



TERRIFIC TRENCH EXPLOSION MAY COST TWENTY LIVES

Accident Occurs in Busy Brooklyn Street

WILD PANIC FOLLOWS

Force of Shock Shakes Down Hundreds of Tons of Earth and Stone

ONE MAN ROASTED TO DEATH

Samuel W. Trout, Foreman of Work Gang Loses His Life in an Attempt to Rescue Woman and Child Who Were Killed.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—An explosion of gas in a deep trench in Gold street, Brooklyn, in which a number of men were employed, today, cost probably 20 lives and threw that section of the city into a panic.

The force of the explosion shook down hundreds of tons of earth, stone and timber upon the men at work at the bottom of the trench, 50 feet below the surface. Those who were not instantly killed were drowned in the great volume of water which poured in upon them from breaking mains or were smothered by escaping gas.

Among those who lost their lives were one woman and three children who were passing through Gold street at the time of the explosion and were carried down when the sidewalks toppled into the trench.

All the others who lost their lives were men employed directly upon the work. They included Frederick W. Scheffmeyer, an inspector of sewers, and Samuel W. Trout, foreman in charge of the carpenters and cement workers.

Trout lost his life in attempting to save the woman who was killed. He was caught under falling timbers and roasted to death. Many of the others were Italian workmen, some of whom were known to their employers only by numbers.

A remarkable feature of the accident was that four men who were working in the lower part of the trench, and who heard the first sound of the crumbling timbers, saved their lives by crawling through a sewer pipe which led toward East River. These men were obliged to

make their way through water almost up to their necks before they reached a place of safety.

CAUGHT BY POLICEMAN.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—Eleven children, including a babe in arms, were caught in coats of policemen early today after they had been hurled from windows by terrified mothers as fire raged in a tenement in South First street, Williamsburg. One boy of 10 years perished. From the third floor a mother tossed her baby, but it was caught by a policeman unscathed. Ten other children were dropped into the coats that the rescuers hastily slipped off. The cause of the fire was not ascertained.

DESPERATE EX-CONVICT SHOOTS POLICEMAN

INVEIGLES HIM TO DISREPUTABLE SECTION OF CITY AND ATTACKS HIM

IN PRECARIOUS CONDITION

Assailant Commits Suicide in Prison Cell by Hanging—His Name is George Ballard and Was Two Terms and Morphine Field.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 20.—Shot twice in the abdomen by a notorious convict, two terms and morphine field, after being inveigled to a dive in a disreputable section of the city, Rey W. Starbird, one of the most efficient police officers and detectives in the city, lies at the hospital in a precarious condition. His assailant is dead in the morgue, having taken his own life in a cell in the city prison by hanging. His name is George Ballard.

FAMILIES IN PANIC.

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—Fifty families were thrown into a panic at 1 o'clock this morning when fire broke out in the Ashland apartment building. Quick work of a policeman who ran through the halls and awakened the tenants prevented loss of life. The building, which is of five stories, caught fire in the engine room, and the flames jumped up the air-shaft to the left.

The occupants escaped by the stairways and the fire escape before the firemen arrived. No one was injured, but many were obliged to flee in light attire. The loss was about \$10,000.

GOMPERS IS STILL IN FULL CONTROL

Some of the Contents of His Report Adopted and He Thereby is Fully Endorsed

DENVER, Nov. 20.—At no time since the opening convention of the American Federation of Labor has there been any doubt that Gompers is in complete control, but it was thought possible that a part of his report might be materially amended or his political course condemned. The report was before the convention a day and a half and although after a vigorous discussion of some of its contents it was adopted this afternoon and Gompers thereby is fully endorsed.

probably be re-elected except Vice-President Daniel E. Keefe, and even he may again be voted into office. It is reported that the miners will support Keefe and they have the largest vote of any union in the convention. President Gompers was presented with a handsome silver loving cup and Mrs. Gompers a diamond ring. Gompers could scarcely control his feelings as he thanked the convention. Resolutions commending Roosevelt in the conservation of natural resources were unanimously adopted. A resolution that the Federation will erect a building for its uses at Washington, D. C., also was adopted.

LONG RELAY RACE

New York Y. M. C. A. Boys To Carry Message To President.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—More than 1,000 boy runners will take part in the Y. M. C. A. relay-race to Washington which started from this city at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Bearing a silver tube containing a message to President Roosevelt, the first youngster will whisk away from the International branch of the Y. M. C. A. in 28th street. He will be quickly relieved, however, distance for each relay being limited to 150 yards. In this way fast time will be made and the number of participants greatly increased. In the race to Chicago last summer each runner covered more than half a mile.

As there will be no running throughout the night, which is a departure from the rules of the race to Chicago, the tube will not reach Washington until late Saturday. It is due in Baltimore at 7 p. m. Saturday, four hours from Washington, according to the schedule.

CROKER COMES HOME.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—The Cunard liner Lusitania, with Richard Croker, former Tammany chief on board, docked at 9 o'clock this morning, having been sighted south of Fire Island shortly after midnight.

In connection with Mr. Croker's visit it has become known that Chas. F. Murphy, the present Tammany leader, has left the city and gone to Mount Clemmons, Mich., for a rest. He will not return to New York, it is said, until Dec. 1.

This is Richard Croker's first visit to the United States since 1905, when he came over to attend the funeral of his son Frank, who was killed in an automobile accident in Florida.

In view of Mr. Croker's express wish, his reception by the old guard of Tammany today will be very simple.

UNIVERSAL GRAB GAME SAYS CHAMP CLARK

REFERRING TO PROTECTIVE TARIFF ON LUMBER AS ASKED BY LUMBERMEN

BOUTELL OF ILLINOIS TALKS

Government Must Raise \$300,000,000 in Revenue and as a Result Industries Must be Protected—Ways and Means Committee Active.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—"A universal grab game," was the appellation given the tariff by Representative Champ Clark of Missouri today at the hearing before the ways and means committee on the tariff schedule for wood and wood manufactures.

The administration's policy for the preservation of the forests figured largely in the argument. Several lumbermen said they wanted a protective tariff on lumber because other articles were protected by law. This called forth the term, "Grab" from Clark.

Representative Boutell, of Illinois, asserted in the defense of the protective tariff that the government must secure \$300,000,000 in revenue and that as a result the industries must be protected. That free trade in lumber would tend to prevent the devastation of American timber lands was the opinion expressed by Clark, who said it would not matter if Canada devastated her forests. Boutell argued that American forests would have a supply of lumber for both countries if the Canadian forests should be depleted and suggested that some broader scheme than a tariff should be adopted for reforesting the United States and Canada.

The Morning Astorian contains all the local and Associated Press reports.

MONTANA MINE IS BURNING

Northwest Improvement Co's Coal Mine on Fire

THREE MEN ARE DEAD

Though Fire is Confined to Small Area Gas Has Penetrated Various Sections

WILL TRY TO FLOOD MINE

Red Lodge, Mont., a Scene of Confusion and Heart-Rending Sight—More Than 100 Men Removed From Mine Exhausted.

BUTTE, Nov. 20.—A fire this morning in the Northwestern Improvement Company's mine at Red Lodge has caused the death of three miners and probably the death of many more. Over 100 men were removed from the mine completely exhausted and almost dead. The rescue was accomplished by the fire department and 50 volunteers. Owing to the confusion which followed the outbreak it was impossible to obtain any accurate figures of the number of men in the mine. Pipes are being laid and it is expected that tonight streams of water will be turned into the mine which is burning furiously but in a comparatively small area. Smoke and gases have penetrated various sections.

A careful check of the miners of the Northwestern Improvement Company's coal mine at Red Lodge shows three dead and six missing. Despite the stories of the rescued miners that a large number of men are still in the mine, the mine officials state that all the men have been checked tonight. The fire is still burning tonight.

LATER

CHINA WILL MOURNE.

COURT WILL GO INTO MOURNING FOR THREE WEEKS.

TOKIO, Nov. 20.—It is announced that court will go into mourning for three weeks owing to the death of the Emperor and Dowager Empress of China.

GRAZING LAND BURNING.

EL PASO, Texas, Nov. 20.—An area of 500 square miles of grazing land lying north of Rosewell, I. T., is on fire. No lives are reported lost.

OFFICIAL PLURALITY.

JEFFERSON CITY, Nov. 20.—Taft carried Missouri by a plurality of 1026 according to the tabulation of the official returns made by Governor Folk today.

DOUBTS TAFT.

Cannon Says he Doesn't Think That Taft is Sincere Regarding the Tariff Revision.

DANVILLE, Nov. 20.—When Speaker Cannon's attention was called to a story at Hot Springs, Va., that Taft would oppose Cannon's re-election for speakership on the ground that Cannon did not undertake in good faith to a revision of the tariff, Cannon said: "I do not believe the President-elect will undertake the organization the House. In common with the President I endorse the Republican national platform and am entirely willing to abide by the action of the Republican caucus to determine the organization of the House of the 61st congress."

GRIEF FOR EMPEROR.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 20.—Grief over the death of his emperor caused Gee Chung Chu, a well known merchant and politician of Chinatown, to commit suicide tonight by drinking a bowl of opium. Observing all the rites of death, he held a quantity of the drug in a bowl mixing it with tea.

With punk sticks burning about his head and at his feet and prayer paper for the repose of his soul scattered about on the floor and pasted on the walls, Gee smoothed out his long queue, brading the beautiful, glossy plaits, and spreading the silk tassel at the end upon the head board, laid down to die after drinking the fatal draught.

GERMAN SUICIDES.

PARIS, Nov. 20.—A special dispatch from Berne, Switzerland, to Count Rhenar, states that the second secretary of the legation here jumped from a window today while suffering from an attack of fever and was killed. He was the son of Baroness Von Nicust, Morganatic wife of Prince Charles of Baden and was engaged to the niece of Prince Von Buelow, the German imperial chancellor.

ALLEGED FORGER ARRESTED.

SEATTLE, Nov. 20.—Elliott A. Archer, known in Seattle as C. Archer Carter, employed as a solicitor in Seattle for the Tacoma Power Company, was arrested tonight on the charge of being a fugitive from justice. He is wanted at Newark, N. J., on a charge of having committed forgeries aggregating \$70,000. He declares his innocence. He lived in Seattle for four years.

BOISE, Nov. 20.—The official vote of Idaho is: Taft, 50,991; Bryan, 34,609; Debs, 6305; Chafin, 1740; Hisgin, 207.

ECHO OF SUICIDE OF MORRIS HAAS

DETECTIVE BURNS FILES CHARGES AGAINST TWO POLICE OFFICERS

THEY GUARDED THE CELL

Charges Also Preferred to Police Commission Against a Saloonkeeper Who Expressed Pleasure at Attack on Mr. Heney.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—William J. Burns, special agent of the district attorney's office, and chief detective for the prosecution in the bribery graft investigations, last night filed with the police commission charges alleging conduct unbecoming an officer against policemen Chas. B. Kelly and John C. Attridge, the two men detailed to guard the cell of Morris Haas, who shot Francis J. Heney and afterward committed suicide. In the complaint it is alleged that a few hours before Haas took his life the officers refused to permit Burns to enter the cell and examine the prisoner in the interests of the district attorney's office. The hearing was set for November 27.

At the same session of the board charges were preferred against Albert Baker, a Kearny street saloon keeper, who is alleged to have expressed satisfaction when he learned that Heney was shot and to have revealed his assistants in the prosecution. It is charged that Baker is an unfit person to hold a license to sell liquor.

HIS LAST SMOKE.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 20.—Falling asleep with his pipe in his mouth, Adam Borthwick, a bricklayer, set fire to his bed in the Queen rooming house last night and was fatally burned before he could be rescued.

ROCKEFELLER NOT SO CHEERFUL WHEN CROSS EXAMINED

RECTOR RESIGNS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—The resignation of Rev. Payson Young, rector of the Episcopal church of St. Mary the Virgin, has been placed in the hands of the vestrymen and accepted, a temporary appointment having been made to fill the vacancy. Rev. Dr. Young recently made demand for an investigation of charges against him connected with the disappearance of Edna Clark, the Berkeley art student, who, after she had been missing three weeks, was found in Chicago. Rev. Dr. Young has been under the care of a physician for several days.

MASKED MAN HOLDS UP DOCTOR AT SALEM

VICTIM REFUSES TO THROW UP HANDS AND STARTS TO RUN—SHOT AT TWICE

THUG IS SOON CAPTURED

Deputy Sheriff Covers Him With Shotgun Before Desperado Was Aware of His Presence—Was Wearing Black Mask.

SALEM, Or., Nov. 20.—A footpad tonight shot and perhaps fatally wounded Dr. C. H. Robertson, who thrust his umbrella in the footpad's face on a command to throw up his hands and started to run. The thug fired two shots at the doctor. Two hours later a man wearing a black handkerchief for a mask and armed with a big revolver was captured by W. W. Johnson, deputy sheriff, who stole up behind the man and covered him with a shotgun before the desperado was aware of the deputy's presence.

ELECTION FRAUDS.

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—More than 50 West Side politicians, including John A. Cook and former business partner, Samuel B. Panama, have been added to the list of those who are charged with responsibility for the recent primary frauds.

This will make a total of more than 100 indictments to be returned since the jury was impaneled, and the work is not half over. Cook executed two years ago of grafting while clerk of the Circuit Court, is now serving a term in the penitentiary.

DEFEATED BUT ARE NOT DISCOURAGED

Chairman of National League Democratic Clubs Will Call Meeting of Organization

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—Colonel William C. Liller, chairman of the national league of democratic clubs in a statement issued tonight regarding his calling a meeting of representatives of all Bryan clubs and democratic organizations throughout the country to be held at Washington December 8, 9, 10, next, said the purpose of the league was to maintain intact the organization now existing and to strengthen the league so as to eliminate the work of reorganization at the beginning of each campaign. Liller says that the defeat at the recent election has not dampened the enthusiasm of the

Unceasing Questions by Federal Attorney

BIG DIVIDENDS PAID

Oil Magnate Claimed It Was Impossible to Remember After 35 Years

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY

Witness Stated That the Company Had Paid \$40,000,000 in Dividends in 1907 and Had Made as Much More.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.—For over five hours today, John D. Rockefeller, who was a witness for the defense in the government suit to dissolve the Standard Oil Company, faced an unceasing fire of questions from the federal counsel, Frank B. Kellogg and when adjournment was taken until Monday the head of the oil combine was still being cross-examined on the charge that the company in its early days accepted rebates to the disadvantage of its rivals. Rockefeller's cross examination will probably not be concluded until late on Tuesday as Kellogg made it known that he would question Rockefeller on every detail of the company's business. The enormous earning power of the oil combination was sharply brought out in today's hearing when Rockefeller after stating that the Standard had paid dividends amounting to \$40,000,000 in 1907, and said it had earned as much more which added to the company's surplus which was stated by the government's counsel to be \$300,000,000.

It was further declared by Mr. Kellogg that the company within the last eight years had earned nearly half a billion dollars. The course of Rockefeller's testimony ran not so smoothly as yesterday when he told his story under the direction of friendly counsel, but rapid fire interrogations of the prosecutor always met with unshaken imperturbability and readiness of answer except when, as he explained: "It is quite impossible for me to remember after 35 years. I do not recall." Rockefeller (Continued on page 6)

TAKEN TO CALIFORNIA.

PORTLAND, Nov. 20.—Alexander Lathan, wanted in San Francisco in connection with the bribery graft cases was taken to California tonight upon a requisition from that state. Lathan was arrested here several days ago.

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