

# 27 LOST LIFE IN TRAIN WRECK AMHERST OHIO

### Probe Under Way to Place Responsibility for Disaster—Towerman Denies That He Was Asleep or Incapacitated From Loss of Sleep—Engineer Stopped Upon Signal.

CLEVELAND, O., March 30.—With twenty-seven bodies recovered from yesterday's wreck of three New York Central trains at Amherst, O., attention today was focused upon the several investigations that were put under way by federal, state and railroad authorities to determine responsibility for the wreck. Representatives of the interstate commerce commission, the utilities commission of Ohio and various department heads of the New York Central were conducting investigations in Cleveland and at other points in the vicinity of the wreck.

Coroner Charles Garver of Lorain county planned to begin an inquest at Elyria into the death of the wreck victims and the causes leading thereto.

#### Probes Under Way.

The question of whether the so-called "death coach" on train No. 86 was of modern steel construction as claimed by New York Central officials, or was mainly of wood construction, promised to be an important feature of the investigation.

Railroad officials today were still divided in opinion as to whether the blame should be placed upon the towerman, who, it is alleged by some officials, was asleep and failed to give the proper signal, or upon the engineer, who, they say, it may be shown either failed to see the signal or exceeded his orders.

Of the more than forty persons injured in the wreck, several were said to be in a precarious condition early today and more fatalities were feared. Railroad officials say that only twenty-seven bodies have been recovered and that they regard it as impossible that more bodies are in the ruins.

Unofficial, but what was regarded as reliable, reports placed the number of dead at thirty.

#### Placing the Blame.

The two men at whom most of the questions were to be directed at today's investigation were Engineer Herman Hess of the second section of No. 86, and Towerman A. R. Ernst of Amherst.

Engineer D. W. Leonard of the first section of train No. 86, which pulled the "dead car," asserts he stopped his train on a signal originating in Ernst's tower. Engineer Hess declares he saw no signal when he brought his section booming along at a fifty miles an hour speed about three minutes later.

Ernst asserts he set no stop signal, declaring the line was open for Engineer Leonard to go ahead. If Ernst is held culpable in the investigation the blame will trace back to a baby's tiny crib in the Ernst home at Elyria.

The baby was born Sunday night. Since that time Ernst has had little sleep, railroad officials say.

#### Towerman's Denial

Ernst, the towerman, stoutly denied that he was asleep or had been incapacitated by loss of sleep. The signal simply failed to work, he said.

"If the signal had been working properly, the block signal light two miles away would have flashed a caution and the block a mile away would have signalled Hess to come to a dead stop," said Ernst. "Hess was too good an engineer to run past two signals set against him."

"I was on the lookout for train No. 86. When it was two miles away I threw the lever into the clear, giving No. 86 a clear path. I realized there had been a signal failure when the train stopped. When the train had stopped, I again jammed the signal lever into the clear, and this time it might have worked, for the train started ahead. Then the crash came. I didn't have time to stop the Twentieth Century before it, too, crashed into the wreckage."

H. W. Belknap, representing the interstate commerce commission opened the federal investigation.

A. R. Ingalls, general superintendent of the New York Central lines west of Buffalo, spent an hour in laying before Belknap all that the railroad officials had learned so far in their investigation of the cause of the accident.

#### NOTICE

Freebies Medford North Main and West Medford register box at the Mail Tribune office.

Why Smoke Bit Cigars When La Gondas are only 10c.

# TAXES DELINQUENT ON APRIL FIFTH PENALTY ADDED

Taxes will be delinquent on April 5. Tax collections to date, for this year, amount to \$147,590, including the work of Wednesday, March 29, announced J. R. Harper, tax collector in the sheriff's office. Including the payment of \$21,560 by the Southern Pacific company yesterday on its rolling stock, the total represents about one-sixth of the total amount of the assessment roll. This is \$45,900 less than the total collections at this date last year.

The new tax payment law, which legally went into effect last year, but which was so little understood that the consequence in some respects was negligible, has much to do with the appearance of delinquency in the figures above quoted, Mr. Harper thinks.

Instruction on that provision of the new law referring specifically to the payment of taxes and the interest charges, under given conditions, is made in the following language in order that the taxpayer may escape confusion:

"Assuming the tax on a certain parcel of property is \$100, the first half (\$50) may be paid on or before April 5 and the second half (\$50) on or before October 5 without interest or penalty on either. But if the first half is paid on any day from April 6 to May 5, both days inclusive, there should be added an interest charge of 1 per cent (.50 cents); from May 6 to June 5, inclusive, 2 per cent (.10); from June 6 to July 5, inclusive, 3 per cent (.15); from July 6 to August 5, inclusive, 4 per cent (.20); from August 6 to September 5, inclusive, 5 per cent (.25); from September 6 to October 5, inclusive, 6 per cent (.30). If the entire tax of \$100 is paid on any day from October 6 to November 5, inclusive, the interest charges should be 7 per cent on the first half (\$3.50), and 1 per cent on the second half (.50 cents). If the entire amount is paid on November 5, the interest charges should be 7 per cent on the first half (\$3.50), and 1 per cent on the second half (.50 cents), plus a penalty of 5 per cent (.50). Interest continues on all delinquent taxes at the rate of 1 per cent for each month or fraction thereof until the payment of the tax or the issuance of a certificate of delinquency."

This explanation will enable the taxpayer to understand fully the salient points of the special provisions of the new law.

### OCTOGENARIAN MILITARY GOVERNOR OF PARIS

PARIS, March 30.—General A. V. E. Dubail was appointed military governor of Paris today. He replaces General Michael Maunoury, who is relieved on the ground of ill-health. General Dubail, who is 85 years old, served in the Franco-Prussian war.

# SOARING PRICE OF GASOLINE AROUSES SENATE TO ACTION

WASHINGTON, March 30.—Agitation over the soaring price of gasoline came up in the senate today and ended in the adoption of a resolution by Senator Martine directing the attorney general to investigate whether or not rising prices are the result of unlawful conspiracy.

Senator Martine's resolution was prefaced by a preamble asserting that the Standard Oil trust controlled the gasoline output and prices.

"Every senator here knows — he doesn't think," said Senator Stone, "that consumers of gasoline are being robbed by some thieves."

Senator Cummins declared he was informed that the trade commission was preparing to report to the attorney general on the general complaint that the Standard Oil company was in a conspiracy the effect of which was to lift the price of gasoline in the eastern country above prices in the west, where there is some competition by independent concerns.

"I sincerely hope that the conspiracy which I believe exists will be exposed and overthrown," the Iowa senator declared.

Senator Lodge took exception to the preamble of the resolution arraigning the Standard Oil company as a trust, and Senator Hardwick suggested striking out the preamble.

"I can't see any reason for timidity in arraigning the Standard Oil company," suggested Senator Martine. "God knows it has not been solicitous of the rest of the people."

Senator Smoot moved to strike out the preamble and Senator Gallinger moved that it be tabled. The senate declined to table it by a vote of 25 to 23.

### EARTHQUAKE SHAKES MARTINIQUE, WEST INDIES

FORT DE FRANCE, Martinique, March 30.—An earthquake occurred here at 5:18 o'clock this morning. There was no damage.

### Christian Church Orchestra

Following is the program for the Christian church orchestra entertainment to be given at the church Friday night, beginning at 8:30, admission being free:

Descriptive march, "Napoleon's Last Charge," orchestra, vocal solo, "One Meeting Hour," violin obligato, Nana Seely; violin solo, "Littoratore," with variations, Bliss Heine; reading, selected, Mrs. Heine; vocal trio, selected, Messrs. Baloom, Lindley and Lawton; selection "Grand International Fantasia," patriotic airs of two continents, orchestra; cornet solo, selected, George F. Dyer; vocal solo, "The Swallows," Nana Seely; violin and cornet duet, "Perfect Day," Messrs. Heine and Dyer, quartet, selected, Messrs. Baloom, Lindley and Lawton; march, "All America," orchestra.

# TRAINMEN PRESENT 8 HOUR DEMANDS TO RAIL SYSTEMS

NEW YORK, March 30.—Eastern railroad managers replied today to the request of the employees for an eight-hour day and higher overtime pay by submitting propositions of their own for discussion. The demands of the employees are not refused, neither is a demand made by the railroad managers, for the acceptance of their own proposals. These are submitted for consideration in the negotiations that are expected to follow.

"What the railroads ask for is an open door," their reply states.

The reply was sent to the officials of the four brotherhoods immediately after receipt of the employees' demands.

#### Railroads to Refuse.

NEW YORK, March 30.—The demands of nearly 400,000 locomotive engineers, firemen and trainmen were presented to the general managers of the several railroad companies involved at their headquarters in different parts of the country today. The employees who belong to the so-called Big Four unions ask for an eight-hour day without reduction in pay and time and a half for overtime. The railroads have until April 29 to reply.

It is understood the railroads have already made a tentative answer, which amounts to a conditional refusal that leaves the way open for further negotiations. The demands of the men went to the Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad yesterday, and the eight-hour day proposal was refused.

The position of the unions is explained in a statement by the executive committee of the adjustment boards, which has charge of the submission of the demands today. The statement says:

#### Argument Advanced.

"In making the demand for the eight-hour day, the unions feel themselves justified, believing that trains can be so managed that the 100 miles required of a railroad man per day can be put inside of eight hours. As the train service is now, single crew engines in the switching service, on which only one crew works in the twenty-four hours, are often compelled to work from ten to sixteen hours a day. It is unjust, such as this that the railway unions want ended."

CHICAGO, March 30.—The demands presented today by representatives of the so-called Big Four trainmen's unions involve 180 railway systems with 218,000 miles of right of way, exclusive of terminals and yards. In the western territory there are 100 railroads with 138,000 mileage, in the eastern territory sixty railroads with 63,000 mileage, and in the southern territory twenty railroads with 47,000 mileage.

#### NOTICE

In city pound: Dark bay horse, shed all around, white hind foot.

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 We place on sale 100-piece assortment of Fine Cambric Embroidery, 4 to 15 inches in width, values ranging 12½c to 25c—  
**2 DAYS ONLY--8c YD.**

**New Spring Suits \$18.50 to \$35** **Newest Waists \$1.98 to \$12.50**  
 Fashion's newest models in Women's Suits are here—smart belted and novelty styles in checks, stripes and plain colors; also many new models in combinations of silks and wools. All direct from the New York fashion center.  
 Special prices prevail in this department. Scores of pretty styles, Georgette crepes, crepe de chine, chiffons, coral maize, flesh, navy and black.  
**MUSLIN UNDERWEAR**  
 Muslin Gowns ..... 59c  
 Crepe Gowns ..... 79c  
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 Muslin Drawers ..... 49c  
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**Children's Spring Hats 35 and 50c**  
 An assortment of all the latest things for ages 2 to 12 years.  
**Agents for the Famous Hole-Proof Hosiery**  
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 The World's Greatest Italian Character  
**GEORGE BEBAN in "AN ALIEN"**  
 The play is an enlargement of "THE SIGN OF THE ROSE," a vaudeville sketch in which Mr. Beban was a success all over the country. This production is shown in nine reels. The strongest and greatest film drama ever offered the moving picture loving public. It's worth walking ten miles to see. Admission for this extraordinary amusement production: 25c Adults, 15c Children.  
 A picture which will be remembered a lifetime.

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 SHE DON'T KNOW WHY I GRIN SO WHEN SHE SAYS, "JOHN, GET YOUR HAT AND TAKE HAROLD ALGERNON OUT FOR A LITTLE AIRING."  
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