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STEAMER BLOWS UP; SINKS: THREE DIE

Captain, Mate, Fireman Are Victims.

NINE OTHERS BARELY ESCAPE

Explosion of Boiler of Sarah Dixon Proves Fatal.

EXACT CAUSE UNKNOWN

Engineer Who Was on Duty Declares He Knows No Reason—Survivors Reach Kalamia, Near Which Town Wreck Occurred.

KALAMIA, Wash., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—The boiler of the river steamer Sarah Dixon exploded four miles above here at 11:15 tonight. The pilot-house was ripped from the superstructure and the vessel soon sank. Three lives were lost. The dead are:

CAPTAIN FRED R. STIMPSON, 32 years old.
FIRST MATE ARTHUR MONICAL, 29 years old.

ENGINEER SILAS KNOWLES.
Nine persons escaped from the sinking steamer and in a bark under the command of Pilot D. Conway were hurried down the river to this city.

C. G. Ousley, watchman of the steamer, said that the boat was opposite Martin's Island when the explosion occurred. A number of the crew were in bed and left the vessel in scanty night wear.

Chief Engineer Chester L. Lewis, 144 Summer street, Portland; First Assistant Engineer Steve Meany; Mrs. Hill, cook; Deck Hands Charles Ackerman, Paul Peterson, Dad Shoemaker; Fireman Harry Dewey; Pilot D. Conway and Watchman C. G. Ousley arrived in one of the steamer's long life boats.

The Sarah Dixon left Portland this afternoon for Beaver Slough and reached Martin's Island with no unusual circumstances in the voyage, said Watchman Ousley. "The captain and mate were in the pilot-house when the blast occurred and were instantly killed. No one saw either of them or the fireman, who was in the engine-room, after the explosion happened.

"After the people on board saw that the deck was ripped open by the blast and that the Sarah Dixon was in danger of sinking, there was a wild rush for the lifeboats.

"All of the nine persons got into the one boat from the after part of the steamer and rowed to Kalamia. None of us were well clothed and before we got here we were all suffering from the cold."

Engineer at Loss for Cause.
Chester L. Lewis, chief engineer of the Sarah Dixon, who was on duty in the engine-room of the hapless steamer when the explosion occurred, and who miraculously escaped, was at a loss to explain the cause of the explosion. He made the following statement:

"The boiler virtually blew up in my face, and as I felt the steamer sinking, I made a race for the lifeboat and got away. I can scarcely realize that I came out of it all unharmed, but I did.

"There was no warning. Everything seemed to fly to pieces. I cannot tell whether the boiler went up or down, through the hull of the boat. I did not know until I reached the lifeboat that the pilot-house had been blown off. The boat sank immediately. I don't know whether those killed perished in the explosion or were drowned. The Dixon sank so quickly there was no way of telling.

Machinery Had Worked Well.
There was nothing in the action of the engine or any part of the machinery to indicate there was anything wrong. I was carrying about 200 pounds of steam. That and from 200 to 210 pounds is what we were in the habit of carrying on the steamer. The fuel oil we were using was purchased of the Union Oil Company, of Portland, and was the kind we always used. I had been on duty since 6 o'clock in the evening, and everything worked all right up to the minute of the explosion. I was the only person in the engine-room when the blast came. I was thrown back by the force of the explosion, but made for the lifeboat and got away in the nick of time."

The river steamer Sarah Dixon was built here in 1906, and was owned by the Slaver Transportation Company. She had a gross tonnage of 265 and a net tonnage of 264. The craft was 161 feet long and had a depth of 7.2, her beam measuring 29.5 feet. The Sarah Dixon carried a crew of eight and was of 400 horsepower.

With the receipt of the news in this city of the blowing up of the steamer Sarah Dixon, Captain D. Shaver, of the Slaver Transportation Company, immediately ordered the steamer Wauna to the scene of the wreck.

FEAR OF MASSACRE HANGS OVER PEKIN

LOYAL MANCHUS CALLED TO RESIST ABDICATION.

Foreign Legations in Capital Prepare for Trouble Today—Premier Yuan Closely Guarded.

PEKIN, Jan. 18.—The foreign legations are preparing for trouble in Pekin tomorrow. The question of the abdication of the throne will be discussed by the Empress Dowager and the prince, but it is thought Premier Yuan Shi Kai will not take part in the conference.

It long has been expected that the Manchu irreconcilables would unite in a massacre when all hope for the administration had vanished and a placard posted tonight indicates that the Manchu threats may be fulfilled.

It calls on all loyal Manchus and Chinese to resist the abdication of the Emperor to the death.

The street near the office of the Chinese foreign board, on which Yuan Shi Kai resides, is heavily guarded by the Premier's own men, of whom it is said there are 3000. Many Chinese who have not yet deserted the city are preparing for flight tomorrow, and prominent followers of Yuan are taking refuge outside their own homes tonight, hoping that in event of a massacre they will not be found.

Charges that Yuan Shi Kai has been disloyal to the Manchus, although pretending to support them, are attracting the attention of foreigners, as well as Manchus and Chinese. Several revolutionists long have been saying that he was working for the overthrow, not the salvation, of the dynasty.

Others accuse Yuan of working for his own interests, and say he intended to become dictator, if he did not assume the throne.

"I DO NOT" HALTS WEDDING

Pastor Almost Through Service When Girl Regrets and Refuses.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—"Do you take this man to be your lawfully wedded husband?"

This unexpected answer brought a sudden ending to the wedding ceremony which almost performed for Charles E. Cowell and Miss Erickson, a young couple of Tono, by Rev. Robert Reid, of Centralia, yesterday.

The couple had made preparations for a hasty marriage, the bride's mother being opposed to the union, and the wedding party were assembled on a hill back of Tono.

A carriage was in readiness to convey the newlyweds to this city, where they were to take the train for Puget Sound points.

The mother, learning that she had been outwitted, pretended to take notice of her mother's attempted suicide was conveyed to the bride, who called the wedding off just as the pronouncement of "man and wife" was on the lips of Rev. Mr. Reid.

INDIAN MAID IS HEIRESS

Fortune of \$160,000 Awaits Girl "Somewhere in Southwest."

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 18.—Attorney for Henry C. Simpson, of Lincoln, Kan., executor of the estate of Nathaniel P. Simpson, who died in this city three weeks ago, today instituted search for an Indian maiden, "somewhere in the Southwest," who is heiress to \$160,000 of the Simpson fortune.

The Simpson estate of \$322,000 was left in the hands of his son, Henry, executor. After the death of his first wife, the elder Simpson is believed to have married an Indian. It is for a daughter by this marriage that the search is being made. The daughter is said to have returned to live with her people, the Navajos.

MANY OF KIN AT FUNERAL

Three Great Grandparents Present at Gold Hill Ceremony.

MEDFORD, Or., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—The four grandparents and three of the great grandparents of the children of J. J. Ritter were present at the funeral of their young mother, who died at Gold Hill January 12. The funeral services were held on Wednesday. The grandparents present were:

DEMOCRATS HERE EXECRATE WILSON

Chance in Oregon Declared Lost.

ONE BRANDS HIM "INGRATE"

Jersey Governor's Treatment of Harvey Denounced.

PORTLAND ACT RECALLED

Bourbons Declare Would-Be Candidate's Alignment With U'Ren Cost Him Prestige—Castigation Is General.

Governor Woodrow Wilson is classed as "a flash in the pan," "an ingrate" and "a grandstander" by leading Democrats in Portland, and is said to have lost practically every chance for winning the Democratic candidacy for President—at least as far as Oregon is concerned—by reason of the Wilson-Harvey incident and the "unpatriotic" Bryan letter.

While Portland Democrats of prominence were willing only to express their personal views yesterday, and refused to say what the Democratic party in the state as a whole might do, it is the opinion that action will be taken.

Interesting developments are looked for at the regular meeting of the Jackson Club tonight. George I. Smith, president of the club, said yesterday that he did not know what the club would do, and was not willing to express any opinion as to the attitude of the members as a whole. He did, however, express his personal opinion.

"I was very much surprised at the actions of Governor Wilson," said Mr. Smith, "and it is my personal opinion that he practically eliminates him from the race. In Oregon, or perhaps I should limit it to Multnomah County, there are many Democrats, including myself, who were not altogether pleased with the actions of the Governor when he visited the state and placed his entertainment in the hands of W. S. U'Ren, of Oregon City. This looked as though he was trying to play the non-partisan act. Personally I want to vote for a real Democrat. I will vote for whoever the party puts up, because I believe the best man will be selected at the National Convention.

"There has been a growing sentiment in favor of Champ Clark and Harmon in Oregon I believe. It seems so to me that way, at least. My only means of judging is by talking to persons who are keeping in touch with the situation in various parts of the state."

"A flash in the pan," is J. B. Ryan's (Concluded on Page 3.)

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.
YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 45 degrees; minimum, 27 degrees.
TODAY'S—Fair; winds mostly easterly.

Foreign.
Legations fear general massacre in Pekin today. Page 1.
Veterans promise to aid Gomez in quieting Cuba, and crisis seems passed. Page 4.

National.
Taft sees Charles W. Morse free, believing his condition grave. Page 1.
Witness says two of defendant packers knew of combination agreement as to coal. Page 9.

Politics.
Woodrow Wilson says politics fall to keep pace with economic changes. Page 2.
Domestic.

Bride of Stotesbury heaped with precious jewels by bridegroom and friends. Page 1.
Civil service widely extended in San Francisco County. Page 2.
Life of Governor Ross guarded from Black Hand. Page 5.

San Francisco society women will wear uniforms at Mrs. Crocker's Oriental ball. Page 2.
Indianapolis grand jury takes up pursuit of Cook, in Van-Donk house. Page 8.
Mineworkers induce John Mitchell; vote down Socialists. Page 9.

Sports.
Shattuck defeats Clinton Kelly at soccer. Page 8.
Abe Attell beats "Knockout" Brown, of New York, in Van-Donk house. Page 8.
San Diego is mentioned as Spring camp for Beavers. Page 8.

Pacific Northwest.
River steamer Sarah Dixon blows up and sinks near Kalamia, with loss of three lives. Page 1.
Cheridah Simpson, of musical fame, sues for divorce. Page 1.
Judge Galloway validates title of 200,000 acres in Oregon and California land grant. Page 7.

Oregon.
Federalation of Labor goes on record as not being opposed to education. Page 7.
Prosecutor narrows feature in Hazard cure and appeals address to jurors. Page 6.
State Engineer Lewis opposes extension of time on Benham Falls contract. Page 6.

Commercial and Marine.
Steamer St. Helens to ply between Portland and Alaska next summer. Page 18.
Large lot of barley sold to go East at highest price of season. Page 18.
Wheat weak in East owing to selling by Nebraska farmers. Page 19.
Hears attack stock market with poor success. Page 19.

Portland and Vicinity.
Defense in Wilde case challenges, and non-union man is excused. Page 1.
John Fleming Wilson, hero of light vessel No. 153 arrives on steamship Beaver. Page 12.
Club Uniform Association head says he will take down banner when he gets ready. Page 12.

Portland Democrats denounce Woodrow Wilson in plain terms. Page 1.
Bartender kills woman and himself at Second and Madison streets. Page 14.
Portland Chinese girl is selected by new republic in command corps of rebel troops. Page 14.

At meeting of taxpayers, County Judge Cleverly excuses Mayor Rolph from duty. Page 14.
Electification of Four-street line fails, pending action of Hillsboro City Council. Page 18.

MAYOR SAVES BOY'S DOG

City Affairs Wait While Rolph Hearkens to Plea of Lads.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—There is a fox terrier scampering around the city today and a happy little boy scampering with it, owing to the executive clemency of Mayor Rolph, coupled with the lad's own courageousness in tackling the city's head in an endeavor to free his dog from the public pound.

The boy, Leon Heyman, 10 years old, accompanied by a companion of similar age, visited the Mayor to complain that the poundmaster had his dog. Supervisors, Commissioners and the signing of many bonds had all to wait while the secretary and sergeant-at-arms personally escorted the youthful delegation to the Mayor's inner sanctum. There Mayor Rolph heard the sad story and rescued the canine.

MORSE IS FREE AS LIFE NEARS CLOSE

Taft Acts on Report of Surgeon-General.

CIVIL RIGHTS NOT RESTORED

Banker Will Be Taken Abroad for Treatment.

WIFE SPECIAL MESSENGER

President Informed That Prisoner Probably Could Not Live Month in Confinement; or Six Months at Liberty.

IMPORTANT DETAILS IN DOWN- FALL OF CHARLES W. MORSE.

February 10, 1907—Indicted.
October 15, 1908—Trial begins.
November 5-6, 1908—Convicted and sentenced.
January 3, 1910—Begins prison term.
May 24, 1911—Taft denies pardon.
January 11, 1912—Sentence is commuted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—President Taft tonight commuted to expire immediately the 15-year sentence for violation of the National banking laws under which Charles W. Morse, the New York banker and "ice king," has served two years in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga.

The commutation of sentence, which gives Morse immediate freedom but does not restore his civil rights, was granted upon recommendation of Attorney-General Wickersham and Surgeon-General Torney, U. S. A.

Span of Life Is Short.
According to the surgeon's report, Morse could not live one month longer in confinement, and even at liberty probably would not live six months.

The White House statement granting freedom to Morse follows:

"The President this afternoon commuted the sentence of Charles W. Morse to expire at once. This action was taken upon the recommendation of the Attorney-General, based upon the following report of Surgeon-General Torney:

"It is clear to my mind that Morse is suffering from a combination of diseases due to degenerative changes which are incurable and progressive. The reports show that both the condition of the kidneys and the heart are growing worse. I regard the attack of cardiac dyspnea, of heart block, from which he suffered on the morning of the 15th instant, as an ominous (Concluded on Page 2.)

PRICELESS JEWELS HEAPED ON BRIDE

ROYALTY'S RICHES ARE TAW- DRY IN COMPARISON.

Wedding of Mrs. Oliver Cromwell to Edward Stotesbury, Morgan's Partner, Unique Affair.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—(Special.)—The marriage this afternoon of Mrs. Oliver Cromwell to Edward W. Stotesbury, head of the banking house of Drexel & Co., of Philadelphia, at the home of the bride on New Hampshire avenue, was made unique in the history of American millionaires because of the vast sums that have been spent upon presents for the bride.

The treasure-room in which the wedding gifts were displayed was a veritable Aladdin's cave of precious metals and gems. A gift from the bridegroom of \$4,000,000 of securities was merely an incident. There is a pearl necklace that cost \$500,000, also a gift from Mr. Stotesbury. He has been collecting pearls for years from every corner of the globe.

J. Pierpont Morgan, business partner of Stotesbury, sent a pretty little token in the shape of a \$40,000 diamond necklace.

No royal wedding in Europe ever brought out such wealth of jewels and gold and silver plate. And the blushing bride had got a trousseau to match—a trousseau that would fit out about three Carinas and two German Empresses. Eighty Parisian gowns and 80 house gowns were items of this astounding trousseau.

President and Mrs. Taft attended the wedding.

BOY KICKS UP GOLD NUGGET

Foots Creek Residents Start Rush in Search of Treasure.

MEDFORD, Or., Jan. 18.—(Special.)—While stumbling along Foots Creek yesterday Ed Koster, a boy 14 years old, kicked up a bright piece of metal and, taking it home, discovered that it was a gold nugget valued at \$30.13.

The find caused considerable excitement, and since that time the boy and about the entire population of the Foots Creek mining district have been tramping over that vicinity in search of further treasure.

No further finds have been reported, but Medford mining men are sufficiently interested to organize an investigation committee which will leave today for the scene of the find.

ALL IDLE LOTS BOUGHT

\$2,000,000 Sale of Holladay Addition Property Reported.

According to rumors heard yesterday, negotiations are in progress for the purchase by Eastern investors of all unheld vacant lots in Holladay Addition, on the East Side, involving a total consideration of about \$2,000,000. C. K. Larrabee, manager of the Oregon Real Estate Company, owner of the property, would not deny or confirm the report last night.

The property surrounds Holladay Park and extends south to Sullivan's Gulch, embracing about 600 lots. With the exception of a large strip east of Holladay Park, the district has paved streets. The northern part of the addition contains many fine homes.

POLICY RUNS THREE HOURS

Bank Insures for \$5,000,000 in Moving Securities From Ruins.

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—A \$5,000,000 insurance policy, the life of which is three hours, was issued today to guarantee a New York banking house against loss by highwaymen during the transferring from the burned Equitable building of the cash and securities, although the surety company assumes the risk of loss, the actual protection devolves upon the city, for a squad of police will be the only guards.

The surety company called the policy a "holdup and robbery policy," and received \$500 for the risk.

LAWLER'S HOUSE ROBBED

Burglar Believed to Have Sought Grand Jury Evidence.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 18.—Leaving several pools of blood as the only clue the police have to work upon, a burglar ransacked the residence of Oscar Lawler, United States special prosecutor in the dynamiting probe conducted here by the Federal grand jury, early today, and escaped with a small amount of money.

The police, however, declared it was not money that the man was after. Evidence relating to indictments returned by the grand jury, the police assert, was what the robber was hunting.

NON-UNION MAN OUT OF WILDE JURY

Defense's First Chal- lenge Ousts Molder.

COURT RULES ON CONFESSION

Admissions by Morris Not Evi- dence Against Promoter.

TWO TALESMEN QUIZZED

Dozen Men for Trial May Be Chosen by Tuesday—Venreman Declares Stranger Questioned Him.

Elimination of prospective jurors through exercise of peremptory challenges was reached in the Louis J. Wilde case yesterday. First of the 13 veniremen, passed for cause by the prosecution and the defense, to be excused on such a challenge was Louis Haertlein, a non-union molder employed by the Independent Iron Foundry and residing at 863 Mallory avenue.

In getting rid of Haertlein, the defense invoked the first of six peremptory challenges to which it is entitled. The prosecution is allowed three. Until another venireman qualifies temporarily to sit in the case, other peremptory challenges will not be made.

Another venireman to take the place of Haertlein had not been obtained when court adjourned for the day. Suspicion that each side in all probability will use up its full quota of peremptories makes reasonable the prediction that the jury will not be finally completed before Tuesday or Wednesday.

Strange Visit Related.
The original list of 12 prospective jurors, required before the use of peremptory challenges could begin, was completed yesterday when the following veniremen were passed for cause by the state and the defense.

Mr. La Jole, in his examination by Mr. Malarky, told of having been visited by a strange man 10 days ago, who sought to learn from La Jole his opinion regarding the Wilde case. La Jole's description of his visitor differed from that of the man who called on Martin Sattler, about the same time, except as to age, both men being about 48 or 50 years of age.

La Jole testified in answer to questions by Mr. Malarky that a stranger called at his place of business in the McKay building a week ago last Saturday, in reply to an inquiry from Mr. Malarky that he was not aware that the County Court had authorized the employment by the prosecution of a number of detectives in connection with the Wilde case. He said further that the mysterious stranger did not say for whom he was making inquiry relative to the Wilde case. La Jole was accepted temporarily by both sides.

After a brief cross-examination by Mr. Fitzgerald, F. E. Jackson, commercial traveler, 1282 Belmont street, was passed for cause. Mr. Fitzgerald asked what effect failure on the part of the state to convict Morris in the pending case would have on the juror's mind in determining the case of Wilde. This was the first intimation of any kind from the prosecution which would indicate the possibility that Morris will not plead guilty to the indictment and that the charge against Morris will be dismissed.

State Accused of "Shifting."
This question provoked a lively tilt between Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Malarky, the latter charging the prosecution with "shifting ground." Mr. Malarky said it was understood between counsel when the examination of jurors first began that if Morris pleaded guilty it was not to be held against Wilde until the guilt of Morris was established independently of his confession, by other compa-

"Liquor" Complexion Noted.
"Finally," said LaJole, "the man asked me if I had read anything in the newspapers about the Wilde case. I told him I had not. He then walked over to the door and, just as he started to leave, he turned and said: 'So you don't know anything about this case?' To this question I again answered negatively and he left my place of business. I have not seen him since. He was a man about 48 or 50 years of age, smooth face, complexion of a man who drank excessively and had a distinct Irish brogue. He did not give his name or address."

Further questioning by both Mr. Malarky and Mr. Fitzgerald failed to develop anything material, although LaJole in reply to an inquiry from Mr. Malarky that he was not aware that the County Court had authorized the employment by the prosecution of a number of detectives in connection with the Wilde case. He said further that the mysterious stranger did not say for whom he was making inquiry relative to the Wilde case. LaJole was accepted temporarily by both sides.

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