

GUNNERS KILLED IN KEARSARGE

Powder Explodes in Turret of Warship.

SIX DEAD, TWO MORE DYING

Disaster Mars Finish of Target Practice.

TALENTED OFFICER KILLED

Brief Message From Admiral Evans Tells of Fate of Brave Seamen.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Two years ago to a day later than the fatal Missouri disaster, as every sailor immediately recalled, on a Friday and the 13th of the month, six men were done to death in the forward turret of the battleship Kearsarge by one of those accidents which acquire additional terror for sailors because of their obscure origin and the almost impossibility of prevention.

The Atlantic fleet had been for weeks engaged in most severe drills in the waters of the Caribbean Sea, culminating in the quarterly target practice. This practice was just about concluding, with most satisfactory results up to yesterday, and it was confidently expected at the Department, upon the basis of preliminary reports received, that all records would be broken in the matter of rapidity of fire and efficiency of the gunners. But today, just at the close of the week's work at the Department, came a cablegram from Rear-Admiral Evans, commanding the Atlantic fleet, telling of a dreadful accident on one of his best ships, the Kearsarge. The news came from Callanans, a little cable station at the mouth of Guantanamo Bay, indicating that the Kearsarge itself had arrived at that place. The message read as follows:

Evans Tells of Disaster.

Callanans, April 14.—Secretary Navy, Washington: On April 12, about 3:15 P. M., shortly after completion of target practice of the Kearsarge forward turret, while the powder was going below, three sections of a 13-inch charge of powder were ignited. The charge of powder in other turret just below and one section 13-inch remained intact. Cause unknown. Matter is being investigated. Lieutenant Joseph M. Graeme, gun umpire, has been sent to the Maryland in a very critical state about 9 P. M. The following have also died:

Lieutenant Hudgins, turret officer.

PETER NORBERG, gunner's mate.

THEODORE NAEGLY, seaman.

THEODORE O. THORSEN, seaman.

JULIUS E. KOESTER, turret captain, first class.

ELLIS H. ARTHY, seaman.

The following were dangerously injured by accident, recovery doubtful: W. King, ordinary seaman.

Willbury dead at Guantanamo. Vessel undamaged.

Homes and Relatives of Dead.

The residences and next of kin to the victims were as follows: Peter Norberg, gunner's mate, third class, residence No. 7, next of kin, Margaret Norberg, mother, Sandvick, Sweden.

Theodore Nagely, seaman, residence Elizabeth, N. J.; next of kin, Louis Grafe, guardian, Elizabeth, N. J.

Anton Oat Thorsen, ordinary seaman, residence New York; next of kin, Elias Thorsen, New York.

Julius Alfred Koester, turret captain, first class, residence Chicago; next of kin, John Peterson, Chicago.

Ellis Homer Arthy, seaman, residence Parkersburg, W. Va.; next of kin, W. Arthy, Parkersburg, W. Va.

William King, seaman, residence Appleton City, Mo.; next of kin, Mrs. Alice Cox, Appleton City, Mo.

Department Sends Sympathy.

The following message of condolence was telegraphed to the Commander-in-Chief of the fleet, Admiral Evans, by Acting Secretary Newberry:

The department is deeply grieved by the untimely accident on board the Kearsarge, which occasioned the death and injury to the performance of duty of brave officers and men of Navy, and expresses its heartfelt sympathy to the injured and wishes for a speedy recovery from their wounds. Spare no effort to ease the suffering injured in every possible manner and show every honor to the dead.

Surprise More Were Not Killed.

The first feeling of the officers at the Navy Department after reading the cablegram was one of surprise that the accident had resulted in so little loss of life. The Kearsarge's forward turret, where it occurred, is of the superposed type; in other words, an eight-inch gun turret sat on top of the 13-inch gun turret, and the accident occurred. In the lower turret were 24 men, and in the upper turret 16. An ammunition hoist connected the two, and had the powder in the lower hoist exploded, probably every man in the two turrets would have been killed.

The full charge of powder for a 13-inch gun is too large to be handled by any one man, so it is divided into sections in canvas bags, and it was three of these, probably just enough to fill one compartment in the ammunition hoist, which ignited. As the cablegram states, the cause of the ignition was not known, but the first belief at the Navy Department is that in cleaning up the turret and throwing open the breeches of the big gun after the last round had been fired, some small bit of smoldering canvas bagging was blown out of one of the guns as the turret fell upon the ammunition hoist, only the surplus powder was being returned to the magazines below. Had the remainder of this powder exploded, there might have been a repetition of the Missouri disaster, when 36 men were killed in the turret and in the magazines below.

It may be noted, however, that the cause of the accident in the case of the Missouri was entirely different from that in the case of the Kearsarge, for the Missouri turret breech block was struck open.

MOB HANGS THREE

Negroes Strung Up Over Roaring Bonfire in Missouri.

SPRINGFIELD JAIL WRECKED

Torturing to Death of White Girl's Assaults Is Followed by Lynching of Murder Suspect—Prisoners Escape.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., April 14.—A mob of 500 men, fully armed, tonight took three negroes from the County Jail, hanged them to the electric tower in the center of the public square and built a fire under the men, roasting them as they hung.

The negroes were Horace Duncan and James Copeland, both under 22 years of age. They were in jail charged with assaulting Mabel Edmondson, a white girl, last night. Fully 500 people went to the County Jail about 7 o'clock, and with telephone poles and sledgehammers literally tore the jail to pieces.

Finally the two negro suspects were dragged from the jail and taken to the center of the public square and lynched. It is fully a mile from the jail to the square, and the mob marched down one of the principal streets of the town, shouting and firing pistols.

Storm Sheriff's Residence.

A mob of 300 men gathered at the City Jail at 8 o'clock, and, upon learning that the negroes were not there, hastened to the County Jail, where the negroes were confined. Instead of attacking the jail, at first the mob stormed the residence of the Sheriff, breaking down doors, smashing windows, destroying practically all the furniture in the lower part of the house and rendering the Sheriff's wife unconscious from fright and violence. Overcoming the resistance of the Sheriff and a posse of deputies, the mob secured the keys to the cells.

Mabel Edmondson came here recently from Monett, Mo., to obtain employment as a domestic servant. Last night, when she was riding in a buggy with Charles Cooper, a young man of Springfield, in a secluded part of the city the couple were held up by two negroes. The man was knocked unconscious and the girl dragged from the buggy and into the bushes by the roadside and assaulted. The two negroes lynched tonight were suspected and arrested, but were only partially identified.

Attempts to Foul Mob.

Circuit Attorney Arthur Sager, of St. Louis, was a witness of the tragedy. He slipped down into the cellar of the jail and cut off the gas, hoping thus to confuse the mob and defeat its plans. He was just a second too late.

Sheriff Horner tried to argue with the mob, but it was determined and hee-hawed and insulted him. Jailor King was assaulted when he refused to give up the keys. Sheriff Wilson Crane, of Polk County, was present and tried to induce the mob not to hang the negroes.

Two months ago T. M. Kinney, a prominent tailor, was assassinated, and two negro suspects are in jail. Later on an old peddler was alleged to have been accused of that crime. It is created a strong anti-negro feeling. It was in fear that tonight's tragedy would be enacted that caused a delegation of negroes to try to prevent an anti-negro play from being given here.

The play, which was given, intensified the bitter feeling.

Unconscious When Hanged.

When Duncan and Copeland were dragged from their cells into the square they were completely unconscious from fright. When they were strung up to the arm of the statue of Justice on the top of the tower, their bodies were limp as though they were dead. Neither made the slightest resistance.

It developed about midnight that there were two mobs, one well organized and composed of men, and another composed of rowdies. The first mob reached the jail at about the same time as did the mob composed of boys and ruffians in general. While the mob was making a great noise outside the jail, shooting, threatening and throwing stones at the jail windows, the organized mob was getting in its best work.

All but six prisoners out of the more than 20 who were locked in their cells last night have made their escape, among them being Gus Cane, colored, charged with the murder of O. M. Rourke. About \$200 damage was done in the prison alone, while in the Sheriff's residence the damage is fully as much.

Sheriffs in the surrounding counties have been notified of the prisoners' escape. Mrs. Horner, the Sheriff's wife, is in a critical condition and is suffering with heart trouble.

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POLITICAL GOSSIP

ADOPTS EIGHT-HOUR RULE

Smelter Trust Changes System for All Furnace Men.

DENVER, Colo., April 14.—To take effect May 1, the American Smelting & Refining Company will extend the eight-hour day to all employees in its five Colorado plants who come in contact with furnace operations. This will affect about 300 men. Only outside men, mostly laborers, are not included in the new order. Hitherto all the employees, except those exempted by law, worked 12 hours.

The men will receive an advance in wages for the time worked of about 20 per cent. For instance, those formerly receiving \$1 a day for 12 hours will now receive \$1.20. Three shifts will be worked instead of two, as heretofore, and the number of men employed will be considerably increased.

The increased expense for wages is estimated at about 25 per cent, but it is expected some of this will be made up through increased efficiency.

GREAT CONVENTION CALLED

Miners' Federation Will Hear Gorky, Cockran and Darrow.

DENVER, April 14.—Notices are being sent out from the headquarters of the Miners' Federation of America in this city to local unions, urging a large attendance at the annual convention that will open in this city May 23. This is expected to be the greatest convention in the history of the organization, because of the widespread interest in the arrest of President Moyer, Secretary Haywood and George A. Pettibone, on the charge of the murder of ex-Governor Steiensen, of Idaho.

It is expected that Maxing Gorky, the Russian revolutionist, will participate in the gathering. Congressman Bourke Cockran, of New York, and Clarence Darrow, counsel for the accused officials, are expected to attend.

Strike for Union Is Gaining.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 14.—(Special.)—The thousand members of the American Federation of Labor at High Point who have been locked out because they formed a union have gained recruits among the nonunion men, and will receive relief funds Monday.

PLANS FOR PEACE PALACE

Competition Among World's Architects to Be Decided in May.

THE HAGUE, April 14.—Several hundred plans for Andrew Carnegie's palace of peace have been offered by architects all over the world to the jury consisting of experts from France, Germany, Italy, United States, Russia, and Clarence Darrow, a Hollander. This jury will meet early in May and will award six prizes, ranging from \$4,000 to \$100.

A tract of ground provided by the Netherlands Government and situated on the famous old Scheveningen road.

Programme of Hague Conference.

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Secretary Root today received a copy of Russia's proposed programme of subjects for The Hague conference.

DIVORCE RUMOR DENIED

Mrs. Depew Said to Desire Separation, by Rumor.

NEW YORK, April 14.—(Special.)—One of the passengers on the steamer Celtic, which is due tomorrow from Liverpool, is Mrs. Chauncey M. Depew. The report is renewed that she has brought suit for separation. Charles Paulding, Senator Depew's nephew, did not know today of her prospective arrival, but concerning the rumor said it was a cruel and malicious falsehood. He says she went abroad for her health by the advice of Senator Depew and her physicians, her unremitting attentions to him in his illness having broken down her health.

Paulding said his last information was that the Senator was slowly improving. He is in retirement at Scarborough-on-Hudson.

Arthur Turner, Vogue's Publisher.