

FRENCH BATTLESHIP BLOWS UP FOUR HUNDRED ABOARD KILLED

FIRE ADDS HORROR, SCORES INCINERATED

Torpedo Explodes Firing Magazine Destroying One of Finest Ships in French Navy and Her Crew—Shell on Vessel Goes Off Injuring Onlookers

(Journal Special Service.)
Toulon, France, March 12.—Four hundred officers and men of the French armored battleship Jena are reported killed and 100 seriously wounded by an explosion of the powder magazine of the vessel here this morning. Scores of the crew jumped overboard into the bay and it is believed that many of them were drowned. Flames broke out and hundreds were incinerated.

The explosion of a compressed air torpedo that was being adjusted in the magazine was the cause of the wreck of the Jena. An inspection of the machinery of the magazine was ordered for 11 o'clock, and while the officers were making their rounds the frightful explosion of the torpedo came, followed by other explosions in quick succession.

Great pieces of the vessel's armor plates were torn asunder, and fragments of the armor deck, superstructure, small boats and mangled human bodies were hurled high in the air. The Jena was lying in harbor near the arsenal dock here when the fatal explosion occurred. Wild scenes on the deck followed the first explosion, as the crew of the vessel ran hither and thither in terror when they felt the deck of the ship buckle under their feet.

Some of the more terror-stricken rushed at once to the rail and jumped into the water to drown, while others hurried to the small boats with the intention of lowering them and escaping. Before the boats could be reached, however, the remaining torpedoes in the magazine were exploded by the concussion of the first explosion, and horrible carnage ensued.

Fire Adds to Horror.
When the final great shock of the explosion of the powder magazine came, its force was felt all over the city of Toulon. Windows were broken and buildings swayed as if the city had been shaken by an earthquake.

To add to the horror of the catastrophe, flames burst out all over the ship, and scores of the dead bodies were incinerated. So fierce were the flames that broke out in all directions that telegraph and telephone wires on the arsenal dock, near which the vessel was moored, were fused.

For a time it seemed as if the big government arsenal also would be destroyed. Following closely on the heels of the explosions came the shrieks of the mangled victims as they lay prostrate about the deck and were seared by the furnace of flames that leaped forth from the ruins of the ship.

Many of the men who jumped over-

WOULD ARBITRATE STRIKE



State Labor Commissioner O. P. Hoff.

RUEF IS TWICE REFUSED RELEASE ON HEAVY BONDS

Court Refuses Requests of Indicted Boss's Attorneys, After Which It Adjourns Until Tomorrow—Schmitz Case Is Called but Put Off.

(Journal Special Service.)
San Francisco, March 12.—Ruef made two futile attempts to secure his release on bail when he appeared before Judge Dunne this morning. The court was first asked to approve the bonds previously given. This request was denied.

Ruef's counsel then asked the court to order Ruef released on \$10,000 bail on each of the five indictments. This was also denied, and the court adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow.

Immediately after the Ruef matter was disposed of the Schmitz case was called, but postponed until tomorrow.

Ruef wore a serious look when he entered the court room this morning. He no longer looks upon the matter as a joke. On the other hand, Schmitz appeared to be in good humor. As soon as Ruef came into court he joined the mayor and the pair entered into a spirited conversation.

A tremendous crowd gathered in Temple Beth Israel, where court is being held, and in the street long before the hour set for the hearing, but a big squad of police and a force of deputy sheriffs maintained fairly good order. The court room was packed to suffocation.

Throughout the proceedings Ruef's counsel objected to every motion made by Hickey and every order of the court on the ground that the court had no jurisdiction.

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MANAGERS REFUSE TO ARBITRATE

Labor Commissioner Hoff Says Workmen Willing to Meet Them Half Way at Least

Mill Owners, on the Other Hand, Decline to Confer With Committee Representing the Strikers—Hoff Gives Arbitration Proposition Up.

Efforts on the part of the Oregon state labor commissioner, O. P. Hoff, to bring about a settlement of the mill workers' strike met with complete failure this morning.

While the strikers were willing to meet their employers half way, the mill owners flatly refused to consider a proposal to arbitrate, or even to go into conference with a committee representing the strikers. These actions are taken as an indication that they intend to fight to the bitter end.

Labor Commissioner Hoff called on the strikers yesterday afternoon. This morning he spent in conference with the leading mill owners.

"My efforts at mediation have had no perceptible result," said Mr. Hoff at noon. "I came down from Salem with the idea of doing what I could to bring about an amicable adjustment of the difficulty. The law does not require me to mediate, but simply to report on conditions, and I wished to avoid any action that might be construed as 'putting in'."

"I found that the strikers would be glad to meet with their employers and that they feel that a conference would result in a settlement. On the other hand, the mill owners say that they have nothing to arbitrate and that there is no reason why they should meet the strikers. I saw the leading mill owners and this seemed to be the attitude of all of them. I did what I could to bring about a conference, but failed. I do not expect to take any further action, but if I should be called upon at any time in the future I shall be glad to do anything in my power looking toward peace."

Mr. Hoff said that the mill owners did not indicate to him the methods they intend to employ in fighting the strike. The labor commissioner will leave for Olympia tomorrow to familiarize himself with the system of factory inspection in vogue in the state of Washington.

NORTH BANK LABORER HELD FOR LARCENY

The Dalles, Or., March 12.—David O'Neal was examined before Recorder Finson yesterday afternoon and held in \$200 bail to answer in the circuit court a charge of larceny from a store. O'Neal is accused of having appropriated gloves from the store of A. E. Lake and attempting to sell them on the street. He is a north bank laborer and was on a spree. He claims that he does not know anything of the theft with which he is charged.

THE TWO MOTHERS IN THE CASE



Mrs. Florence Nesbitt Holman, Mother of the Defendant's Wife.

Mrs. William Thaw, Mother of the Defendant.

DUNNE'S LONG TENURE SEEMS AGAINST HIM

Washington, March 12.—It is reported that the question of David Dunne's retention of the office of collector of the port of Portland, Oregon, will come up soon, but it is understood that if it does it will be merely because of Dunne's long term of office and not on account of any criticism of his administration.

Senator Bourne today stated that the Dalles land office appointments remain in statu quo and that nothing definite will be done for a week.

Ex-Secretary Hitchcock went on the witness stand this afternoon in the Hermann trial.

Demurrer Filed in Behalf of Fox.
Astoria, Or., March 12.—A demurrer to the indictment in the case of C. Roy Fox charged in the circuit court with enticing a minor to a disreputable house, has been filed. Argument is set for tomorrow and the defendant is at large on \$150 cash bail deposited by his uncle, George Dunlap, of Seattle, who is in Astoria looking after the defendant's interests.

WOMAN'S WATCH STOLEN IN CITY POLICE COURT

Mrs. Cromwell Discovers Her Loss in Courtroom, and a Chinese Wearing American Apparel is Under Suspicion of the Detectives.

In the very building in which is located the headquarters of the police department, and while seated within five feet of Judge Cameron in the municipal courtroom, Mrs. Paul Cromwell of 431 East Alder street was relieved of a gold watch by some expert pick-pocket this morning.

Mrs. Cromwell was present in court as a witness in the case against her husband, Paul Cromwell, a colored "doctor," who was arrested on a charge of using profane language to Rev. John Smith, a colored preacher. Pending the calling of the action, the woman seated herself in the court near two white women. A few minutes later she missed her watch, and immediately reported the matter to the police.

Captain Moore interviewed the woman who occupied the chairs near Mrs. Cromwell, but was satisfied that they knew nothing about the matter. In entering the corridor of the court Mrs. Cromwell stated that she passed a Chinaman in American garb, and is under the impression that the Astoria may have taken the watch.

The watch was carried on a long gold chain, but the thief deftly unhooked the timepiece without arousing the woman's suspicion. The boldness of the crime caused a stir in police circles, and several detectives were at once detailed to make an investigation.

Nicaraguans Threaten Attack.
(Journal Special Service.)
Teguicigalpa, March 12.—Cuba is threatened with an immediate attack by a Nicaraguan naval force. Three steamers carrying armed men reported sighted near Cuba, which is the chief center of Honduras. Its capture would be a serious blow.

BLOHS SHOWS HOW HE USED AX ON LEMON

Down on His Knees He Goes to Make Ghastly Demonstration of Butchery—Shows Where He Chalked Date on Cabin Wall—Wants to Go to Prison.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Roseburg, Or., March 12.—At the preliminary hearing of William Blohs for the murder of Philander Lemon, held yesterday afternoon, the only development of any importance was the report of the coroner's inquest. The coroner's jury, composed of Glen Wimberly, Roy McCullen, A. T. Beatty, H. Wollenberg, R. M. Kelly and A. Cresson, had returned a verdict charging Blohs with the murder of Lemon.

District Attorney George M. Brown after a short hearing and a few questions continued the case until Monday. Blohs says he feels relieved in mind since his confession and he expects to serve time for the deed in the penitentiary. He asked the district attorney when they would take him to the pen and how long he would have to serve.

He is very irritable and does not want to have his picture taken. Photographer Lewis had his camera all ready to snap yesterday, and when Blohs was brought out of his cell in the county jail and saw it he immediately turned and went back inside, muttering that he did not want "them fellers" to have his picture.

Lemon's Relatives in Oregon.
It is found that Lemon had several relatives in this county and several in other parts of the state. He came here from Salem over four years ago and lived with his niece, Mrs. Lee, a teacher in Canaan valley, until he was sent to the poor farm, where he became acquainted with Blohs, and later both came here to live in Stone cabin, where the tragedy occurred. Lemon also had two other nieces in this county, Mrs. H. McKay of Winchester and Mrs. Alfred Matthews of Post. He had a younger brother, who lives in Stone cabin.

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JEROME WINS BIG VICTORY

Secures Admission of Testimony of James G. Smith, Brother-in-Law of Stanford White. Will Prove Premeditated Murder

(Journal Special Service.)
New York, March 12.—District Attorney Jerome won a signal victory for the state today when Justice Fitzgerald decided to allow James G. Smith, brother-in-law of Stanford White, to be placed on the stand as witness-in-chief for the state at the trial of Thaw.

Smith has made two trips to Europe since the killing, returning the last time after the state had rested its case. Jerome since then has learned the important Smith's testimony is.

Smith talked to Thaw at the Madison Square roof garden shortly before the killing of White. Jerome declined today in court that Smith's testimony would tend to show not only sanity, but the grounds usually presented in making out a case of first degree murder, which requires the state to prove premeditation.

It is believed that Smith will say that his conversation with Thaw was about "justifiable homicide." The entire morning session was taken up by the hot legal battle, DeLmas being defeated only after a most stubborn and resourceful resistance.

When Jerome had scored his point he called to the stand Roundaman Howe, who aided in the arrest of Thaw. Howe testified as to a conversation he had with Thaw, saying that Thaw seemed rational. Dr. Carlton Elliot was called.

SETTLERS ARE UP IN ARMS

Water is Not Sufficient for Irrigation of All Lands is the Allegation Which Has Been Made.

Settlers on the tracts of the Columbia Southern Irrigating company in western Crook county, incensed at the alleged deception and misrepresentation which has been practiced upon them, have taken the initial steps to place a period on the company's operations, and it is probable that Attorney-General Crawford will be asked to cancel the contract of one of the largest private irrigation projects in the state of Oregon.

Complications are added to the proceedings which will be taken against the company by the fact that practically \$150,000 has been collected from the settlers who will lose the entire amount, in the event of cancellation of the contract which the company holds with the state, unless the company can be compelled to restore the funds in its possession. A large portion of these, however, is said to be invested in property elsewhere.

Scores of persons in both Washington and Oregon have purchased lands in the

Water is Not Sufficient for Irrigation of All Lands is the Allegation Which Has Been Made.



Robert W. Wilson, President Columbia Southern Irrigating Company.

Owners of Land in the Columbia Southern Segregation Demand Accounting From the Company.

Crook county project and will wait with no little apprehension the outcome of the fight which the settlers will wage to gain possession of their funds and straighten out the tangle in which the company is involved.

Reception Alleged.
The project includes 27,000 acres of the finest irrigable lands in Crook county, and fully 20,000 acres of this amount has been sold at an average of \$10 per acre. Settlers charge that under the present inadequate system of irrigating there will never be sufficient water to reclaim more than half the total acreage.

W. A. Laidlaw is the majority stockholder in the company. Robert W. Wilson, state representative from Multnomah county, is president, and James W. Blain, secretary.

Settlers allege that deception has been practiced by the company for many years.

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