

Daily—Sixth Year.
Forty-First Year.

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No. 224.

EXPLOSION DEALS DEATH TO 150

RESCUE WORK IS CHECKED BY ESCAPING GAS

Explosion Came Just After Day Shift Started Work—Victims Buried Beneath Thousands of Tons of Earth and Rock.

ARE OVER TWO MILES FROM MINE ENTRANCE

Volumes of Smoke Issue From Entrance—Believe Entire Interior Is Burning.

MIDDLESBORO, Ky., Dec. 9.—More than 150 miners were entombed in the mine of the Knoxville Coal company at Bryceville, Tenn., today, and all are believed to have perished.

An explosion of gas is believed to have been the cause of the disaster, as gas is still escaping from the mouth of the mine, and preventing the entrance of rescuers. A rescue car has been despatched from Knoxville to the scene of the disaster.

The explosion which meant death to the imprisoned miners rocked the earth for miles. The victims are imprisoned beneath thousands of tons of earth and rock two miles from the entrance of the mine.

The blast occurred at 7:30 this morning, just after the day shift had gone to work. Volumes of smoke at noon were still issuing from the entrance of the mine, which is believed to be a mass of flames in its inner workings.

Hundreds of women and children gathered at the mouth of the pit at Bryceville, and many of them tried to hurl themselves into the mine, despairing of ever again seeing their loved ones who are shut beneath.

The only hope for the entombed roof of the mine have collapsed, shutting off the deadly gasses which otherwise will kill every man entombed.

The first rescuers to attempt to enter the pit were driven back by the smoke and fire which raged in the lower workings. It will be hours before the flames can be subdued, and until they are controlled nothing can be done toward a rescue.

The explosion occurred when 200 men were in the mine, most of them working deep in its recesses near where the explosion occurred. The mine adjoins the Fratersville mine where 200 men perished in a similar disaster in 1902.

RECOVERS FROM NORTHERN PACIFIC

J. E. Daniels, who lost his carload of stock and household goods by fire while en route to Medford from the east about a year ago, has been given a verdict of \$3600 damages against the Northern Pacific railroad company in the federal courts at Portland.

The car caught fire at night from a hot box and was entirely consumed. In the car were six horses and all of Mr. Daniels household goods. He sued the company for \$7000 damages.

Attorney Confers With Taft.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—United States District Attorney McCormick of Los Angeles today conferred with President Taft at the white house and it is believed made a direct report on the dynamite probe in California.

The conference is considered significant in view of the news from Los Angeles that the federal grand jury there is investigating the finding of dynamite along the lines of the Harriman system at various places during the recent visit of the president to the west.



DR. FLEXNER HONORED.

Dr. Simon Flexner, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York, has been appointed by Emperor William of Germany to honorary membership in the Royal Institute for Experimental Therapeutics, of Frankfurt on the Main.

M'NAMARAS ARE STILL DEFIANT; TAKE TRIP SOON

Refuse Positively to Make Any Statement to Federal Grand Jury—Government Notifies Sheriff to Take Them North When Ready.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 9.—Defiant to the last John J. and James B. McNamaras will be taken to San Quentin in prison within the next twenty-four hours, having refused positively to make any statement whatever to the federal grand jury now probing the alleged dynamite outrages. The brothers will not meet again until next Tuesday and by that time the McNamaras will occupy cells in San Quentin prison.

The special government prosecutor today notified Sheriff Hammill that there was no use retaining the brothers longer in the county jail. He stated that they seemed to have determined not to talk, and that, should they change their minds later, they could easily be returned to this jurisdiction by the San Quentin officials.

Interest centered today in the Franklin bribery case, which comes up before Justice Young next Monday. That strenuous efforts are being made to center the entire interest in Franklin seemed certain. Both the district attorney and Joseph Ford, his assistant in charge of the case declared they believed when Franklin saw the strength of their case he would plead guilty. The latter's attorney, former Governor Gage, declared emphatically his client would do nothing of the sort, but that the case would be fought until the bitter end.

If the case is fought to the finish it seems certain that it will be made public just where the money Franklin is alleged to have used to bribe Bain and Lockwood came from. The district attorney says he can trace every cent of this money direct to the banks, and through the hands of everyone it touched.

JEFFRIES SAYS WOLGAST IS REAL CHAMPION

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 9.—"All this talk about Ad Wolgast not being lightweight champion is pure bunk. You can just put it down that he is the champion, and until he is knocked out or beaten in a championship battle, he will retain the title."

This was the statement coming today from James J. Jeffries when asked to give his opinion concerning the effect Wolgast's illness would have on the championship.

King's Aunt Seeks Pardon.

MADRID, Dec. 9.—Pardon from King Alfonso of Spain is sought today by the Infanta Eulalia, his aunt, whose publication in Paris of a novel recently caused a sensation. She has written the king a letter saying that she had no intention of wounding the feelings of the royal family and that no political motive inspired her literary effort.

ADVANCE ON PEKIN STARTS IN 48 HOURS

If Peace Does Not Come Before Revolutionists Reach Capital Bloodiest Battle of the War Is Certain to Enue—Manchus Are eady.

LAST STAND OF TARTARS CERTAIN TO BE DETERMINED

Rebel Comander Writes to Tartar General in Attempt to Check Atrocities.

TIEN TSIN, Dec. 9.—The advancing guard of a rebel army which is marching on Pekin today captured Chang Shu, demolishing the railroad tracks and burning a number of important buildings.

Practically all the imperialist troops had been removed from Chang Shu to Pekin and but little resistance was offered to the rebel occupation of the city. All the foreigners there are safe.

The real advance of the rebel forces on Pekin will start within forty-eight hours, and should peace not have been agreed upon before their arrival at the capital, one of the most desperate battles of the war is sure to ensue. In Pekin, and especially in the forbidden city, the Manchus forces have been preparing for a last desperate stand. Their cause daily waning in strength throughout the provinces, the adherents of the Manchus throne are determined to die hard or by one successful action, to turn the tide and wrest victory from defeat. It is not at all certain, the rebel leaders say, that they will be permitted to reach the capital without a battle.

The Manchus are known to be well armed and are expected to sally forth from Pekin and oppose the march of the rebels in a great battle without its walls.

WU CHANG, Dec. 9.—Protesting against Manchu atrocities, General Li Yuan Hung, the rebel commander, has written to Premier Yuan Shi Kai, at Pekin, begging him to force the imperialists to conduct the war humanely and threatening retaliation unless the barbarities cease.

"This is not war—it is savagery," he writes. "The greatest empire in the world's history is being disgraced. We cannot restrain the rebels if the Manchus continue to slaughter defenseless people. It is your duty to stop the massacre."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—Minister Calhoun at Pekin was ordered today to investigate a report that rebels have massacred four American missionaries in a general slaughter at Sian Fu.

RODGERS TO END TRIP TO-MORROW

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 9.—Calbraith P. Rodgers, transcontinental aviator whose completion of his journey from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean was prevented when he fell near Compton and narrowly escaped death several weeks ago, will finish his journey tomorrow.

When seen at the Maryland hotel, Pasadena, today, Rodgers asserted that he was feeling fine and was confident of getting his machine up at the point where it fell near Compton and to reach the ocean shore at Long Beach within a few minutes.

He is still on crutches but says this is not due to necessity, but because the doctors have ordered that he keep all the strain off his angles as long as possible.

Be sure and read the want ads. of the Medford Mail Tribune.

PERSIA PROCLAIMS WAR AGAINST RUSSIA OVER W. MORGAN SHUSTER; RUSSIAN TROOPS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ADVANCE ON TEHERAN

RUSSIAN CAUCASIAN TROOPS PATROLLING THE PERSIAN FRONTIER.



MONSPOKLEWSKI KOZIELL, RUSSIAN MINISTER IN TEHERAN. W. MORGAN SHUSTER.

SHUSTER SAYS HE WILL REMAIN IN PRESENT PLACE

American Financial Adviser to Persia Declares He Will Defy Russia and Will Not Quit His Work as Demanded.

TEHERAN, Dec. 9.—Declaring that the placing of 400 soldiers on the borders of Persia by Russia is either an attempt to make war or an act to wanton hostility to the Americans serving the Persian government, W. Morgan Shuster today announced his intention of defying Russia and of retaining his position as financial adviser to Persia.

Shuster declares that during his service in Teheran he has cleared the Persian treasury of a \$500,000 deficit and given the country a national fund of \$800,000, in spite of the recent civil war, which cost \$1,500,000. In two years, he declared, he would have Persia prosperous and well organized for the development of her resources. He said that Russia and England seek to undo this work, and that he will not leave the country until they show one good reason why Persia would be benefited by his removal.

PINCHOT WANTS MARE HOMES BUILT

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 9.—Warmly advocating greater co-operation on the part of the United States government in the home-making activities of its citizens, Gifford Pinchot former chief forester, was the center of interest at the national irrigation congress here. His address was enthusiastically received by the delegates.

"It is the duty of the national government to hold agricultural lands for settlement purposes, and to reclaim all arid and swamplands," declared Pinchot. "It is essential that such lands should be opened to all homesteaders on the same terms, so that all may own homes without being required to pay exorbitant prices to private land speculators. There should be an equitable arrangement between the citizen and the government by which the citizen pays for the cost of irrigation or drainage on the lands secured for his home."

Pinchot took an optimistic view of the La Follette presidential nomination campaign.

IRRIGATION IS THEME AT BIG MASS MEETING

Large Number of People Attend Meeting Called by the Medford Commercial Club to Discuss Irrigation in the Valley.

CLOUDY WEATHER WORKS AGAINST BARGAIN DAY

However, This Afternoon a Large Number of Out-of-Town People Are Arriving.

Irrigation and Prosperity is the theme at a big mass meeting being held this afternoon at the opera house, there being many people in attendance. The value of water as applied to and is the topic under discussion and every phase of the matter is being considered.

Although cloudy weather worked somewhat against the success of Bargain day, scheduled by the Merchants' association for today, this afternoon a large number of out of town buyers are appearing, and the day promises to be a success.

W. H. Gore, P. J. O'Gara and other are the principal speakers at this afternoon's session.

Prof. O'Gara said in part: "I have been asked to talk on soils, crops and water. This is a big subject and can be handled only in a very general way, at this time. At another time, we will take up this subject in a specific way, and deal with such problems as may be considered the exception rather than the rule. At this time, our whole idea is water. By all means, let us have it. We will consider everything else after the water is here; namely, the how, when and what of irrigation."

"The soils of this valley are rich beyond question; there are no alkalis anywhere to trouble us, and from that standpoint the irrigator will never have to fear anything. There are over fifty types of soil in this valley, although the general types are by no means so numerous. As yet the informatino which I have, and which has been gotten through my association with the U. S. bureau of soils in their survey of the valley is not for publication. However, the many interesting facts regarding the valley soils will be given to the public, in the course of a year. All that I would care to say is that we have no need of delaying the bringing of the water on account of the fate that we do not know all about the soils. Today, some of us look with more or less distrust upon certain soils and yet it is a fact that these soils will become the most valuable of any of the valley soils once water is provided. I may say that some of the richest soils may even be found on the top and slopes of Table oek."

"There is no doubt that, outside our orchard fruit crops, there are many other crops which deserve attention. Practically every visitor who comes to my office asks, 'What can I grow besides orchard fruits?' With water, there is hardly a crop that may not be grown. It would be easier to enumerate crops that may not be grown than those that may be. It has been shown that such crops as potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, beans, melons, onions, etc., may be grown successfully and profitably. Only a few years ago, it was said that potatoes could not be grown in the valley. This season, with the proper irrigation, and cultivation, we have a record of 600 bushels per acre. Tomatoes in this valley reach the highest perfection in color and ment-ness. It has been remarked by prominent canners that our tomatoes are among the best in quality of any grown in the United States. With irrigation, a record of 22 1-2 tons of tomatoes were grown on one and one-half acres. The cucumber for pickling purposes is one of the best vegetables which should return a profit. We have records of enormous

(Continued on page 3.)

NEW CITY BOARD OF REGISTRATION TO MEET MONDAY

In Order to Vote at Coming City Election All Must Appear Before Board of Registration and Be Enrolled.

The new city board of registration will open its sessions Monday in the council chamber of the city hall and will remain in session 10 days for the purpose of registering the voters of the city in order that they may vote at the next city election. The board will be in session daily from 1 to 7 p. m.

The board of registration was recently named by the city council and consists of Messrs. Cady, Cottrell and Rader.

In order to vote at the next city election all voters must appear and be enrolled. If naturalized voters must bring their papers with them.

OFF TO RESERVE ROOMS FOR ELKS

Clarence Reames, exalted ruler of lodge 1168, B. P. O. E., left Friday evening for Portland where he will reserve 150 rooms for the use of the local herd when they go to Portland next July to attend the national convention of Elks. Fully 200 Elks from Medford are expected to make the trip.

TROOPS WATCH FOR GENERAL

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Dec. 9.—If General Bernardo Reyes, leader of the latest revolution against President Madero of Mexico is in northeastern Mexico endeavoring to elude the authorities and get into the United States he must pass through a cordon of Mexican troops which are today patrolling the Mexican border for a distance of 150 miles from the Gulf of Mexico to within a few miles of Laredo, Texas.

SHOOT HANDICAP GOES TO PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 9.—The Pacific Coast handicap shooting tournament of 1912 will be held in Portland. A telegram was received by the Portland club today from the secretary of the Interstate association saying that this city had been selected. The tournament was held at Madera, Cal., last year.

UNCLE SAM MAY SOON BREAK WITH RUSSIA

Washington, D. C., Dec. 9.—Probability of a break with Russia over the passport question is believed today to be imminent, following yesterday's cabinet session, in which President Taft, and his advisers wrestled for two hours with the problem, only to acknowledge that there was no solution in sight which would satisfy American Jews without embarrassing either the United States or Russia.