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WYOMING MINE FIRE

Thirty-two Lives Known to Have Been Lost.

WAS DUE TO CARELESSNESS

Efforts to Rescue the Imprisoned Men Proved Fruitless—Ignorance of English Language Increased the Death List.

KEMMERER, Wyo., Feb. 26.—The following is an incomplete list of the men known to be dead in Diamondville No. 1 mine from the fire that broke out last night: Damiano Defranco, single; Giuseppe Endrizzo, single; Sordano Gabardi, single; Athilo Kucol, single; Giuseppe Tranzol, married; Torozzo Frenzo, married; Fanto Formolo, single; Hiele Heneia, single; Tenano Tranyini, married; Alessandro Barfagnoli, married; Vorado Angeli, married; Donasodo Rosati, married; Palmascio Beati, married; Bistida Basolo, married; John Heikinen, single; James and Hemminki Pihalahti, brothers, single; John Paasaniemi, married; Mat Tasmann, single; Emmel Aho, single; Hans Rasmussen, single; Thomas Simpson, age 17-year-old Herbert Simpson; Frank Dwyer, single.

With the exception of Thomas Simpson and his son and Frank Dwyer, all the above are Austrians. In addition there are five Italians and seven Finlanders, whose names are not yet learned, making a total of 32 lives lost. It is given out by Superintendent Thomas Sneddon and confirmed by others familiar with the conditions that the lives of all the men were certainly extinguished within three minutes of the fire gaining the ascendancy. The fire is believed to be extinguished at any rate it is fully under control, and Superintendent Sneddon announces that he will open the mine tomorrow for the recovery of the bodies of the men who are now under way for the reception of the bodies, the blacksmith shop having been prepared as a temporary morgue.

While the horror is of less proportions than the disaster at the Scofield mines and the still later one in British Columbia, it is still sufficient to impress itself. The large proportion of men of families among the victims adds to the general distress, and all night long women and children hung around the slope filling the air with lamentations for their lost husbands and fathers. By daylight most of them were removed by the gentle hands of ministering friends.

An additional tragedy followed the main one today. Thomas Simpson, with his young son came to Diamondville from Alabama but six weeks ago, bringing the wife and mother in the hope the change of climate would benefit her health. The shock of last night's tragedy was too great for Mrs. Simpson's delicate health, and today she died, thus every member of this family is a victim to the disaster.

Origin of the Fire.

The origin of the fire has not been definitely determined, but it is thought it was the result of carelessness by some one in the drivers' cabin, back of the sixth level. At this point the drivers congregated while waiting for loads, and it is thought a lighted wick was left to smolder among the rubbish. The fire was discovered by Driver James Hudson, and he relates that had the miners who have lost their lives been English speaking the death list would have been much lower, for he saved the alarm thoroughly and was severely burned himself in his efforts to communicate with the English unfortunates. He was himself rescued with great difficulty, and is now under the doctor's care. The failure of Simpson and his son and Dwyer to respond to this summons is accounted for by their being too far distant to hear Hudson's voice. Shortly after the breaking out of the fire Superintendent Sneddon arrived. Examination proved to him the impossibility of a single soul being alive in the flames and heavy gases generated. Several heroic attempts at rescue were made, but all without success. The carelessness of saving any lives became apparent. Superintendent Sneddon gave orders to close the level. This was done at once, with the result that the fire was brought fully under control. The prompt action of Superintendent Sneddon in closing the mine and thus confining the fire and ultimately extinguishing it has prevented a vast property loss, and will make it possible for the company to resume operations without much loss of time. In fact, Mr. Sneddon has advised the Oregon Short Line officials that the shutdown resulting from the fire will be but temporary, and that he will resume work before the close of this week. The experience of the company in the sixth level the same mine two years ago, when the mine was closed for many months and a vast property loss entailed, is not to be repeated. Every minute that the mine is brought under control, the management has been preparing for a repetition. False bulkheads were put in on every level with the necessary openings for air, and, when the hopelessness of recovering any lives became apparent last night, Mr. Sneddon promptly sealed up the portion on fire.

Official Statement of It.

A local official of the Diamondville Coal & Coke Company made the following statement this afternoon: "The foreman of the mine, George N. Griffin, was notified that fire had started between rooms 45 and 46, in the sixth south entrance. This entry is about 2200 feet from the slope. About 3000 feet from the main slope there is a side track. On the inside of this sidetrack, two drivers gathered the leading cars preparatory to taking them to the slope by the outside driver, who hauls the trip by a spike team. At this sidetrack the drivers use a small piece of brattice 10-ounce duck as a wind-break while they wait for the cars. By some means yet unknown, this brattice was ignited. It is believed by a driver's lamp. Near to this brattice was a board stopping between the main back entry, which also caught fire, causing a large flame, which was fed by coal falling from the roof and ribs, soon becoming an immense fire. One practical miner, Charles Mahan, who worked at the extreme end of the entry, had finished his day's work. While returning toward the main slope on his way home, he encountered dense smoke traveling toward him with the current. Seeing that it was impossible to face the smoke he retreated with the current, and kept in advance of the smoke, and called to all the miners in that district to flee, as there was a fire in some

NOT FIT TO GOVERN

General Gomez' Opinion of the Cubans.

THE TROOPS SHOULD NOT GO

If the Americans Withdraw, He Says He Will Leave With Them—It Would Mean Ruination of the Island.

HAVANA, Feb. 26.—General Gomez visited Governor-General Wood this morning and assured him that the stories of unrest and dissatisfaction at the continuance of the United States intervention are

CONDUCT OF THE BRITISH.

Treatment of the Boers Discussed in the House of Commons.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Replying in the House of Commons today to Sir Howard "Innocent" Kerslake, the Hon. Mr. Balfour, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that for the year ending March 25, 1900, direct taxation contributed 48.4 per cent, and indirect taxation 51.6 per cent of the total revenue. He refused to give the figures of foreign countries and pointed out that in the case of countries like the United States and Germany a comparison was likely to be misleading. During the course of the statement on public business, A. J. Balfour, the Government leader, mentioned the fact that the supplementary estimates for this year would be very heavy, including over £1,000,000 for the Navy, and £3,000,000 for the Army.

Prisoners of the Portuguese.

PARIS, Feb. 27.—The Havana agency has received the following from Lourenco Marques, February 26: "The Portuguese government has sent a strong guard on board the Benguela to accompany the Boer refugees to Lisbon. The prisoners will be sent to Peniche. The Benguela sailed this evening."

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PEORIA, Ill., Feb. 26.—Mrs. Carrie Nation is in charge of the Journal today. In her leading editorial she says: "I have never hurt a hair on the heads of my bad brothers, the saloon-keepers, and hope for pity's sake none of them ever shall get in the way of my hatchet, for it gets dreadfully reckless when it is around smashing that which murders men."

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White Man Lynched.

SCRANTON, Miss., Feb. 26.—John Knox, a white man, was lynched here tonight for the murder of Don Davis.

AN ARMISTICE DECLARED.

Kitchener and Botha Meet to Arrange for Boers' Surrender.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The Daily Chronicle this morning publishes under reserve a rumor that Lord Kitchener has met General Botha to arrange terms for the surrender of the Boers, and that an armistice of 24 hours was granted the Boer Commandant-General to enable him to consult with the other Commandants. According to the Daily Chronicle, the Cabinet Council yesterday considered this new turn of affairs.

End of the War Seems Near.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26.—There are few additional details of the rout of the Dutch forces in South Africa, says the Tribune's London correspondent; but there is a buoyant feeling in military circles, and the end of the war seems nearer. There

ASSISTANT SECRETARY VANDERLIP RESIGNS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The resignation of Hon. Frank A. Vanderlip, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, was announced at the department today, to take effect upon the qualification of his successor, not later than March 8. It is Mr. Vanderlip's intention to sail for Europe now, in order to make a study of financial and industrial affairs in England and on the Continent. It is understood that on his return he has had under consideration for several months. It is understood that Milton E. Allen, of Ohio, will succeed Mr. Vanderlip.

Contracts for Two Battle-Ships.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The Navy Department today concluded contracts with the Bath Iron Works and the Newport News Shipbuilding Company for the construction of a battleship and a battle-ship each at a cost of \$1,500,000. This disposes of all the battle-ships let at the last bidding save one, which was awarded to Moran Bros., of Seattle, and for which the contract has not yet been executed.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT NEWS

Congress. There is little hope for the river and harbor bill passing this session. Page 2. The Senate may vote on the Army bill and amendments today. Page 2. A letter from Admiral Sampson, opposing the proposition of the Morgan steel company, was read in both houses. Page 2 and 3. Lanza created another sensation in the House. Page 3. Philippines. Consul Wildman, in a Honolulu interview, said the rebellion is at an end. Page 3. The Quartermaster steamer Newark was wrecked on Caidanau Islands. Page 3. Civil government was established in Bulacan Province. Page 3. Foreign. Gomez says the Cubans are not ready for self-government. Page 1. Kitchener and Botha are said to have met to arrange for Boers' surrender. Page 1. Two Chinese officials were publicly beheaded at Peking. Page 1. Domestic. Thirty-two lives were lost in the Wyoming mine fire. Page 1. Ward, the Terre Haute murderer, was lynched and his body was cremated. Page 10. The canalization of the Morgan steel combination will be \$1,100,000,000. Page 1. Northwest Legislatures. Oregon will for an annual 10-mile road tax went into effect yesterday. Page 4. Governor Geer signed a number of bills passed by Oregon Legislature. Page 4. Washington committee on constitutional revision will recommend indefinite postponement of bills for removal of capital. Page 5. Idaho House declared for bill to tax mines on a net output basis. Page 5. Pacific Coast. Salem is likely to get a flouring mill. Page 4. Washington mother who took lives of six children tells of the deed. Page 4. Two men were killed by an explosion in the Blue Canyon, Washington mine. Page 5. Portland and Vicinity. Governor Geer urged by some to veto and by others to sign Port of Portland bill. Page 12. Oregon Spanish War Veterans resolve to join National organization. Page 5. O. R. & N. Co. is receiving 18 new locomotives and 20 pressed-steel ore cars. Page 12. Bill passed for alleged embezzlement of \$6000. Page 7. Oregon Commissioners to Buffalo organize. Page 5.

PUBLIC EXECUTION

Two Chinese Officials Beheaded at Peking.

GUARDED BY ALLIED TROOPS

First of the Penalties Demanded by Powers Inflicted—Chih Shu and Hsu Cheng Yo the Anti-Foreign Leaders Who Suffered.

PEKING, Feb. 26.—Chih Shu, ex-Grand Secretary, and Hsu Cheng Yo (son of the notorious Hsu Tung) were publicly beheaded today. The street in which the execution took place was guarded by French, German and American troops. The condemned officials were taken to the ground in carts, escorted by a company of Japanese infantry. Chih Shu met his fate in a dignified manner, walking from the cart calmly and fearlessly. Hsu Cheng Yo was stupefied with opium. They were both dressed in their Chinese official costumes, without the insignia of their rank.

French and Chinese Fought.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—"It is reported that heavy fighting has taken place between the French and Chinese near Cheng Tsin Fu," says the Pekin correspondent of the Morning Post, wiring yesterday. "Count von Waldersee, it is understood, is issuing orders for a cessation of expeditions, but these orders do not refer to the preparation for the projected expedition to Sian Fu. The Chinese, on the suggestion of M. Fichon, have proposed to the British and American Ministers to select representatives to discuss the missionary question, and the claims of native converts. Sir Ernest Satow is not inclined to act."

The Recall of the Coffer.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The Pall Mall Gazette's correspondent at Peking, telegraphing under date of yesterday, says: "United States Minister Conger's recall, which is practically a rebuff, is very generally regretted. It is feared that his uncompromising attitude will be exchanged for a policy that will prove unnecessarily benevolent."

CANAL NEGOTIATIONS.

Have Been or Will Be Transferred to Washington.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The Nicaragua Canal negotiations have been or are on the point of being, entirely transferred to Washington, as Ambassador Choate is not empowered to deal with the suggestions of the British Government. The usual Cabinet meeting was held this afternoon.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—No intimation has yet come from London from any official source as to the nature of the note which was said to be preparing there, expressing the view of the British Cabinet council last Friday, relative to the Hay-Panama treaty. Little hope has been cherished at any time by the officials here since the action of the Senate upon the treaty that the British Government would accept such action, and every day that passes adds to the conviction that the answer, when received, will not amount to an acceptance of the Senate amendments. It has been suggested that the British Prime Minister might make a counter proposal, but it is said that such action would be equivalent to a rejection of the treaty.

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