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TWICE-A-WEEK EDITION, \$1.50 PER YEAR, TO  
ANY ADDRESS IN CANADA OR UNITED STATES

VOL. 33.

## THE EXPLOSION IN A COAL MINE

### OVER ONE HUNDRED LIVES PROBABLY LOST

#### The Efforts of the Rescue Parties to Reach Entombed Men Were Unavailing.

Johnstown, Pa., July 10.—Johnstown has again been visited by an appalling disaster which has brought sorrow to hundreds of homes made doubly so by the mine explosion which took place in the Cambria Steel Company rolling mill mine under Westmont Hill, at 12.20 o'clock this afternoon.

How many are dead it may take several days to determine, but that it is a long list is certain. It may reach 200 after the explosion before any general knowledge of what happened got abroad. Men who came from the mines escaping with their lives told the news and soon it spread all over the city. Hundreds rushed to the point and awaited news that did not come from the ill-fated mine.

At the openings across the river from the Cambria Iron Co., police stood guard permitting no one to enter the mine from which noxious gases were coming. It was nearly 4 o'clock when all hope of sending rescue parties from the Westmont end was abandoned.

Two men who had escaped from the mine, Richard Bennett and John Myers, went back two miles to see what assistance could be rendered. They were driven back, and they felt prostrate when finally after a desperate struggle they reached the outside. Two doctors gave the men assistance, and after working with them half an hour restored them.

Their story of the situation in the mine made it clear that the rescue work could not proceed from the Westmont opening and the hasty preparations were made to begin that work at the Mill creek entrance.

Soon after the news of the explosion reached the Cambria officials the mining engineer, Marshall G. Moore, and one of his assistants, Al. G. Jrosser, made a strenuous attempt to reach the mine.

They were followed by Mine Superintendent Geo. T. Robinson, but the deadly gases stopped their progress to the mine and they were compelled to return to the surface. Mine Foreman Harry Rodgers, his assistant, Wm. Blanch, and two other men, including Whitney, John Retallin, and John Thomas, were overcome by gases, and it is feared they perished during the effort to rescue the miners. A son of Harry Rodgers then tried to reach his father, but he was quickly overcome by the deadly gas, and was carried off unconscious.

#### Official Statement.

Johnstown, Pa., July 11.—At 2 o'clock this morning, Mayor Robinson, together with the first of the bodies of the dead miners would be brought from the mine at 3 o'clock. Mayor Robinson, together with General Manager Price told him the number of bodies in sight at 2 o'clock was 60.

#### Midnight President Powell Stackhouse was seen at the mouth of the mine and gave out the following statement:

"The disaster is an awful one, and came on us entirely unexpected. The mine has been inspected only three days ago and pronounced to be in satisfactory condition. In the 30 years the mine has been in operation no serious accident has occurred. The explosion was definite, but I believe the explosion was caused by gas escaping from the fifth shaft, which was being worked because it contained gas."

"The number of casualties is now placed at 125. No list of names of the dead miners can be given for the majority of them are foreigners, only known by check and not by name. The bodies of those who were killed, but whose names were not known, will be identified, and will be sent to their families as soon as possible."

The mine in which the accident occurred is one of the largest coal mines in the United States.

Johnstown, Pa., July 11.—Eighty-seven bodies have been recovered from the Cambria mine up to 5 o'clock this morning, while the heroic work of rescue has not penetrated near to the seat of disaster. Bodies lie piled in confusion aboard cars ready to be brought into the city. Latest estimates place the number of dead at about 200. Temporary morgues have been improvised in the Johnstown armory, to which all bodies will be taken. A score of men are waiting to prepare the horribly mutilated remains of victims. All the Johnstown undertakers have been pressed into service.

The explosion horribly mangled its victims. Heads are missing from many of the bodies, while all are burned and blackened almost beyond recognition. Grief-stricken crowds still linger about the mine entries. Sleep has vanished from the eyes of the men who were thought last night to be still in the mine. As news came by word of mouth that the rescue party was not thought of.

Immediately succeeding the explosion the air over the big close became so foul that even the huge pumps working to their full capacity and the air they supplied turned in the proper channels to reach the imprisoned men. The mine officials would hold out any hope for the lives of those thought to be still in the mine. As news came by word of mouth that the rescue party was not thought of.

It is difficult to tell how many are actually missing.

#### Killed By Afterdamp.

Johnstown, Pa., July 11.—The first official statement of the disaster was given an Associated Press reporter by General Mine Superintendent George T.

Robinson at 5.30 this morning. He said:

"As to the direct cause of the explosion I cannot exactly say. We know that it was an explosion of fire damp in the sixth right heading of the mine in that section commonly known as the Klondike. So far as I can find out now, there were no more than three or four deaths from the explosion, the balance being caused by the afterdamp."

#### Rescue Party in Mine.

Johnstown, Pa., July 11.—A searching party led by Mine Superintendent Robinson, entered the mine at 9.30 o'clock. Those on the outside do not expect the bodies of victims will be brought to the surface until the middle of the afternoon.

#### Killed While at Lunch.

Johnstown, Pa., July 11.—From the positions of the bodies the dead miners were eating their lunch when stricken down by the explosion. Buckets and remains of their lunches were found scattered over the floor. Evidently their lives were lost painlessly. Of the 47 bodies at the morgue, 21 were identified. Police officers are busy with the identification of the bodies. The bodies are being taken to their homes. At noon the charnel house at the Cambria Steel Company was full of bodies. It is not unlikely that international complications may ensue between the United States and Japan as the result of local people taking possession of Marcus Island, a small gulf island lying about 2,800 miles west of Honolulu and about 1,000 miles southeast of Yokohama. An expedition is to leave here next week under command of Capt. A. A. Rosell for the purpose of occupying the island, as Rosell has been recently granted the title to the island by the United States. If the expedition is to be taken as any indication, the services of an American war ship may be necessary to place Rosell in possession of the island. About four months ago Capt. Pierce stopped at Marcus Island for the purpose of adjusting his instruments. With a small party he went ashore in the steam launch. He was met on the beach by about 200 natives, many of whom were armed with rifles, and who ordered the Americans to leave the island at once. Seeing that the display of firearms did not frighten the visitors, the spokesman of the Japanese proposed that he be permitted to remain on the island for a few days. He was not to be deviated from.

#### THE TROUBLE AT SANDHURST.

Lord Roberts Replies to Criticism in House of Lords—Irish Affairs.

London, July 10.—Lord Roberts, commander-in-chief of the forces, replying in the House of Lords today to criticisms made by Earl Carrington, Liberal and others regarding the rustication of 29 of the cadets of the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, said as a result of their failure to denounce the persons guilty of starting the recent fires at the institution, and who were not convicted with any connection with the rustication of the cadets, he had ordered his order which affected the rustication of the cadets in question, on the grounds that otherwise he found it impossible to discover the culprits. He promised personally to investigate the case of each of the rusticated cadets to see that no boy would lose his scholarship justly. Lord Roberts said, however, that the 29 cadets would not be allowed to return to the college until a satisfactory conclusion as to the origin of the fires had been reached.

The case on the Irish estimates in the House of Commons today furnished the Nationalists with an opportunity for an attack on the British administration of Ireland, and the operations of the Irish constabulary, which body of men John Dillon, Nationalist, declared were maintained not to prevent crime, but to create it. Mr. Dillon specified instances where he alleged force was instrumental in obtaining the conviction and imprisonment of innocent persons, and charged the government with winking at these malpractices in order to obtain justification for its policy of coercion. T. P. O'Connor, Nationalist, declared that, politically speaking, the real criminal was the attorney-general for Ireland, because he practiced jury packing. The chief secretary for Ireland, Mr. Wyndham, declared that there was much truth in what Mr. Dillon had said in regard to specific cases, but the charges were not applicable to the whole police force. After further debate, Mr. Dillon's motion to reduce the estimates was defeated by 195 to 102 votes.

#### EXPOSITION CLAIMS.

United States Treasury Department Prepares Plans for Payment of Expositions Accounts.

Washington, July 11.—The treasury department has perfected a plan for the payment of the claims against the Pan-American Exposition Company, to be paid out of the appropriations of \$500,000 made in the General Deficiency Act. By the terms of the appropriation, payments are to be made pro rata on claims for labor, material, services and other expenses, and no payment is to be made to stockholders or to pay any claims secured by mortgage. The claims to be pro rated aggregate about \$440,000. The claims are to be filed and audited at the treasury department, and the warrants are to be drawn in favor of individual claimants. These warrants are to be delivered through, and receipts for by John G. Milburn, who is president of the exposition. In this way the necessity for Mr. Milburn giving a bond will be avoided. This plan will be submitted to Mr. Milburn for his approval.

#### NOVELIST DEAD.

London, July 12.—Mrs. Annie Alexander Hector, the novelist, who wrote the novel "The Harrow and the Arrow," died suddenly in London last Thursday. She was born in Dublin in 1825.

## KILAUEA RESUMES NORMAL CONDITION

### VOLCANO NO LONGER POURING FORTH FIRE

#### Japanese May Resist Attempt of the United States Expedition to Occupy Marcus Island.

Honolulu, July 3, via San Francisco, July 12.—The volcano Kilauea is dying down to normal conditions. The steamer Mauna Loa arrived last night from Hawaii with news that the fire had disappeared, though there is still a large column of smoke.

It is not unlikely that international complications may ensue between the United States and Japan as the result of local people taking possession of Marcus Island, a small gulf island lying about 2,800 miles west of Honolulu and about 1,000 miles southeast of Yokohama. An expedition is to leave here next week under command of Capt. A. A. Rosell for the purpose of occupying the island, as Rosell has been recently granted the title to the island by the United States. If the expedition is to be taken as any indication, the services of an American war ship may be necessary to place Rosell in possession of the island. About four months ago Capt. Pierce stopped at Marcus Island for the purpose of adjusting his instruments. With a small party he went ashore in the steam launch. He was met on the beach by about 200 natives, many of whom were armed with rifles, and who ordered the Americans to leave the island at once. Seeing that the display of firearms did not frighten the visitors, the spokesman of the Japanese proposed that he be permitted to remain on the island for a few days. He was not to be deviated from.

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BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Annual Meeting Held at Nelson—The President's Address—Election of Officers.

Nelson, July 9.—The annual Baptist convention of British Columbia assembled here this morning. At the morning session the delegates were welcomed and elected, after which the morning president, Rev. I. G. Matthews, M. P. of New Westminster, delivered his annual presidential address. His topic was "The Great Commission." He pointed out that a divine imperative addressed to a responsive people is the basis of every great advance in the world. His address was followed by the introduction of new pastors and the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

President, Rev. M. Vansickle; first vice-president, A. B. McNeill; second vice-president, H. Robertson; third vice-president, Mrs. Wm. Grant; secretary, Rev. F. W. Auvache; treasurer, E. B. Morgan.

The afternoon session was occupied with the reception of reports, some of which occasioned vigorous discussion. The reports indicated progress in every direction. In the evening, after an address by "The Holy Spirit in Mission Work," by Rev. Wm. Thompson, Rev. Roland D. Grant, D. D., delivered the convention sermon, which was a vigorous setting forth of Baptist teaching in regard to the subjects of baptism.

Another session will be held to-morrow. The delegates in attendance from Victoria are: Rev. J. F. Vichers, Mrs. Wm. Grant, Mrs. W. H. Spofford, J. T. Croot and Wm. Marchant.

#### BAR TENDER'S CRIME.

Killed His Wife, His Mother-in-Law and Another Inmate of the House.

Portland, Ore., July 12.—A. L. Belding, a bar tender, has shot and killed his wife, his mother-in-law, Mrs. McCrook, and another inmate of the house, and who ordered the Americans to leave the island at once. Seeing that the display of firearms did not frighten the visitors, the spokesman of the Japanese proposed that he be permitted to remain on the island for a few days. He was not to be deviated from.

After his bloody work was finished he set fire to the house and gave himself up, saying: "These people have been mistaking me for years, and I am sorry that I did not kill them all. They are a bad lot."

#### THE WATER SYSTEM HAS BEEN IMPROVED

#### Two-Lach Mains Substituted for Smaller Pipes—Preparations for To-Day's Celebration.

Nannaimo, July 12.—A test of the water works last evening resulted most satisfactory to those interested. At a very considerable expense the city has been making radical changes in the water works. This included the replacing of nine-inch and six-inch mains, which were used in conveying the water from the dam to the city by two-inch mains. The most important work planned is an enlargement of the reservoir at the National Union of Dock Laborers, in Great Britain and Ireland, with 100,000 cubic feet of water. From the moment the foot in London till the time of his disappearance beneath the portal of St. James' Palace at 12 p.m. The Prince of Wales was already there awaiting him.

Lord Kitchener's progress through the metropolis after three years of absence at the Boer war was one of the most memorable of the many remarkable of the prince's years. From the moment he set foot in London till the time of his disappearance beneath the portal of St. James' Palace at 12 p.m. The Prince of Wales was already there awaiting him.

#### PROPOSED AMALGAMATION.

Question of Union With British Organization Will Be Considered at Dock Laborers' Convention.

Chicago, July 12.—Fifty thousand longshoremen from the Great Lakes will be represented at the annual convention of the International convention to be held in Chicago next week. President Daniel J. Keefe and secretary-treasurer Henry J. Barter have arrived from Detroit, and a large number of delegates from the sea coasts and the south came in last night. The most important work planned is an enlargement of the reservoir at the National Union of Dock Laborers, in Great Britain and Ireland, with 100,000 cubic feet of water. From the moment the foot in London till the time of his disappearance beneath the portal of St. James' Palace at 12 p.m. The Prince of Wales was already there awaiting him.

#### WAGES INCREASED.

Chicago, July 12.—The strike of the 800 hallowmakers of the entire Chicago and Northwestern system, which began on July 1st, has been settled. An increase of wages of about 10 per cent, has been conceded.

#### SCALE REDUCED.

Mine Workers of Alabama Vote Against Terms Drawn Up by Delegates and Operators.

Birmingham, Ala., July 11.—The United Mine Workers today voted against accepting the scale agreed upon by the joint committee of miners and operators. Another effort will be made to modify the scale so as to make it acceptable to both sides. A strike should result 15,000 men will be affected.

#### HOPE OF SETTLEMENT.

Chicago, July 11.—This morning an authorized statement was given to the Associated Press to the effect that the arbitration committee which is trying to secure a settlement of the freight handlers' strike has every hope of a settlement to-day.

#### BUILDING DISPUTE SETTLED.

Boston, Mass., July 11.—An agreement has been concluded between a committee representing the 2,500 building workers in this city and the city, and the arbitration committee of the Master Builders' Association, which is expected to be signed to-day. The agreement is at least for one year. Eight hours per day with 28 cents per hour are agreed upon by one week out. Harrow all out in first inning for 241 runs.

London, July 12.—In the annual cricket match the president has increased the customary large number of society women spectators. Eton won the toss and went to the wicket, but the stay was signally short. By lunch time they were all out for 72 runs.

Harrow played a strong game and totalled 241 runs in their first innings. Eton, who were on duty at the military in their second inning, had secured 96 runs for one wicket down. Harrow all out in first inning for 241 runs.

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London, July 12.—The United States battleship Illinois, flagship of Rear-Admiral Arden Crozier, commander-in-chief of the European station, and the United States cruiser San Francisco, sailed from Gravesend to-day for Christiania, Norway.

## LORD KITCHENER BACK IN ENGLAND

### HE WAS ACCORDED ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME

#### Presented with Addresses at Southampton and London—Received by the Prince of Wales.

Southampton, July 12.—The Pacific Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer Orotava, which left Capetown on June 23rd, with Lord Kitchener and staff on board, arrived here at half-past eight o'clock this morning. Owing to the fact that Major Gordon, who was also a passenger on the steamer, had been stricken with smallpox, Lord Kitchener and his staff only were allowed to land. The Orotava was placed in quarantine.

Lord Kitchener landed at 9.15 a. m. He was accorded a welcome from a huge throng of people. After a brief official reception at the docks, the General was driven through the decorated and crowded streets to Harrow Hall, where he was presented with an address from the chamber of commerce, expressing admiration of the general's resources and the skill which he had shown in South Africa, and hoping that the peace which he had secured would be lasting and mark the beginning of a new epoch of prosperity and commercial development throughout the Empire.

In reply Lord Kitchener declared that whatever success had been achieved was due to the rank and file of the army. He thanked those who had looked after the friends and relatives of those left behind in South Africa.

In response to clamorous calls for General French and General Ian Hamilton, he also spoke, the former remarking that they had throughout been inspired by the example of their chiefs.

The freedom of the borough was conferred on Lord Kitchener and the party was then obliged to hurry away in order to meet their London engagement. The progress of Lord Kitchener and his companions to the railroad station was marked by scenes of remarkable enthusiasm.

London, July 12.—Lord Kitchener arrived in London at 12 o'clock, and was welcomed by the Prince of Wales and greeted by cheering crowds. He was met at the station by the Prince of Wales and the shortly after started for St. James' Palace. He arrived at St. James' Palace at 12 p.m. The Prince of Wales was already there awaiting him.

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