

SCORES KILLED, HUNDREDS ARE INJURED, IN UNPRECEDENTED STORM SOUTH AND M. WEST

Tornado Sweeps Southern States From Texas to Coast, While Record-Breaking Blizzards Cause Death, Suffering and Destruction in Middle West—Casualty Lists Steadily Mounting—Iowa and Nebraska Towns Snow Bound With Train and Wire Service Paralyzed—Many Towns in Texas and Arkansas Completely Wiped Out.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 16.—More than fifty persons were killed and hundreds injured in the tornado which swept southeast Arkansas late yesterday according to dispatches received here.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 16.—Tornado reports received by the Arkansas Gazette up to an early hour this morning give a total of thirty-nine persons dead as a result of the storm in southwestern Arkansas and Cass county, Texas, last night. Twenty-six of these were said to be whites and number of them were unidentified.

DALLAS, Texas, April 16.—At least seven lives were lost in northeastern Texas late yesterday, in a tornado, which, after sweeping sections of Smith, Wood, Gregg, Cass and Bowie counties, passed into Miller and Hempstead counties, Arkansas, where more than a score of persons were reported killed. Scores of persons were reported injured in the affected area of Texas. Six of the Texas fatalities were at Avinger, Cass county and one at Atlanta.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., April 16.—A rapidly mounting death list that may exceed fifty, dozens of persons injured and property damage as yet unestimated are results of a tornado that cut a wide swath across parts of Miller and Hempstead counties, Arkansas and Cass county, Texas.

Reports coming into Little Rock from the storm area augmented rather than diminished the extent of the damage and because of paralyzed wire communication officials were of the opinion that several days might elapse before the full extent of the destruction is definitely known.

Apparently the heaviest loss of life and property was caused in the two Arkansas counties, in the rural sections of upper Miller county, near Texarkana, eleven persons are known to have been killed and a large number injured.

Near Hope, in Hempstead county, press dispatches stated that from 15 to 25 persons were killed and scores injured by the storm, which swept the entire length of the county. The storm approached within a few miles of the town, according to reports here.

Prescott is another town in Hempstead county that may have been struck by the storm. A brief message received late last night said there were several bodies there, but it was not known just where the fatalities occurred.

Wires Are Down
CHICAGO, April 16.—Telegraphic communication in the west and southern sections of the country are practically paralyzed today, according to reports received by telegraph companies here this morning.

The reports show there was no communication whatever between Chicago and Omaha and that the wires are in bad condition all along the line reaching from Denver southeastward and including Dallas, Texas; Little Rock, Ark.; Shreveport, La.; Memphis, New Orleans, St. Louis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Birmingham and Cincinnati.

The weather bureau reported the storm to be moving southeastward. Chicagoans awoke this morning to face a gale of high velocity, accompanied by a cold driving rain. Small damage is reported this far north.

Worst Storm of Winter
DENVER, Colo., April 16.—The

Rocky Mountain regions today were slowly recovering from the effects of the worst storm of the winter, which yesterday covered the district with a snow covering ranging from 11 to 14 inches, blockaded railroads and paralyzed wire communication in most directions from Denver.

Train service to the south, annulled last night, was expected to be resumed today. Wire service, however, was not expected to return to normal immediately because of the large number of poles torn down by the wind and weight of the snow.

Some damage to livestock was anticipated when the outlying districts can be communicated with. Temperatures below freezing occurred last night in most parts of the state.

DUBUQUE, Ia., April 16.—Dubuque is snowbound and struggling to extricate itself from the effects of one of the most severe blizzards experienced in this section of the country at this time of year for almost a decade. Seven inches of snow fell during the night.

CHICAGO, April 16.—As the storm wore on today the rain turned into snow, still accompanied by a high wind. One automobilist was killed when his machine skidded on the slippery pavement and crashed into another automobile.

18 Dead in Texas
TEXARKANA, Texas, April 16.—With eighteen known dead, three scores or more injured, ten probably fatally in the terrific storm which girdled Miller county late yesterday and swept to the north and east, reported casualties early today were regarded as still incomplete.

Telephonic communication with the devastated territory is entirely cut off; in instances the wires forming impassable entanglements across the roads, littered with uprooted trunks of trees and wreckage.

DES MOINES, Ia., April 16.—All April records were broken by the snowstorm which began last night and is sweeping over the entire state of Iowa today.

Towns Wiped Out
HATTIESBURG, Miss., April 16.—One woman was killed and at least twelve persons were injured in a tornado which struck Sontag, 16 miles east of Brookhaven, today. Ten houses were wrecked.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 16.—Reports filtering into Birmingham over badly crippled lines of communication indicate that the town of Ralph, Tuscaloosa county, was almost completely wiped out by a cyclone early today and that Sulligent, Lamar county, suffered a like fate. In these reports, which lack confirmation, the number of injured runs into the scores.

KENOSHA, Wis., April 16.—This city was hit by the worst storm since 1881 last night with snow twelve inches deep on the level this morning and drifted in many places to more than ten feet. Traffic was paralyzed in the city.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 16.—Ten persons were killed, more than 100 injured and scores of homes wrecked in a series of storms which were widespread over northern Alabama today. Seven deaths were reported.

(Continued on page six.)

Babe Ruth Whangs Out His First Home Run of the Season

NEW YORK, April 16.—Babe Ruth made his first home run of the season today. The long clout came in the sixth inning, when he drove the ball over the fence in the New York-Philadelphia game at the Polo grounds. Harris was pitching for the Athletics. Ruth was given a big ovation. New York won 11 to 5.

JOHNSON ISN'T DOWN HEARTED BY SENTENCE

Former Bank President Now Witness in Grants Pass, Keeps Up Cheerful Demeanor—Shows Interest in Owen—Jury Is Selected.

His head shaven clean in accordance with state prison rules, W. H. Johnson, former cashier of the defunct Bank of Jacksonville, held as a witness in the civil action of the state banking board by F. S. Braumwell against Ben M. Collins, Grants Pass auto dealer, charged in the Josephine county jail Friday afternoon. Johnson was sentenced in the penitentiary for not changing the philosophical former bank head. He is apparently as light hearted as a high school boy.

Johnson was seated at a table in the Josephine county jail with two boys, held for minor offenses, and an Americanized Chinaman when the interviewer called.

"How are you?" he was asked. "Fine! Never felt better, and had less" was the brisk reply, as he walked to the iron door.

"Is there anything you want," further queried the interviewer. "I want my three meals that I am entitled to. I only get two in here. I'm entitled to three. If they are going to make me work, I want my three meals a day. I'm going to ask Roberts about it when I see him."

"Is Owen still out and stopping at the best hotel? I told them he would take Charlie out of something, and I was right. He's a slick one when it comes to anything like that. It would tickle me if he would walk away from Charlie. It surprised me when they got him as far as Medford." Johnson was apparently highly interested in the court proceedings involving Owen.

Johnson was brought into court, as a witness against Ben Collins, in the civil action, and his entrance attracted considerable attention from the spectators. He took a seat at the counsel table for the plaintiff, and sharpening a lead pencil commenced to figure, going through a bundle of old checks, to be used as exhibits in the case.

Mrs. Johnson came from Jacksonville to see her husband, and held several conversations with him. Johnson was told that friends were talking of preparing a petition for his release from the state prison.

"That's all right, but why start so late," asked Johnson. "After they get a man in jail, they want to get him out, and that's hard to do."

Selection of a jury in the civil action in which Ben M. Collins is defendant and the state bank is plaintiff was begun before Judge F. M. Calkins Friday afternoon at Grants Pass. The first three jurors examined had lived in Josephine county for over 20 years. The defense was represented by Attorneys Gus Newbury of Medford and Jesse Johnson of Grants Pass, and the plaintiff by Attorney George M. Roberts of this city.

The civil suit is an outgrowth of the failure of the Bank of Jacksonville for the collection of two promissory notes, one for \$285, dated April 3, 1915, and for the collection of a second promissory note dated February 21, 1915, and an alleged overdraft of \$1179.86, a total of \$2262.50. The entire afternoon session was devoted to the securing of a jury, the chief query being if the juror would give the same credence to the testimony of Johnson as any other witness.

EMERGENCY TARIFF BILL IS PASSED

House Puts Through Temporary Tariff Measure and Adjourns Until Monday—Prompt Action by Senate Is Expected—Mondell Says Sales Tax Bill Hopeless.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—Voting his opposition to a sales tax, Representative Mondell of Wyoming, the republican leader, predicted today that no law taxing sales would be enacted at this session of congress.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—With the combined emergency tariff and anti-dumping bill put through, the house was in adjournment until Monday to permit the selection of minority committee members, particularly those on the immigration committee before the immigration restriction bill is reported out. When Representative Mondell, Wyoming, republican leader, proposed yesterday that the house meet today to receive a report from the immigration committee, Representative Garrett, Tennessee, acting democratic leader, objected because the minority members of the committee had not been selected and asked that the report be delayed.

An agreement was then reached to adjourn until Monday.

15 Democrats Break Away
Passed in the house yesterday by a vote of 629 to 112, only eight republicans and 15 democrats breaking away from the party alignment on the measure, the Young-emergency tariff and anti-dumping bill now goes to the senate with republican leaders hopeful of its passage there next week. Action on the measure in the house came at the end of a session enlivened by democratic protests that the republicans in standing for the passage of the bill precisely in the form put through at the last session, were bowing to the "dictation of the senate," the minority criticism followed a flat declaration by Chairman Fordney of the ways and means committee that the senate would accept no amendments.

With the house in adjournment the senate still had before it today the Colombian treaty with republican opponents of ratification preparing to continue their attack. Senators Poin-dexter, Washington, and Kenyon, Iowa, were prepared to speak on the pact.

Labor Board Men Aired
WASHINGTON, April 16.—The three vacancies on the railroad labor board were filled today by President Harding by the nomination of Walter L. McMenister of Massachusetts, deputy president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, to represent the labor group; Samuel Higgins of New York, former general manager of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railway, to represent the management group, and Ben W. Hooper, former governor of Tennessee, to represent the public group.

NEW YORK, April 16.—Dr. Frederick Davis, commissioner of conciliation of the department of labor has been directed to follow wage negotiations between the American Ship Owners' association and the Marine Engineers' Beneficial association to prevent a further breach, it was learned today.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—To prevent the drainage of naval reserve oil lands by drilling on the outskirts of the reserves, Secretary Denby has decided to lease drilling rights inside the reserves over a small area to private concerns he announced today.

E. I. Lewis Selected
WASHINGTON, April 16.—E. I. Lewis of Indianapolis, chairman of sion, is understood to have been selected by President Harding for one of the vacancies on the inter-state commerce commission.

Harvey Confirmed
WASHINGTON, April 16.—Nominations of George Harvey of New York to be ambassador to Great Britain and Myron T. Herrick of Ohio, to be ambassador to France, were confirmed today by the senate. The vote on confirmation of Colonel Harvey's nomination was 47 to 20. It was announced.

Sitka, Alaska, was settled by Russians in 1780.

White Man Wounded By Negro; Citizens Prepare Rope Party

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., April 16.—Chifford Enner, a negro, was shot and instantly killed in a downtown street here this morning and an unidentified white man fatally wounded by a stray bullet. Lee Harold, a negro, was immediately arrested and placed in the county jail. Mob violence is feared.

CONFIDENCE OF CHILD ABOVE COURT DECREE

Judge Ben Lindsey Declares He Prefers Sentence to Violation of Confidence, But Asks for Mercy From Court—Decision Next Week.

DENVER, Colo., April 16.—Attorneys for Judge Ben B. Lindsey of the juvenile court today were granted three days time in which to file a motion asking suspension of a contempt of court sentence imposed on Judge Lindsey in 1915. The extension followed an oral statement to the court by Judge Lindsey.

"I don't want the court to think," said Judge Lindsey in his oral statement in court in his behalf, "that I object to execution of this judgment unless some good legal reason is shown in this case. But I do ask that I be shown the same consideration that has frequently been shown in this court in many criminal cases: That sentence be suspended or that the fine be remitted."

"In view of the technicalities in the case I think the court could afford to err on the side of mercy. The opinion of the supreme court—and I want it understood that I respect the judges of that court and intend no disrespect for them now—decided four to three in affirming the lower court's decision. In Michigan, the supreme court has held that it would be a crime to compel divulgence of confidences of children from juvenile judges."

"I want to say while I have been given the privilege of making a statement that I have never said I would not submit to an execution issued by this court. So that there may be no misunderstanding I wish to repeat what I said was that I would rather take the consequences of any penalty than violate the confidence of any child. And I hope that I shall not be deemed in further contempt of this court if I say here that in the future as in the past the confidence of any child reposed in me shall continue to remain inviolate."

The judge told of the advantages of keeping such confidences which he said had frequently resulted.

He said that he had been aided in capturing criminals through the confidences of children. Not long ago, he said, a boy told him of how he had been forced to rob a bank.

"Through that confidence and thru keeping it I was enabled to locate the serious offenders in the case," said the judge.

In concluding Judge Lindsey said: "If word goes out from this court that confidences of children are no longer safe with me then I might as well give up my work. And while I respect the law in this case I think there is a higher law and I ask that the fine be remitted or the sentence suspended."

The court granted the request of Judge Lindsey's attorneys that they be allowed to file a formal motion in line with the judge's request that remittance of sentence be allowed.

The final disposition of the case is expected next Saturday.

POTHIER CLAIMS HE KILLED MAJOR CRONKHITE BECAUSE CAPT. ROSENBLUTH TOLD HIM TO

Soldier Accused of Slaying Superior Officer at Camp Lewis Makes Sensational Confession—Declares Captain Rosenbluth Planned Murder—Told Defendant Where to Go, When and Where to Shoot and Plot Was Carried Out in Every Detail—Tacoma Authorities Puzzled by Case—Uncertain How to Proceed.

TACOMA, April 16.—Roland P. Pothier, charged with slaying Major Alexander Cronkhite at Camp Lewis in October, 1918, confessed to federal authorities that he was ordered by his superior officer, Captain Robert Rosenbluth, to bring out a loaded gun and "get Cronkhite." It was announced today by Prosecutor J. W. Selden, who disclosed five alleged confessions made by Pothier.

"I joined Major Cronkhite on the maneuver grounds at Camp Lewis," the confession of Pothier, made in jail at Providence, R. I., on March 24 last, reads, "and when about two feet behind him I loaded my revolver with three shells. I fired one shot into the open field and as the major was turning around in my direction I fired my second shot at the major, hitting him in the right breast."

A complete description of all the incidents leading up to the shooting are given in the confession, Mr. Selden said.

After explaining that Captain Rosenbluth first approached him four or five days before the shooting, the confession states:

"Kill Major Cronkhite."

"On the next day or the night thereafter, I again met Captain Rosenbluth and he asked me if I was going out with the school of reconnaissance and I said that I had heard nothing about it. He told me it was for all the non-commissioned officers and that he didn't see any reason why I should not go."

"I said 'if that is so, I guess I am included with them.' He then asked me if I remembered what he said to me the other night about firing a pistol. I answered 'yes.' He then asked me if I had any idea what it was for and I answered 'no.' He then said, 'I want to get Major Cronkhite.' I asked him what he meant, and he said 'I want to kill him.'"

"I asked him what his reasons were for wanting me to kill the major and he said 'because we want to get him out of the way.'"

The confession then states, as given out by Mr. Selden, that Rosenbluth told Pothier precisely what he was to do and promised him full protection no matter what might arise.

Choose Place for Crime.
"Rosenbluth then said," the prosecutor recites, "that he had looked over the maps and had found a good location for the crime. He said when we got to the right place, he would tell me."

"I asked him where he wanted me to shoot Cronkhite, and he said 'of course you will be standing on his right side and it won't be a bad idea to get him about here,' pointing to a spot even with his heart."

"I asked Rosenbluth what I was to do after I had shot Cronkhite, and he said 'you never mind. I will be somewhere around and when I see him fall, I will run up and grab him. Then I will yell for a doctor and get him down there and we will go about it just as if he shot himself. If there is any questions asked I will tell them he shot himself accidentally.'"

asked about this, let me do the talking and you keep still.

Instructions Followed.
"Captain Rosenbluth then looked over Major Cronkhite and said 'I think he is dead.' I later went before the board of inquiry and testified the way I was told to do by Rosenbluth."

Prosecutor Selden said he has five separate statements made by Pothier and turned over to him by federal authorities. These vary in some details he said.

Still in Dark.
The board of inquiry at Camp Lewis, which investigated the death of Major Cronkhite, decided that he was killed by a bullet from his own pistol. The testimony was that he was shooting at a tobacco can, which Pothier, in his confession, says was hit by a bullet from Rosenbluth's gun.

No persons were present at the time Pothier's statements declare, except the three men. Pothier and Rosenbluth who are now charged with murder by federal authorities, have been turned over to Mr. Selden for prosecution, but he has not yet filed state charges against them.

"Despite the alleged confessions, I am still somewhat in the dark," Mr. Selden said today, "and I do not know how to proceed."

The federal charges will have to be dropped because it was found that the spot upon which Major Cronkhite died had not been decided to the United States still under state authority.

Mr. Selden said that the confessions were in the form of sworn statements. "There is no hint of a motive in the confessions as to why Rosenbluth should have desired the death of Cronkhite," he said.

"Pothier also gives as his only reason for killing Cronkhite that he was obeying the order of a commanding officer. This to my mind is a weak point, and it should be cleared up before state charges are filed."

MAN ARRESTED FOR RAISING \$1 BILLS
SPOKANE, April 16.—George M. Martin, who served a term in the state penitentiary following his conviction on a charge of robbing the Spokane State bank of this city in 1914, was to be given a hearing before a United States commissioner here today on a charge of violating United States currency laws.

Martin was arrested here last night by secret service officers, in possession, they said, of equipment for raising \$1 bills to \$10. They declared he told them that he had made the equipment for another man.

PRESIDENT DECLINES ABERDEEN INVITATION
ABERDEEN, Wash., April 16.—President Harding will not accept the invitation of Pacific Northwest editors to attend their meeting at Mount Rainier this coming summer, according to a special dispatch to the World today from its Washington correspondent. The president said he would be unable to get that far away from Washington by reason of the extra session of congress, which he thinks will last throughout the summer and well up to the time for the convening of the regular session. He expressed his regret.

CHAIRMAN KAHN, HOUSE MILITARY COM. GETS A NOTE FROM SLACKER BERGDOLL

WASHINGTON, April 16.—Running through his mail today, Chairman Kahn of the house military committee, swung back suddenly in his chair and the genial smile, characteristic of the Californian, got away from him.

"The nerve of the vagabond," shouted the chairman as his office force looked up in amazement. From a big envelope, apparently addressed by an American and mailed in Germany, brought to Mr. Kahn a clipping from a German newspaper,

DAVE SHADE NEARLY KNOCKS OUT SCHUMAN

PORTLAND, Ore., April 16.—Dave Shade, California welterweight, won a ten round decision from Harry Schuman, Denver, here last night. Shade had Schuman groggy on many occasions. The California lad floored Schuman with a right cross in the third round.

S. GOMPERS JOINS CUPID'S UNION

NEW YORK, April 16.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Mrs. Gertrude Gleaves Neuscheler, whose engagement was announced last night, were married here today in a hotel.

The ceremony was performed by Supreme Court Justice Robert F. Wagner. Only a few close personal friends of the bride and bridegroom were in attendance. These were guests at a bridal breakfast immediately after the ceremony.

BEBE DANIELS, MOVIE STAR, BEGINS 10 DAY JAIL SENTENCE FOR SPEEDING

SANTA ANA, Cal., April 16.—Bebe Daniels, Los Angeles motion picture actress, who last night entered the Orange county jail here to begin serving a ten-day sentence for speeding, may be wasting her time so far as it applies on her sentence, it developed today.

The district attorney and sheriff said that if Justice Cox, who imposed sentence, was agreeable, they had no objection to Miss Daniels' service of sentence running from the time she entered the jail at 11 o'clock last night. Meantime, they declared, Miss Daniels, who remained in jail, was "merely a guest of Orange county."