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DISASTROUS SHIP WRECK OFF RHODE ISLAND COAST

Two Vessels Meet and Both go Down With Passengers and One Crew. Entire Disaster Occurs in Ten Minutes.

One Hundred and Fifty Perish

(Scripps News Association)
New Port, R. I., Feb. 12.—The steamer Larchmont, of the Jay line, collided last night off Block Island, with the schooner K. Howton, causing the sinking of both vessels. The entire passenger list is practically either drowned or frozen to death, while the crew on the schooner was drowned.

The schooner went down in twenty feet of water while the steamer disappeared fifteen minutes after the accident happened. Two boat loads of passengers from the Larchmont arrived in port here this morning but all but seven were dead, having frozen to death enroute. A terrible gale was blowing, lowering the temperature materially. The wind is also the cause of the disaster.

BODIES WASHED ASHORE
By noon today sixteen bodies have been washed ashore on Block Island.

Reports of the status of the accident are meagre but it is believed that the bodies blown the vessel together, which resulted in the enormous loss of life from the passengers on the Larchmont. There were one hundred and fifty of the crew, most of which were lost. Some may possibly be afloat on the waters in open boats, but this hopeful view is discredited by authorities as the weather was so cold that life could not last long.

Block Islands, Feb. 12.—The news of the Larchmont's loss was first known when a boat bearing eight survivors came to shore carrying four corpses. The survivors say the Larchmont went to the bottom a few minutes after the collision

which occurred at nine o'clock last night. The sky was clear but the thermometer was far below zero. The captain ordered out boats but most of them capsized on touching the angry waves. The few survivors tell a gruesome tale of the sudden death of the passengers. Most of them were in their state rooms when their vessel hit the Knowton, and could not possibly reach the deck before the ship was sinking. Captain Healy and a crew of seven from the Larchmont reached the beach in safety.

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY DEAD
Boston, Feb. 12.—It is estimated that one hundred and thirty perished in the wreck.

New Port Feb 12.—A telephone message from Block Island this afternoon says that every effort was made to save the passengers on the sinking ship but it went down too rapidly.

There had evidently been a hole knocked in the hull below the water line. Scores have presumably drowned in the state rooms and will likely never be recovered. Many were awakened by the noise of the collision and rushed toward the deck, thinly clad. But they never reached the shore. Rather than they put up a brief reflect battle against the waters surging down upon them and died. The weather is so rough that no tug would put out today to the scene of the wreck being thirty miles from Block Island.

Latest official reports say that there were 125 passengers. Eight survivors and eighteen bodies is all that have been accounted for.

MICHIGAN RETAIL GROCERS

(Scripps News Association)
Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 12.—The leading cities and towns of the state were represented at the opening here today of the ninth annual convention of the Retail Grocers and General Merchants' Association of Michigan. The convention will be in session three days, during which time many matters of importance to the retail merchants will be considered and acted upon. Particular attention will be given to the subjects of coupon schemes, fire insurance, box car merchants, peddlers, parcels post, and the competition of mail order concerns.

NEW ORLEANS GREET REX

(Scripps News Association)
New Orleans, La., Feb. 12.—This was the big day of the Mardi Gras carnival. Canal and intersecting streets held great multitudes of people when Rex, the king of the carnival, made his entry into the city. Thousands on the river front greeted the royal flotilla. The merry monarch was escorted thru the streets by the peers of his realm, and a numerous military and naval contingent.

KING EDWARD OPENS PARLIAMENT

(Scripps News Association)
London, Feb. 12.—The second session of the second parliament of his reign was opened this afternoon by King Edward with all the historic pageantry which has marked the ceremony since his accession. The sovereign himself read the speech from the throne to the assembled lords and commons in the upper chamber. The document expressed his Majesty's pleasure over the friendly relations of Great Britain with all foreign powers and then proceeded to dwell at considerable length on some of the great questions of home interest with which the session will have to deal.

The royal processions both to and from Westminster were witnessed by immense crowds. At the royal entrance beneath the Victoria tower the King was received by the high officers of state and passed in procession to the robing room. Thence accompanied by the Queen, his Majesty proceeded to the House of Lords, accompanied by the hereditary bearers of the crown and other regalia. The Prince and Princess of Wales also took part in the ceremony.

THAW, HIS ATTORNEY AND FRIENDS JOIN WORRY CLASS

(Scripps News Association)

New York Feb. 12.—That million dollar defense which Harry K. Thaw has prepared, has a screw loose somewhere. Thaw is worried, his attorneys are worried, and his friends have all joined the worry class. Attorney D. Delmas and his aides appeared in court this morning, wearing a worried look, but underneath there occasionally gleamed a look that indicates that a radical action is due. All are on the quiver except District Attorney Jerome, who is daily proving himself the real article in the fraying humanity. There is no telling from his countenance, of his state of mind. Up to date, the one telling point in the defense has made, is Evelyn's story. Upon this alone, the jury is likely to disagree or return an acquittal upon the ground of justification, but the defense must prove something acceptable under

the laws, which it has not done so far. It has not even created a reasonable doubt of Thaw's insanity.

Dr. Evans, an alienist who was the first witness called this morning.

Evans was asked to state his observations at visits made to Thaw's apartments in August. He said that he had noticed a peculiar facial expression, a glare of the eyes and unnatural suspicion of everyone about him. The witness said Thaw had an exaggerated idea of the importance of things and believed himself to be the victim of persecution to such an extent that he was a martyr.

Evans delivered a number of lectures on "exaggerated age" and "explosive tendencies" observed in Thaw and announced pompously that Thaw had refused to accede to his argument and stuck to the opinion he had before the doctor examined him. He declared that Thaw was so insane as to try to tell the doctor how to conduct his examination; Thaw could not restrain his laughter at this testimony and grabbed a law book and buried his face. The attorneys got into a squabble which lasted an hour.

CONGRESS ASKS FOR MONEY

Special Correspondence

Seattle, Feb. 12.—The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition bill that has been introduced in Congress asking for an appropriation of \$1,200,000 provides only for the participation of Hawaii, Alaska and the Philippines at the fair. The federal government will be asked later on to make provision for its general exhibit and a building to house it.

The bill calls for a separate building for each territory. The expenditures for the buildings and the collection, installation and maintenance of the displays are divided in the estimates as follows: Department of interior, \$650,000; department of war, \$150,000; Alaska, \$350,000; Hawaii, \$50,000; Philippine Islands, \$100,000.

Although the bill has been introduced nothing further can be accomplished until the State of Washington has shown its good faith in the exposition by making a liberal appropriation for its participation. Senator Piles and his colleagues have urged that the state legislature act upon the exposition bill that will be introduced at the forthcoming session as quickly as possible so that the work at Washington can go forward without delay. It is also essential for the State of Washington to make appropriation early and for Congress to take some action, or in order for the exposition management to secure appropriations from the different states that have their legislative meetings this winter.

The bill provides for a government board composed of the secretaries of war, interior and treasury which will have general supervision over all of the government's representation. No charge for exhibit space will be made, and the states and foreign countries which do not erect their own buildings can secure space in the general exhibit places.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Logsdon returned today from Portland where they visited friends the past three weeks. They were there during the silver thaw.

BARTLETT-GARDINIER CASE CONTINUED FOR TERM

Owing to the Absence of N. J. Klein, one of the Principal Witnesses.

Judge Wm Smith arrived this morning from Baker City on No 1 which reached here at 10 o'clock and proceeded to the court house and opened court.

In due time the case of the state of Oregon vs E W Bartlett and S A Gardinier was called and the defendants entered their plea of not guilty.

This was followed by a royal battle between the attorneys, caused by the filing of a motion by District Attorney F S Ivanhoe for a continuance of the case from the fact that the prosecuting witness in the case J N Klein was out of the city and had been since the present term of court has been in session, that the witness was a material witness and that he expected to prove in effect as follows by this witness:

"That on or about the 18th day of May 1906, one L. Rayburn, Marshal of the City of La Grande, came to the place of business of said Klein, and informed him, the said Klein, that if any gambling was going on at Klein's place of business, he was liable to be arrested and prosecuted for the reason that the defendants E W Bartlett and S. A. Gardinier had threatened to prosecute said J. N. Klein and J. C. Smith, and others, for gambling. The said Bartlett and Gardinier were consulted in the matter; that afterwards on said day, the said S. A. Gardinier came to the said Klein at his place of business at La Grande, Oregon, and told him that unless he and Smith paid or agreed to pay to himself and E. W. Bartlett, the sum of \$150.00, that they would be prosecuted for gambling, and that said Gardinier afterwards made said statement to said Smith and said Klein at the place of business of said Smith; that said Klein and Smith, at said time and place, asked said Gardinier if such prosecution could not be prevented by the payment to said Gardinier and Bartlett of the sum of \$100.00; that said Gardinier then and there replied that he would see Bartlett, and immediately went from the place of business of said Smith, to the office of said Bartlett; that he soon returned from the office of said Bartlett and reported to said Klein and Smith, that in order to prevent such prosecution, Bartlett insisted on \$150.00, and that it be paid in gold money, that he did not want any paper money; that thereafter said Klein paid to said Gardinier for said Gardinier and Bartlett, in order to prevent said Klein and Smith being prosecuted for gambling by said Bartlett and Gardinier, at the place of business of said Klein, the sum of \$150.00, in gold; that the manner of payment of said money was that said Klein exhibited said money, gold, to said Gardinier, who indicated then and there to said Klein, where to leave said money, in the room where said money was then had, and that said Klein then and there left

said money at said place for said Gardinier, who then and there received the same and the whole thereof.

That the plaintiff cannot prove what transpired between said Gardinier and Klein at said times and places by any other witnesses, and that said testimony is material, and that the plaintiff cannot safely proceed to trial at this time without said evidence from said witness Klein."

Attorney Sam White set up the contention that the witness Klein was not a material witness and that as far as proving the charge, "attempt to extort money" that the witness J. C. Smith knew all that Klein knew.

The court sustained every point made by the District Attorney, and covered every point drawn out in the addresses reviewing the fact that as the defendants were young men, who were holding responsible municipal positions and that for that reason the public was particularly interested and the defendants were entitled to all of the facts in the case and the defendants should be absolutely freed by the terms of the charge in case of acquittal, which might not possibly be the case if the case went to trial in the absence of the prosecuting witness and that he would continue the case until the latter part of this term if the witness could be secured, if not, until the first day of the June term of court.

The prosecuting attorney stated that he would use every effort to secure the attendance of Mr Klein and thought it possible to get to try the case at this term.

The defense alleged and proved from the record that they have at all times been ready for trial and were now ready and accused the state of being dilatory in not having Klein subpoenaed prior to the opening of the present term.

The state took the position that inasmuch as the defendants had not made their plea until today that the state was not in a position to have the subpoena issued sooner than it did.

HERMAN TRIAL IS ON

(Scripps News Association)

Washington, Feb. 12.—The trial of Representative Binger Herman of Oregon, charged with the violation of several statutes and thirty-five letter press copy books while in the general land office at Washington D. C. is now in session. Many witnesses from the Northwest will be subpoenaed. Milton J. Purdie is conducting the prosecution.

WIRES TO PORTLAND

Today for the first time in this month, the local office of the Western Union Telegraph Company, is in direct communication with Portland.

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