatherly. Wigart was killed instantly and Robinson fatally injured. A trailer was attached to their automobile and the engine hit the rear of the trailer.

The wives of both men are visiting at Battleground, Wash., where the crossing victims had driven.

The coroner's jury called to investigate the accident had not returned a verdict at midnight.

COUPLE WED IN ESPERANTO

Unique Ceremony Performed in Historic Virginia Capitol.

ANNAPOLIS, July 30.—Esperanto was used for the first time in a wedding ceremony when Miss Isabelle A. McCaffrey, of Washington, secretary-treasurer of the Esperanto Association of North America, was married at the State Capitol here yesterday to John S. Horn, of San Jose, Cal.

The ceremony took place in the old chamber where Washington resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army and was entirely in Esperanto.

PETROGRAD FIRE REPORTED

Bridge, 12 Big Steamships and Gun Works Said to Have Burned.

BERLIN, July 30, via Sayville, N. Y.—Reports of a great conflagration at Petrograd, in which a bridge across the River Neva, 12 large steamships, including several trans-Atlantic liners, and the Putloff gun works and other establishments were destroyed, are printed in the Lokal Anzeiger. The newspaper adds:

"The police suspect that the conflagration was the work of anarchists, who planned to burn all public buildings being used for military purposes."

STRIKERS MODIFY DEMAND

Packing-House Employees Not to Insist on Recognition of Union.

ST LOUIS, July 30.—The packing-house strike situation was cleared today when 1200 strikers at a meeting today voted to submit modified demands to their employers. The new demands do not insist on recognition of the newly-formed union but insist that the packers do not discriminate against its members.

REFORMED MAN PARDONED

Georgian Who Began Life Over Again as Fugitive Is Set Free.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 30.—Thomas Edgar Stripling, who under an assumed name acted as chief of police of Danville, Va., while a fugitive from justice from Georgia on a murder charge, was pardoned last night by Governor Hester after serving five years of a life sentence in the state penitentiary.

Broken in health he will join his family, who have lived near the prison farm at Milledgeville since he was sent there.

GREEKS VOICE PROTEST

Mass Meeting Held in Spite of Cautions of Police.

KAVALA, Greece, July 28, via London, July 30.—Despite the efforts of the police to prevent it, a huge mass-meeting was held here today to protest against the lack of foodstuffs and against famine prices.

CANADIAN TOWNS BURN; 150 PERISH

Bush Fires Work Havoc in Ontario.

DEATH LIST MAY INCREASE

Isolated Settlers Take Refuge in Lakes and Rivers.

57 DEAD IN ONE HAMLET

Hundreds of Square Miles of Land Burned Over; Relief Trains and Consignment of Coffins Are Sent Into Region.

TORONTO, Ont., July 30.—Reports received from Northern Ontario say that the towns of Cochrane, Matheson, Nushka Station and Timmins have been wiped out by disastrous bush fires which started yesterday. Porcupine Junction and Iroquois Falls are reported burning.

At least 150 persons have perished. Fifty-seven bodies are reported found at Nushka Station and 34 at Matheson. Many are injured.

All wires are down north of Englehart and only meager reports have so far been received from refugees.

A relief train with doctors has left North Bay for the scene and Cobalt has sent coffins.

Small Towns Wiped Out.

Several small towns have been wiped out by the flames that have been raging for 48 hours. Reports thus far received show that 57 perished at Nushka, a French Canadian settlement and 34 at Matheson. Cochrane has 18 killed and 34 injured, Iroquois Falls 12 dead and many injured and Ramore 15 dead.

The number killed at Porcupine Junction is not known, but the entire town was destroyed, except the railroad station.

The death list will be materially increased, it is feared, by victims in outlying districts. There are apparently well authenticated reports that many prospectors have been trapped at Tah-shota and Kowash.

Farmer and Ten Children Burned.

One farmer and his ten children are known to have been burned, while the man's wife was vainly seeking aid to check the onrushing flames.

Nushka, a hamlet consisting of a

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NAVAL MILITIA IS HOMEWARD BOUND

MARBLEHEAD IS ON LAST LINK OF CRUISE.

Cruiser Returns From Port Angeles, Alaska, and Is Due at Marblehead Tomorrow Afternoon.

BREMERTON, Wash., July 30.—(Special.)—The Oregon Naval Militia is homeward bound on the last link of its annual cruise. The cruiser Marblehead, on which the men have been to Alaska, hauled up anchors tonight at Port Angeles and is to start out of the straits at daybreak tomorrow, reaching the Columbia River Tuesday morning and Portland early Tuesday afternoon.

Three days at Bremerton have been enjoyed by the men. Every person on the ship had at least 24 hours of shore liberty. The militiamen have been given full privileges in the Bremerton Navy-yard, and, in addition to visiting all the shops, ships and other things of interest, have gone through three submarines which are in drydock. Most of the men took a trip to Seattle to pass part of their time.

Soon after the Marblehead reaches Portland she is to be returned to the Bremerton Navy-yard for repairs, according to announcement here today. A survey of the ship was made by Navy engineers, and plans were made for spending about \$40,000 in repairs.

AUTOS HELP PASSENGERS

Arizona Train Is Abandoned After Wreck on Washed-Out Bridge.

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., July 30.—Sixty passengers of a Grand Canyon Railroad train, wrecked last night by running into a washed-out bridge, were brought here today in automobiles. The passengers were uninjured, but Fred Terry, of Grand Canyon, Ariz., fireman on the train, was killed and Engineer John Oswald, of Williams, and Brake-man William Havers, of Grand Canyon, were severely injured.

Word of the wreck was taken to Grand Canyon by a brakeman, who arrived there at 4 o'clock this morning, after walking most of the way and riding the remainder on a mule borrowed from a rancher.

HEAT IS DAY BEHIND FROST

La Grande Feels First Touch of Hot Wave.

LA GRANDE, Or., July 30.—(Special.)—La Grande today felt the first touches of the Middle West torrid weather.

While the mercury rose no higher than it has previously this year there was a marked humidity, in sharp contrast to yesterday when a light frost visited the valley early in the morning.

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HIGHEST PYTHIANS ARRIVE IN CITY

Special Trains Get In From Chicago.

CONVENTION DELEGATES HERE

Sisters of Order Also Are Visitors to Portland.

SESSIONS ABOUT TO OPEN

Today Will Be Devoted to Registration and Preliminaries—Important Business Will Come Up Tomorrow.

TODAY'S PROGRAMME.

Registration supreme lodge Knights of Pythias at Portland Hotel.

Registration delegates to supreme temple Pythian Sisters at headquarters at Imperial Hotel.

Registration delegates to grand lodge of Oregon at Oregon Hotel headquarters.

Reception to Knights of Pythias supreme lodge, supreme temple, grand lodge and visitors at Baker Theater. Open to the public. Evening.

Reception for delegates to Pythian temple at Imperial Hotel' headquarters in the evening.

Memorial services and report of historical committee of supreme temple of Pythian Sisters at Elks' lodge rooms at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. This is the first meeting of the supreme temple and the only one that will be open to the general public.

The Supreme Lodge of the Knights of Pythias and the Supreme Temple of the Pythian Sisters, to say nothing of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of Oregon are, to all practical intents and purposes, beginning their session this morning.

The most important delegates to the two Supreme Lodges reached Portland last night by special trains from the East, and while today is devoted, according to the programme, to registration

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CARRANZA TO QUIT AS FIRST CHIEF

GENERAL PABLO GONZALES TO BE NAMED INSTEAD.

Present Head of De Facto Government of Mexico Plans to Seek Election by Voters.

LAREDO, Tex., July 30.—Venustiano Carranza is to retire as first chief of the de facto government of Mexico at an early date, and will be succeeded by General Pablo Gonzalez, according to information given out by Mexican official circles in Nuevo Laredo tonight.

General Carranza will enter the field as a Presidential candidate at the forthcoming general election. It was said today, apparently confirming recent unofficial advices from Mexico City, which intimated that the first chief would seek elevation to the Presidency at the hands of the voters.

The conference of Mexican Generals with Carranza, soon to be held in Mexico City, according to these advices, will arrange for the call for general elections and for the retirement of the first chief. This conference was said to have been summoned to prevent possible friction in military circles over the proposed transfer of power.

While no date has been set for the conference, several high officers of the de facto government military forces have left the border within the last few days with the announced intention of proceeding to Mexico City to confer with General Carranza, and it is believed in Nuevo Laredo that the accession of Gonzalez to the administrative power will not be delayed long.

AMERICANS SEE BULLFIGHT

Hundreds Cross Rio Grande to See Affair at Juarez.

EL PASO, Tex., July 30.—Hundreds of Americans crossed the Rio Grande today to attend the first bullfight and broncho-busting contest held in Juarez since the Villa regime. General Francisco Gonzalez, commandant, and Andres Garcia, Mexican consul, expressed gratification over the number attending.

The bull ring was thronged with Mexican soldiers, rifles across their knees and cartridge belts swung about their bodies. Interspersed, between them, about the arena, sat American men and women and hundreds of gaily-dressed Mexicans.

BOY SNOOZES IN TRUNK

Parents Alarmed When Youngster Is Missed Nearly Call Police.

Edward McBride, an 8-year-old lad who lives with his parents at 427 Tenth street, crawled into a trunk, locked the lid and went to sleep Saturday night.

Missed by his parents, they scoured the neighborhood for two hours. They were in the verge of calling into aid the Police Bureau.

In a last resort to make sure the lad was not in hiding, Mr. McBride looked behind the trunk and, in so doing heard what he recognized as "the noise of a sleeper," and opened the trunk. There he found Edward, comfortable on a soft stack of clothes.

The lad explained that he was tired and merely crawled into the trunk for a snooze.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 78 degrees; minimum, 53 degrees.

TODAY'S—Partly cloudy and occasionally threatening; much cooler; westerly wind.

Knights of Pythias. Pythian parade route is fixed. Page 4.

Oregon Pythians gather for convention opening tomorrow. Page 4.

Highest Pythian officials are in Portland. Page 1.

Pythian Sisters to hold memorial service today. Page 4.

War. Convoy not ordered for submarine Deutschland. Page 2.

Central Powers said to have taken 2,658,000 prisoners in past year. Page 1.

Tonkino armies retiring before Russians. Page 2.

Allies resume drive and gain ground on seven-mile front. Page 2.

Foreign. Canadian towns in path of bush fire burned; 150 or more perish. Page 1.

National. Congressional Union women tell Wilson how depend on what Democrats do for suffrage. Page 2.

Domestic. Advertising men urge Republicans to use billboards in campaign. Page 3.

Torrid Sunday in Chicago takes 125 lives. Page 5.

Explosion in New York harbor causes \$25,000,000 property loss; fatalities few. Page 1.

Auto crosses continent in less than six days. Page 1.

Tip on munitions explosion received in Washington. Page 2.

JUVENILE OFFICER COMMITS SUICIDE

Harry Bulger Shoots Self Through Head.

COURT HOUSE SCENE OF DEED

Death Occurs in Office Adjoining Judge's Chambers.

ILLNESS BELIEVED CAUSE

No Explanation of Act Left, so Far as Known—Victim One of Best-Known County Authorities, With Long Record.

Harry Bulger, chief probation officer for Multnomah County, attached to the Juvenile Court, shot himself through the temple yesterday afternoon and his body was found last night at 7 o'clock in his office adjoining Judge Cleeton's chambers in the Courthouse.

His health, which brought on despondency, is believed to have been the cause.

The bullet was from a .38 caliber revolver. It passed through his head and lodged in the wall.

Mr. Bulger was 51 years old and was married. He and Mrs. Bulger lived at 229 Eleventh street. They have no children.

Official Record Long.

Mr. Bulger was one of the best known County Court attaches, having worked with the various judges and the Sheriff's office for a number of years. At various times he has been special agent or deputy sheriff of the county, several years ago being in charge of the insanity cases. He was employed by various administrations because of his ability.

The shooting was done in the quietude of Mr. Bulger's own office, away from everyone. No explanation which he might have left had been discovered last night. He was employed by the county on Sunday to map out work for the week. It is presumed he was at such a task yesterday when seized with despondency which later culminated in his tragic death.

Mr. Bulger left his home yesterday at 11 o'clock, as had been his Sunday morning custom for many years, to take care of office routine. Mrs. Bulger did not notice his long absence until last night after 6 o'clock, when he did not return home for dinner.

Act Apparently Deliberate.

Mrs. Bulger then telephoned her brother, R. Fenkhausen, that Mr. Bulger had not returned, and asked if he would try to locate him. Mr. Fenkhausen went to the Courthouse and attempted to get into Mr. Bulger's office. The doors were locked, and he engaged N. Wagner, watchman at the Courthouse, and together they went through Judge Cleeton's chambers and into Mr. Bulger's office, where they found the body.

Mr. Bulger apparently was cool and deliberate about the shooting.

When his body was found it was fully dressed and seated in a chair in his office. Death apparently came instantaneously. It is presumed the revolver was fired during the afternoon.

Mrs. Bulger collapsed last night when informed of her husband's suicide.

For four years Mr. Bulger had been attached to Judge Cleeton's court. He had been attached to the county for about nine years. He worked under Robert Stevens when Mr. Stevens was Sheriff of Multnomah County, and served also in the Sheriff's office and court departments during Sheriff Tom Ward's incumbency.

Mr. Bulger was born at The Dalles, Or. He had been in for the last three or four years, having undergone two operations.

Besides his widow, Mr. Bulger is survived by a brother, Frank Beger, who was also deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Stevens, and four sisters, two of whom live at Raymond, Wash., one in Los Angeles and one in Boston.

Bulger Resurfaces Head.

Mr. Wagner, who was one of the first to locate the body, said Mr. Bulger had drawn his easy chair up to the desk and tilted it apparently to get an easy posture. The revolver was found immediately under the chair.

The shot went from the right temple out through the left temple toward the front of the head. It was later picked up in the room after it had glanced off the wall.

Mr. Bulger lived at The Dalles when that section of the state was a cattle country. His boyhood was spent on the range and while a youth he was considered one of the best bronco busters in that locality. While breaking an outlaw range horse during his early career he received internal injuries from which he never recovered. As he grew older chronic intestinal trouble made its appearance, and five years ago he practically became an invalid, although he refused to give up and attended to his duties as an officer.

"During the past year he lived on his nerve," he said Deputy Sheriff Boh Phillips last night. "Even the shortest walk caused him the most excruciating pain, but he never gave up until the doctors told him a short time ago that he would not live more than a month or two. Since then he has been despondent, but none of his friends ever dreamed that he would commit suicide."

PYTHIANS HERE FOR SUPREME LODGE AND GRAND LODGE SESSIONS.



(1) Mrs. C. A. Gillan, of Vale, Or., member of the Pythian Sisters; (2) Judge George M. Hanson, of Calais, Me., Past Supreme Chancellor and Present Associate Justice of Maine Supreme Court; (3) George B. G. Lewis, of Houston, Tex., Supreme Representative and Superintendent of Pythian Insurance Department in That State; (4) Judge W. L. Bradshaw, of The Dalles, Past Supreme Representative; (5) W. M. C. C. of Portland, Past Supreme Representative; (6) John F. O'Neil, of Dallas, Tex., a Supreme Representative from That State; (7) C. A. Gillan, of Vale, Or., Here as Representative in Grand Lodge of Advance Lodge, No. 105.

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