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SWEPT TO DEATH

Two Hundred Lives Lost in
West Virginia Flood.

IN POCAHONTAS COAL FIELDS

Property Loss Will Reach Two Million Dollars—Valley Torrent
Caused by Cloudburst—Miles
of Track Washed Away.

BLUEFIELDS, W. Va., June 23.—This section has just been visited by a flood, the extent of which in all probability will equal or exceed that of Johnston in 1893, so far as the loss of property is concerned. Early yesterday morning, shortly after midnight, a heavy down-pour of rain began, accompanied by a severe electric storm, which increased in volume, continuing for several hours. The storm continued throughout the entire day and night and at 10 A. M. the storm had abated, the lowering clouds threatened another terrific downpour at any moment.

Many miles of the Norfolk & Western Railroad track, bridges and telegraph lines are entirely destroyed and communication is entirely cut off west of Elkhorn, that it is impossible to learn the full extent of the loss of life and property, but officials of the coal companies located in the district have sent out messengers to Elkhorn, the terminus of both telegraphic and railroad communication, and have received a report that a conservative estimate as to the loss of life will easily reach 200. Some of the drowned are among the most prominent citizens of the coal fields.

The Pocahontas coal field is located in a basin with high mountain ranges on either side, Elkhorn Creek flowing through the center of the basin, which ranges from one-fourth of a mile to one mile in width. From Tazewell, W. Va., to Victor, Va., a distance of 15 miles, miners' cabins, coal company commissaries and coke plants line the basin. The Elkhorn Creek, being fed by numerous small streams coming from the mountain side, rises very rapidly. This water-spout came so suddenly that the entire basin between the two mountain ranges was flooded, and before the terror-stricken people realized what was upon them, they were carried down by the flood, which swept everything in its path.

Town Washed Away.
The little town of Keystone, with a population of 200, seems the greatest sufferer, practically the entire town being washed away. This town is the principal one in the Pocahontas coal fields, and is located near its center. It was to a great extent the headquarters of the mining population, purchased supplies, and was also the only place in the field where whiskey could be purchased. At this place there are some 12 to 15 saloons, all of which were washed away. The report comes that the mining population is now occupying the banks of the stream below, catching the merchandise and barrels of red-eye and beer as they float down.

A great number of the coal and coke plants throughout the Pocahontas district are reported practically destroyed and are in some instances entirely washed away. Owing to the very high water which has flooded the region and prevented communication, anything like a correct estimate of the loss of property is impossible, but from the best information obtainable the loss to the property will easily reach \$2,000,000.

At Lindgraf, the beautiful home of General Manager Ord is reported safe, but his family is said to be safe.

Passenger train No. 4, of the Norfolk & Western Railroad, reached Vivian about 8:30 A. M., met the flood and was unable to proceed further. The waters reached such a depth that the coaches had to be abandoned, the passengers being rescued by means of ropes strung from the windows of coaches to the tops of remaining coaches some distance away. Between Elkhorn and Vivian, a distance of 10 miles, 100 cars are said to be washed from the tracks and many of them were carried down the stream.

Railroads Are Disabled.
A rough estimate places the number of bridges washed away between Bluefields and Vivian yards, a distance of 25 miles, from 15 to 20, and from present indications it will be impossible to run trains through to Vivian and points west of there under a week or 10 days. This will render it impossible to get relief into the stricken districts, and with those who escaped with their lives, homeless and without food, indescribable suffering is inevitable.

On the Clinch Valley branch of the Norfolk & Western Railway, between this city and Norton, communication is entirely severed west of Tazewell. Reports come from that point of great loss of life and property throughout the entire section.

In Shaker, a negro settlement on the outskirts of Tazewell, the water stands to the depth of six to eight feet in the street and houses. All the occupants have been removed to points of safety by means of a boat.

Three miles west of Tazewell, on the Higginbotham farm, the house of Paris Vandye, a farmer, was swept away, carrying with it Mrs. Vandye and her four children, two of the Vandye children, John, aged 17, and Charles, 5, being drowned. Mrs. Vandye, with the two remaining children, were found at 9 o'clock this morning in a dying condition one mile from where their home stood, by Mr. Vandye, who was absent from home at the time of the blizzard.

While the rescuing party was searching for the Vandye family they found the body of a white woman, well clad, floating down Plum Creek. No one thus far has been able to identify her, and it is supposed that the body had been washed down some distance.

A report comes from Witten's Mill, a small station between Bluefields and Tazewell, that three children, Christine, age unknown, belonging to Raleigh Brush, were drowned early yesterday morning. There is no telegraph station at Witten's Mill and it is impossible to ascertain particulars.

The railroad and telegraph companies are working between 1000 and 1500 men day and night. Officials are on the ground pushing the work of constructing lines and repairing the road and hope to be able to communicate with both the storm-swept districts by noon Monday. Nothing whatever has been heard from the section of country between Vivian and Williamson, other than that the river is reported entirely over its banks and higher than ever known by the oldest inhabitants.

The town of Welch, county seat of McDowell County, must have suffered seriously, and a number of the large lumber

plants situated along the banks of the Tug River, no doubt, are entirely washed away.

Came Without Warning.
Details of the great flood are hard to obtain, owing to the inaccessibility of the mining district where the fury and havoc of the angry waters caused the most appalling loss of life and property. At Keystone, the water began to rise at 9 o'clock Sunday morning, and by 11 o'clock the flood had spent its fury and at least two-thirds of the little city had been washed away or demolished. It is known that 16 residents of the north side of the stream lost their lives, and at least 50 of those living on the south side were drowned.

At Burke, a suburb of Keystone, a number are missing and eight are reported dead. It is now certain that the total loss of life in the flood will reach 200. A full list of the names of the victims cannot be ascertained at this time. Hundreds are missing, having taken to the mountains to escape the fury of the flood. The list of the dead, so far recovered and identified as it has been possible to obtain at this time, is:

John Lewis and Martha Morgan, white. Sam Poindexter. Bettie Brown. John Ballard. Anna Smith. Laura McCoy. Nellie Smith, all colored, all of Keystone.

Ivan Solisky, white, and a colored family named Hirston consisting of mother and four children, at Algoma.

At least 300 mine mules were drowned. But little damage is done to the mines proper, as the detour was high up the mountain sides. Several mines, however, are reported flooded, but it is impossible to ascertain the extent of the damage.

Hundreds Rendered Homeless.
On the North Fork branch of the Norfolk & Western, which is 5 1/2 miles long, there was no loss of life, as far as known, but hundreds were rendered homeless and tonight are camping in the mountains. The damage to property on this branch is very heavy. Only one of the 10 collieries located on this branch escaped, the Ashland, it being located at the head of the stream. The McDowell Coal Company lost 12 residences. The Roanoke Company lost their boiler-house, and the 100-horsepower boiler was swept four miles down the stream. The Louisville Company's store-house is a wreck and the stock of goods a total loss.

At Rolfe, a large number of miners' houses were swept away, and the handsome residence of the company's physician. Twenty-five houses are jammed together in one large mass of broken timbers and debris.

At the Gillman Company's colliery the power-house and 14 houses are demolished. At Indian Ridge the country store was completely demolished and the stock lost. The residence of Captain C. P. Bostford, the manager, is wrecked also. The North Fork track is nearly all washed away, all the trestles being gone except one. In the Elkhorn Valley out of 12 miles of main line double track, only one mile remains, and all the bridges are gone. Some of the bridges, with the heaviest masonry and foundation, resist the force of the flood. The Cedar Company, one of the largest wholesalers, lost a 100-horsepower electric plant and many buildings and coke ovens. Their loss, it is said, will be \$50,000. The Houston Company is damaged to the extent of \$100,000. The worst, consisting of four collieries, lost heavily. Many miles of track leading to coke ovens and mines are gone. In some instances mine locomotives and cars have been swept away, and the street cars. Sixteen hundred laborers have been rushed to the scene to work on repairs, and it is expected that complete communication will be established before noon tomorrow.

Late advices from the Clinch Valley division confirm the reported drowning of 10 persons. A family named Hook, living near the town of Norton, reported that the residence of the family was swept away, and the family was killed. The Hook family, consisting of father, mother and six children, were all drowned, six perishing.

A Story of the Flood.
A pathetic story is told of a Hungarian family who did not reach the drift mouth until the town was nearly inundated. He made his way to the cabin, where his wife and new-born babe were lying helpless. He tried to rescue both, and after a fierce battle with the rushing water, debris, he reached a place of safety with them, only to discover that both were dead.

The trainmaster of the Norfolk & Western Railroad waited the track between Vivian and North Fork, a distance of 12 miles. He discovered 30 bodies floating in the river. Bodies are being found many miles down the stream, where they were washed away.

When it is considered that the Elkhorn River is so small that it barely furnishes enough water to flush the coke ovens, when in its normal condition, some idea of the extent of the downpour of rain can be formed.

The railroad company now estimates the damage to its tracks between this city and Norton at \$1,000,000. It is at least 100 miles of track bordering the Tug River that cannot be heard from, as there is no means of communication intact. Communication has been established as far west as Tazewell, and reports come from that point of great loss of life and property throughout the entire section.

Latest reports say that the lower end of the coal fields between Vivian and Gray suffered severely. Fully \$1,000,000 damage has been done to coal and lumber interests.

Three daughters of Coal Inspector Dinmore are reported drowned at Keystone. They were alone in their father's residence when the flood came, and all trace of them is lost.

The Pocahontas Company lost \$200,000 worth of coke in cars and coke yards. At least 100 freight cars standing on sidings were wrecked, and the cars were destroyed. Freight trains in transit were overtaken by the flood, and some cars washed from the tracks.

Relief committees will arrive here at daybreak for the stricken region.

Measures of Relief.
CHARLESTON, W. Va., June 23.—At midnight tonight Secretary of State Dawson, in the absence of Governor White, who is at Parkersburg and cannot be reached on account of suspended telegraph service, sent a message to Colonel John C. Newitt, at Bramwell, to take full charge of the flood situation and to wire the Governor the needs. The company of National Guards at Bramwell was ordered to assist in guarding property and more troops will be sent as soon as it is possible to get them there. A supply of tentage at Bramwell was ordered to be given out to the suffering and as soon as a relief train can be sent over the Norfolk & Western road, more tents will be sent from Huntington and this city. If the road cannot be ready for use tomorrow, a relief train of wagons will be sent onward.

Mallory Liner Ashore.
MIAMI, Fla., June 23.—The steamer Comal, of the Mallory line, went ashore last night four miles south of Jupiter Inlet.

HAY IS PROSTRATED

Secretary of State Overwhelmed With Grief

FOR THE DEATH OF HIS SON

Collapsed on Arriving at New Haven From Washington—Particulars of the Accident to the ex-Congressman.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., June 23.—John Hay, Secretary of State, worn out by the trip of nearly nine hours, from Washington to New Haven, collapsed on arriving at the New Haven House for commencement week.

The full details of the terrible accident will never be known. Mr. Hay had rooms at the New Haven House for commencement week. It is generally supposed, however, that after going to his room he went to the window for air, and, sitting on the sill, he dozed off, and, overbalancing, fell to the pavement below, a fall of fully 60 feet. The fall resulted in instant death, and within 15 minutes the body had been identified as that of young Hay. How it all happened became a matter of speculation on the part of throngs of curious spectators who gathered, and a subject of mournful inquiry for the classmates and friends of the young man. Half a dozen physicians who were hastily summoned were unable to do anything, and the body awaited its disposition at the orders of the coroner's deputy. That official pronounced it a case of accidental death. The body was removed as soon as possible to the rooms of a near-by undertaker, where it awaited instructions from the family.

Repeated efforts to locate Secretary Hay by wire were futile until an early morning hour, when a request from the father reached Beth Mosely, the proprietor of the hotel, to take care of the body until

the members of the family could reach town. Meanwhile the sensation occasioned by the tragedy continued. Every movement of young Hay was traced in an effort to penetrate the uncertainties of the awful affair. It was learned that the young man on May 29 left Washington with his mother and two sisters for New Haven, N. H. The summer home of Secretary Hay. Last week he left New Hampshire for New York, where he spent some days. He arrived in New Haven Sunday morning in time for dinner, and went immediately to the New Haven House, where he was assigned to room 47, third floor front, directly over the Chapel-street entrance to the hotel office.

Young Hay was one of the vanguard of the academic class of Yale, '98. He had come to his old college town as a member of his class triennial committee, and arrived early to assist his colleagues on the committee in preparing for the festivities of commencement week in general and for the class supper in particular. He took dinner with some of his classmates, and at 8 o'clock hurried to the Hyperion Theater, where he witnessed the evening performance. He spent a quiet hour in the hotel corridor and smoking-room after the theater, and shortly after midnight retired to his room, remarking to the hotel clerk that he was sleepy, and leaving a call for 9 o'clock this morning. He was not seen again until his body came whirling through the air to the destruction of 24 hours later. The hotel where the unfortunate young man was quartered faces on Chapel street, the principal thoroughfare of the city, and is almost under the eaves of the university which he proudly claimed as his alma mater.

There was a solitary spectator to the tragedy, a brother-in-law, a brother-in-law of Secretary Hay, with his wife, who also reached New Haven tomorrow. At the Moseley residence it was formally announced that no arrangements covering the removal of the remains and the funeral service would be made until the arrival of Mrs. Hay and Mr. Mather. Late tonight, Dr. Gilbert, who is at the bedside of the Secretary, announced that the indisposition of Colonel Hay is not serious, adding that he is simply overwhelmed with grief, and that the prostration will disappear after a sufficient rest.

The triennial class of '98, of which Adelbert Hay was a member, has gone into mourning. New arrivals of the class, many of whom heard the news for the first time on reaching the college town, are shocked, and it has been practically decided to make no formal arrangements for a class recognition of its loss until a full contingent is present. There is a disposition on the part of many of the class to abandon entirely the elaborate features of the triennial reunion and wait upon the pleasure of Secretary Hay and the members of the bereaved family.

THE DEATH OF ADELBERT HAY.
Full Details of the Accident Will Be Known.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., June 23.—The terrible accident which caused the death of Adelbert S. Hay, ex-Congressman of the United States from South Africa, and eldest son of Secretary of State John Hay, who fell from a window in the third story of the New Haven House, in this city, shortly before 2:30 o'clock this morning, and was instantly killed, has cast a gloom over the whole city, and will undoubtedly be felt throughout the day which heretofore has been so brilliant and full of happiness for Yale and her sons.

The full details of the terrible accident will never be known. Mr. Hay had rooms at the New Haven House for commencement week. It is generally supposed, however, that after going to his room he went to the window for air, and, sitting on the sill, he dozed off, and, overbalancing, fell to the pavement below, a fall of fully 60 feet. The fall resulted in instant death, and within 15 minutes the body had been identified as that of young Hay. How it all happened became a matter of speculation on the part of throngs of curious spectators who gathered, and a subject of mournful inquiry for the classmates and friends of the young man. Half a dozen physicians who were hastily summoned were unable to do anything, and the body awaited its disposition at the orders of the coroner's deputy. That official pronounced it a case of accidental death. The body was removed as soon as possible to the rooms of a near-by undertaker, where it awaited instructions from the family.

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OHIO REPUBLICANS

State Convention Will Meet at Columbus Today.

NASH WILL BE RENOMINATED

The Only Contests Will Be for Judge and Clerk of the Supreme Court—Importance of November Election.

COLUMBUS, O., June 23.—Most of the leaders and many of the delegates are here tonight for the Republican State Convention, which will convene in this city tomorrow afternoon. The convention will renominate for second terms Governor George K. Nash, Lieutenant-Governor J. A. Caldwell, Attorney-General John M. Sheets, State Treasurer J. D. Cameron and J. W. Johnson, the latter for member of the State Board of Public

The contests are limited to the nominations for Judge and Clerk of the Supreme Court. The candidates for Supreme Judge include T. A. Minshall, of Ross; W. B. Crew, of Morgan; J. E. Price, of Allen; and D. A. Russell, of Meigs. Among those contesting for the Supreme Court Clerkship are J. B. Allen, of Athens; A. C. Critchfield, of Wayne; L. E. Emerson, of Belmont; W. B. McLean, of Shelby; A. B. Hall, of Guernsey; N. M. Miller, of Delaware; and J. C. Copeland, of Paulding.

In addition to a full state ticket, a Legislature will be elected this year which will choose the successor of Senator Foraker. There are no hold-over members of the General Assembly in Ohio. All members of both branches of the Legislature are to be elected next November. In addition to the election of a Senator, the next Legislature will have the apportionment of the state under the last census for legislative and other white districts, as well as for Congressmen, and also the consideration of an important issue on "local option."

The contest between the parties for the control of the Legislature this year will be the most animated one in the history of the state as the partisan advantages to be gained in the formation of the districts are last under the census, in 1890, under the Ohio law.

Senator Foraker, as star campaigner in this contest, has been selected as the temporary chairman of the convention, and he will deliver the keynote speech at the assembling of the convention at 4 P. M. tomorrow. It is generally understood that Senator Hanna will tomorrow night be selected as the permanent chairman of the convention, to preside at the session Tuesday.

Congressman Dick and other members of the state committee have been here for two days, arranging for the convention, and they expect the largest attendance in many years. All of the Ohio Republican Congressmen are here taking an active part in the preliminaries. Congressman Grosvenor, Skiles, Hildebrand, Taylor, Shattuck, Bettler, Kyle, Nevin and Van Voorhis are delegates to the convention.

A conference of leading Republicans was held tonight, at which Senator Foraker and Senator Hanna, Congressman Grosvenor, Van Voorhis, Taylor and Dick, George B. Cox and others were present. The conference devoted much time to the consideration of the nomination of ex-Congressman John A. Caldwell for Lieutenant-Governor, and it was the general impression after the conference was over that Caldwell would be renominated. The Anti-Saloon League of the state is opposed to Caldwell, who has been the attorney for the brewers and liquor men in certain cases. It is proposed to have a resolution in the platform endorsing Senator Foraker's re-election, and some of the anti-saloon men threaten opposition to the Senator if Caldwell is named. This feature of the platform, as well as the nomination of Caldwell and the form of endorsement of Senator Foraker, is causing the leaders trouble. Otherwise, the platform will conform to the views of Senator Foraker on National issues and of Governor Nash on state issues, with specific endorsements of the policies of President McKinley. It is understood that Senator Hanna will outline the platform on National issues, and that it will conform to his keynote speech.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT NEWS.
West Virginia Flood.
At least 200 persons perished by floods in the Pocahontas coal field. Property loss will reach \$2,000,000. Page 1.
Fifteen to twenty bridges were washed away and railroad traffic is at a standstill. Page 1.

Philippines.
Callies surrendered his force at Santa Cruz. Page 2.
He may issue a proclamation branding all insurgents as bandits. Page 2.
Aroli's force in Batangas is expected to surrender. Page 2.
All insurgent prisoners on Luzon will be released. Page 2.

Domestic.
Secretary of State Hay was prostrated on arriving at New Haven. Page 1.
The Ohio Republican state convention will meet at Columbus today. Page 1.
Several strikers were wounded in a riot at Columbia, S. C. Page 2.
Hawaiian "Kahunas" are at work on Dole. Page 2.

Sport.
Portland defeated Spokane, 1 to 0. Page 3.
Seattle defeated Tacoma, 2 to 1. Page 3.
Harvard and Yale crews are evenly matched. Page 3.

Pacific Coast.
An old resident of Baker City was choked to death by raw meat. Page 6.
The Christian church missionary convention opened at Turner. Page 6.
A British Columbia Chinaman killed one and fatally wounded four of his countrymen. Page 6.
Pugot bound grain trade for season of 1900-01. Page 6.

Portland and Vicinity.
Railroad mileage and grades between Lewiston and tide-water favor Portland. Page 3.
Oregon's prune crop this year will be valued at \$2,700,000. Page 10.
Senator Simon will climb Mount Hood with the Massman. Page 1.
Democratic talk of nominating George E. Chamberlain for Governor and Senator R. D. Inman for Mayor of Portland. Page 10.
Portland will name the queen of the Astoria regatta. Page 10.

Fiftieth anniversary of the Sunday school of the First Congregational Church celebrated. Page 10.
Memorial services for Mrs. Narcissa White Kinney at First Baptist Church. Page 10.

(Concluded on Second Page.)