PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 10, 1911

Fate of 225 Miners Imprisoned in Tennessee Coal Shaft Is Still Unknown; Work of Rescue Remains Impossible

CAUSE OF EXPLOSION NOT YET DETERMINED

Same District Visited by Disaster in 1902, When 187 Persons Lost Lives.

(By the International News Service.)
Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 9.—For the sec nd time in 10 years a great mine dis-ster has made the Knoxville colliery district echo with the sobs and wails of women and children-relatives of the men whose lives were snuffed out in a

flash as they worked. Two hundred and twenty-five menperhaps more, perhaps a few less-are entombed in the cross mountain mine near Briceville.

The possibility that any is alive is so slight that it was practically ad mitted at midnight that not one of the men will escape.

An explosion of blasting powder or coal dust rocked the earth today within a few minutes after the shift had

Three of the men, fortunately late to their work, were in the passageway leading to the working pit two miles into the bowels of the earth. They heard the crash and turning, fled for their lives. Of the many who descended, they are the only ones who came

Horror-stricken, they crawled to the surface and gave the alarm. In an hour rescue parties were organized and started into the shaft, Rescue Parties Powerless.

But the rescue parties were impotent. Almost as soon as they descended a cloud of smoke trickled from the mouth

of the cavern. A few seconds later it became a thick black pillar and the reschoking and blinded, rushed to When the rescuers succeeded in extin-

guishing the flames, gas prevented their entrance into the level. The explosion is believed to have occurred two miles from the opening and about 800 feet below the surface. All of the men who were in the mine were working within a few hundred feet of the hole and it is possible they were killed at the first blast.

If any survived, fire damp would have choked out their lives before now The only hope now expressed is that the explosion caved in a part of the roof and blocked the passage way between a few of the miners and the deadly fire. The great air fans were kept pumping at top speed throughout the day and night in the hope that someone was alive and might, with proper air, be

rescued. Rescue parties time after time attempted to descend into the workings but were driven back. Once the body of guests of the Philadelphia Commercial been permitted to pass unnoticed and miner was found. It was brought the surface and identified as that

of Lee Paulson. Late tonight two more bodies were recovered. They were found within a quarter of a mile of the mine entrance and both were badly mangled, indicat-ing that death had been due to the ex-

Aside from the gas, the entombed men are walled in by thousands of tons of slate and coal which were scattered loose from the walls by the force of

As news of the disaster spread throughout the Briceville district men left their pasts in other workings and hastened to join the rescuers.

Women, wild eyed and disheveled ran shricking to the mouth of the pit and attempted to enter. Scores of men dragged them back and with rude ef-

forts tried to cheer them. Entrance Impossible for Days.

With the coming of the federal rescue car number seven tonight, it was learned that it may be days before the mouth of the shaft is sufficiently cleared of smoke and the deadly damp to make possible an entrance.

Before then, it is feared, the men and boys who may have been saved from instant death will have starved to

The federal rescue crew was powerless. It could make no headway in the smoke filled pit and the announcement that nothing could be done was received with a long tremulous sob from the crowd of hysterical men and women who surrounded the opening.

Whether the explosion came from coal dust or blasting powder is a mystery. Within the last three weeks the had been inspected by a federal inspector and an inspector for an insurance company which insured the lives of the miners, and pronounced

J. F. Hetmaker, inspector for the Cross Mountain system of mines went into the shaft yesterday and pronounced

it perfectly safe. The Cross Mountain mine is one of a chain owned by the Knoxville Iron company and has been in operation more than 20 years.

The mining district near here has a tragic history. Not 10 years ago, on the morning of May 19, 1902, the ter-rible Fratersville disaster snuffed out at one stroke the lives of 187 men and

Most of these were killed in the ex-losion. Others escaped that only to killed by mine damp and die of arvation. Rescuers who made their way into the workings a week after the explosion found one chamber of hor-

rors after another.

Already a large relief fund has been started and an appeal made for food and clothing for the families of the men in the mine. With winter upon them, many are without enough money to last for more than a few days and it is feared famine will add to the horro of the situation. Several thousand dol lars has been subscribed in Knexville

"Higher-up" Offers to "Sell-Out" Dynamiters on Way to Prison

HISTORY OF CRIMES

One of Those Deeply Involved in Dynamite Conspiracy Offers Confession in Return for Immunity.

(United Press Leased Wire.) Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 9 .- With the hand of the United States government closing in on the reputed "inner circle" of the McNamara dynamiting conspiracy, interest here tonight centered in the semi-official information that one of the alleged "higher-ups" had made overtures to the federal officials relative to a full statement of the activi-ties of John J. and James B. Mc-Namara.

It is asserted that not only have the federal authorities been offered a complete verbal statement detailing a carnival of crime, but that documents reputed to contain damaging evagainst a number of prominent thor have been proffered, in change for immunity for the informer.

Reason for Visit Seen. The visit of United States District Attorney Charles W. Miller, in charge of the local federal investigation, to Washington yesterday and his confer-ence with department of justice officials, is believed to have been in con-nection with the alleged offer of the one "higher up." No decision in the matter, it

learned tonight, has been arrived at by the federal officials. J. A. G. Badorf of the National Erectors' association, who is now in Indian-apolis, in connection with the federal probe, refused to comment on the probability of one of the "inside circles" making an important statement to the

Protracted secret conferences in the (Continued on Page Ten.)

club today. They reached Philadelphia

about noon, somewhat the worse for

the wear of last night's dinner at Bal-

o'clock with nearly four hours of solid

and liquid oratory.

Their feelings were slightly ruffled-by

the plain speaking of Governor O'Neal of Alabama, who took occasion to re-

peat with emphasis his address to the

governors at the Spring Lake conference

in the course of which he spoke with

much asperity of the destructive meth-

ods of western legislation, criticising the western ideas of progressiveness

and intimated that the western states

ing their section and deprecating other

The westerners felt that the introduc-

ture was a breach of etiquette at a func-

tion supposed to be purely social and

parts of the country.

misconduct.

used questionable methods in advertis- at League island.

Tired and Ruffled Governors

Western Executives Somewhat Stirred by Charges of Ala-

bama Executive That Western Legislation Was

Destructive and Advertising Questionable.

(By the International News Service.) gentleman from Alabama and after Philadelphia, Dec. 9.—The western sleeping over the incident they ex-

unanswered.

governors and their party have been the pressed their satisfaction that it had

tion of a discourse of a political na- ception was held and the governors were

that the governor of Alabama exceeded Most gratifying to many of the west-his privileges in using the opportunity erners in the governors' party is the in-

to harangue critically other guests and creasing interest in the exhibitions. The

harp on his idea of sectional conduct or crowds that went through these cars

There was little or no opportunity for excess of any previous record of the the resentful governors to reply to the trip.

Trundled About Quaker City

Each Handcuffed to Deputy Sheriff, Brothers Start on Trip to San Quentin That Is to Swallow Them for Years.

(By the International News Service.) Los Angeles, Dec. 9 .- Under heavy guard, in a special car attached to a Southern Pacific passenger train, John Joseph McNamara and his younger brother, James B. McNamara, left tonight for Oakland. From there they will taken on a special boat tomorrow to San Quentin penitentiary.

The McNamaras will reach the prison some time tomorrow morning and will be taken in by the prison authorities. The formality of booking them may not be completed until Monday, as prisoners are usually not received at the prison on Sunday

Men Spirited Away.

The men were taken away with great secrecy. They left the jail in a big automobile shortly before the train left and were put aboard their special car which was the last on the train some distance out of the city. Sheriff Hammel, who wanted the men

to be taken away with the least possi-ble ostentation, persuaded the newspapermen to seek cover shortly before the men left.

The trip will be made over the so-called "Valley line," which runs through the interior towns of the state, and only the last few miles of the journey through a thinly settled locality outside of Oakland will be made during daylight hours. In this way the sheriff hopes to avoid the crowds which it was feared would congregate at the station should it be known that the dynamiters were on their way to prison

The men were kept in separate state (Continued on Page Ten.)

MARY! WHAT ON EARTH IS THE AILING CHILDREN ? 17 18 19 20 21 12 23 KINDLIN MOP THE FLOOR WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH THE DISHES! SWEEP THE GOIN' SUNDAY SCHOOL

Oil King and His Alms-Giver Turn Down Bid of Representative Stanley to Appear Before Steel Investigators to Deny Merretts' Story.

New York, Dec. 9 .- John D. Rockefel-Except for a short breakfast address by Governor West in reply to a speech ler and Frederick T. Gates today detimore, a function which lasted until 1 of welcome from Governor Penniwell, clined the invitation of Chairman Stanthe day was devoid of speechmaking, ley of the congressional investigating always excepting the back platform re- committee to appear before it if they marks of Colvin Brown of California, cared to make a statement concerning whose description of the attractions of the testimony recently given by Leonthe coming Panama-Pacific exposition idas and Alfred Merritt. Mr. Rockefeller's letter of declination follows: The afternoon at Philadelphia was given over to motoring and sightsee- Augustus O. Stanley, chairman of the

ng, the entire party first calling on committee on investigation of the Unit-Mayor Blankenburg at the city hall and later taking a boat for a ride down the "Dear Sir: The paration of Leonidas" "Dear Sir: The narration of Leonidas Delaware and a visit to the navy yard and Alfred Merritt before your committee was in substance the repetition of statements made by them in a controgovernors an informal dinner tonight. Following the dinner a large public reversy closed by them 15 years ago. The statements were false. They were so declared by me at the time in sworn testimony and upon cross examination.

Denial Generally Published.

"Before your invitation I had repeated my denial in a statement generally published in the press. Their own signed retraction is before you.

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Statesmen Real and Near Are Included In Gridiron's Jests

DECLINE TO EXPLAIN December Dinner of Famous Washington Club, Attended by Many Distinguished Guests, Occasion of Unusual Sallies of Wit Upon Nation's Leaders.

> (By the International News Service.) Washington, Dec. 9 .- Verse: Round the table are officers fair; President and congress all are there. Look them over, you insurgent horde,

This touching parody of Whittier's 'Barbara Frietchie' gave the keynote to the December dinner of the Gridison the famous organization representing the affairs of the nation, at the New Willard hotel tonight.

The red banner of insurgency was flung to the breeze and every skit and gibe was supercharged with the spirit

of revolt against present conditions, po litical, social and presidential, Nothing was too sacred to escape the irony and wit of the actors who played

on the miniature stage and the choris ters who chanted to the tune of popular airs the grievances of the common people and the glowing promises of reformers.

250 Guests Are Present.

Some of the 250 guests present were President Taft, Speaker Champ Clark, Senators Moses T. Clapp and Albert E. ummins, Secretary of the Interior Waler L. Fisher; Philip L. Goldsborough, governor elect of Maryland; Governor Harmon of Ohio, Representatives Ollie James and W. E. Humphrey, William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh, Representative W. B. Mc-Kinley, Senator James A. O'Gorman, Sir Gilbert ranker, Secretary of War Stimson; Count J. H. Bernstorff, German ambassador; Attorney General Wickersham; Renor Dominico de Gama, Brazilian ambassador; Governor Joseph W. Folk and former Speaker Joseph G.

The table, in the shape of a gridiron, heaped with roses and orchids, while the walls were hung with southern smilax. The festivities began at 8 o'clock, when Louis Garthe, elected president of the club, took the arm of President Taft and led the way into the

At each plate was a souvenir book of "Mother Goose" rhymes, with cartoons of prominent guests by Berryman. One cartoon of the president showed Mr. Taft in an aeroplane, with the

Tis for Taft, or Tariff so high, Which must be revised (in the sweet bye and bye)."

A cartoon of Senator La Follette represented him playing with small presidential boomlet and showing President Taft in the distance with a knife. The accompanying verse runs: "L is for La Follette, a whirlwind for

Whose presidential boom Taft hopes to

All of the Republican and Democratic candidates for president came in for their share of the raps, cartoons being shown of Governors Harmon and Wilson, Speaker Clark and others. Colonel Roosevelt was not forgotten, for there was a picture of him holding a big stick and sitting beneath a tree. Be-

they were asked to pay attention to ballots at their plates, labeled "For the progressive presidential primary." All were asked to vote. Before they had a chance to vote, however, And take them all if you have the men impersonating Senators Bourne sword." It was then announced quarrel. 210 votes had been cast with the fol-

lowing result: Dr. Harvey W. Wiley 161, James B. Garfield 4, Senator Cummins 1, Senator Clapp 1, Senator Bristow 1, Near Min-later to China Crane 81/2, Senator La Follette 1014, Senator Bourne 23, When Dr. Wiley was declared elected, Sena-

tors Bourne and La Follette left, shout-ing that they had been cheated. That venerable body, the supreme court, came in for its share of attention early.

After Dr. Wiley had been placed in the presidential chair the supreme court found itself completely reconstructed, having passed through the "recall. The new court was headed by "Bathhouse John" Coughlin as chief justice, with Eugene Debs, "Hinky Dink" Kenna Samuel Gompers, "Fingy" Conners, Charlie Murphy, Governor Stubbs of Samuel

Kansas, ex-Senator Aldrich and Theofore Roosevelt as associate justices. When the attorney for the sugar trust sought to call the court's attention to the law, he was childed by the chief justice with "Can that chatter; we make The our own laws."

The trust was ordered to "pull apart."
The steel trust was charged with having "gold-bricked T. R.," although the justice of that name violently protested that "they did not gold-brick me." The trust was sentenced to four hours' private conference with Attorney General Wickersham. An appeal for an injunction to pre-

vent Bryan from running for the presi-dency was denied by Justice Aldrich, who said: "Oh, let him run. What difference does it make?

Attorney General Wickersham asked for an injunction to restrain Champ Clark from annexing Canada by inviting Canada to annex Champ Clark.
A petition to prevent Taft boomers

(Continued on Page Four.)

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Measure Passed Aiming Blow at Tobacco Combination May Show Character of Legislation to Be Expected.

CHAMP CLARK PRESSING COLLEAGUES TO HASTEN

Speaker Eager to Have All Community Matters Taken Up Without Delay.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9 .- During the first week of its session the Democratic house passed a bill aiming a blow at the tobacco trust. This action may forecast the character of the legislation to be enacted, or at least discussed at the session which has now opened,

The bill authorizes the census bureau to ascertain every six months the quantity of leaf tobacco held in storage ware. houses. It is in the interests of the tobacco growers and is designed to prevent a corner or monopoly of leaf tobacco by the manufacturers. Pension Bill Thrown In.

Following action on this bill the Democratic leaders threw into the house the Sherwood service pension bill which grants to veterans of the Civil war graduated pensions up to \$1 a day. This bill is to pass the house before the end of next week. After that will come a number of bills on the house calendar of local importance.

The important legislation will after New Year's.

Chairman Underwood announces he will be ready with some of the important tariff revision bills immediately after the holidays. He will bring forth the wool, cotton and steel revision bills in the order named. He cannot tell until he has seen the president's message on wool and cotton tariffs what the Democratic bills will be. The general Impression in the house is that there will be little change if any in the new bills to be presented by the Democrats of the ways and means committee from the revision bills presented at the .ast

Clark Presses for Action.

Speaker Champ Clark is pressing for action by the Democrats on all matters to be supported by the Democrats at the coming session of congress. He says there is much to be done and does not want the Democrats to be charged with responsibility for failure to pass legislation desired by local communities.

The ways and means committee will meet the coming week and take up work on all the important schedules of the

An innovation will be that the speaker may attend the sessions of the committee to give its members the benefit of his judgment and experience on tariff legislation. For many years under Republican control of the committee, Speaker Clark was the ranking Democratic member and he has fought the Democratic fight for low tariffs in the

house for years. Senate Marking Time.

The senate has been marking time during the past week and will continue to do so until the house shall have sent across some bills which the senate thinks worth its time to consider.

Up to the present the senate has been busy considering nominations by the president and mulling over the presidential message on the trusts and foreign affairs.

Most of the committees of the house

will get busy next week. The committee on interstate and foreign commerce, Chairman Adamson, will leave from New York Sunday to inspect the Panama canal. This committee will have charge of the fixing of the tolls and enacting Conners, the regulations governing the Panama zone. The members of the committee desire to see for themselves whether the progress of the canal warrants the claim that tolls should be established at this

Steel Inquiry to Go On.

The Stanley steel investigating committee will resume its hearings Monday on the work of the steel corporation investigation, and Andrew Carnegie is expected to testify before the committee during the week.

The committee on expenditures in the department of the interior will take up questions involving the work of the eclamation service and especially with reference to the construction of the Roosevelt dam in Arizona for the fr-rigation of lands in that country. Colonel Roosevelt is said to have urged this work to be done and it is now charged that the Southern Pacific railroad is the only beneficiary of the pro-jects, which cost many millions and forces the issuance of \$20,000,000 bonds by the government that the reclamation service might not become bank-

MIDNIGHT PLUNGE IN PACIFIC SURF TAKEN BY THE MULTNOMAH CLUB EXCURSIONISTS

(Special to The Journal.)

Gearhart, Or., Dec. 9.—A plunge in the Pacific ocean surf at midnight is a delight—er as you like it—now being The special arrived at 5 o'clock this

enjoyed by a large number of the 125 afternoon and half an hour after it Multnomah Amateur Athletic club exwas in, Arthur Cavill, ewimming incursionists who came to Gearhart this structor last year at the Multnomali afternoon. This remarkable manifesta-club; J. Wesley Laidd and Frank Wat-

was a picture of him holding a big stick and sitting beneath a tree. Beneath the cartoon was this rhyme:
"There was a busy man who lived on a hill.

He lives there yet, but not always still. On Tennessee Iron he says he was wise."

And he's the one who never told lies."

After the divers had been given a change to look over the souvenir books.

This remarkable manifestation of the passion for swimming followed a dance given at the Hotel Gear. It was scheduled for the child members. It was scheduled for the entire party to enter the surf but a few lacked courage when the crucial moment came.

It is a commentary on winter conditions along Claisop beach that the temperature of air and water are nearly but a few lacked courage when the crucial moment came.

After the divers had been given a charge of air and water are nearly but he the owner. The party is considered to look over the souvenir books.

Western Governors and Official Party on Eastern Tour

The Manufacturers' club gave the

presented to and welcomed by a large

at Baltimore yesterday were largely in

element of Philadelphia's society.

excited the citizens of Chester.



Governor Oswald West of Oregon is seen in the second row, next to the right end. The picture was taken

at Rochester, New York.