

FIFTY FOUR BODIES HAVE BEEN FOUND

People Begin to Realize the Extent of Great Calamity.

BELIEVED NEARLY 100 MISSING

Searching Parties Worked All Night For Bodies at Brockton—Mayor Issues Call for Public Funeral of Victims of Disaster.

Brockton, Mass., March 22.—A realization of the extent of the disaster which had come to the city of Brockton yesterday in the wrecking of the great wooden shoe factory of R. B. Grover company, and the ensuing terrible loss of life came more clearly to the citizens today when they awoke to a full knowledge of the horrors attendant upon a catastrophe.

All night long the work of searching for the bodies of victims of the explosion and fire continued with unremitting zeal. The work was not rewarded until after midnight by the finding of any additional bodies until 7 o'clock today, when the remains of a human being were found in the boiler pit. Considering the mystery attached to the disappearance of David W. Rockwell, the engineer, who was in charge of the boiler which exploded, the police believe the body found today was that of the engineer.

Rockwell was reported to have been rescued yesterday badly injured and later to have died, but the police were not able to subsequently locate his body. It seemed more likely to the police today that Rockwell, near as he was to the explosion, was the first to meet death. The body of Steven Snow, 83 years old, one of the oldest workmen in the Grover plant, was identified today by his son.

The finding of the remains supposed to be that of the engineer, made the fifty-fourth body thus far taken from the ruined factory. The figures at hand early today showed that about two hundred and sixty persons were at work in the factory when the explosion occurred, had been accounted for and that between 50 and 100 persons are missing.

Mayor Keith issued a notice today requesting every clergyman in the city to meet with him at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the City Hall to make arrangements for public funeral services for the victims of the accident, suggesting Thursday afternoon as a desirable time for them to be held. He added also that it seemed best to bury those bodies whose identification would be impossible in the city cemetery at Melrose. Mayor Keith said the raking over of the ruins would be resumed today with a larger force of men at work. He expressed the opinion that perhaps a considerable number of bodies would be found in that portion of the plant not yet explored.

A more careful search of the boiler pit in which the remains were found today resulted in the finding of a watch, the rubber heel of a shoe and a torn piece of clothing, all of which when shown to Mrs. Rockwell, the wife of the engineer, were identified by her as belonging to her husband. Then the police found a part of a chair with a pelvis of a human frame in it from which they inferred that Rockwell was sitting beside his boiler when the explosion came and was killed instantly. The police are satisfied that the report yesterday that the engineer had been taken out alive was due to the confusion of Rockwell with another employe.

With reference to the cause of the blowing up of the boiler Josiah F. Gibbs, assistant engineer at the Brockton Sewage station, who was with Engineer Rockwell at the Grover factory 5 minutes before the accident occurred said today that when he left Rockwell the steam was below the safety limit and there was plenty of water in the glass, but that he was running the boiler. The police say today in explaining the failure of a number of employes to report their escape cited an instance which indicated to them that many of the workmen were dazed from the explosion.

West Virginia Miners Strike.

London, W. Va., March 22.—All the employes of the mines at Holden, W. Va., were out on strike here, between three and four hundred in number, mostly Italians, have gone on strike on account of a change of wages. They had been receiving \$1.75 a day and now they were given that hereafter they would receive 40 cents per ton. This mine is considered the best equipped in the state and has only been shipping coal for two months. All the strikers are orderly and no trouble is anticipated, a speedy adjustment being looked for.

Alabama Weavers on a Strike.

Columbus, Ga., March 22.—Fifty weavers at the Girard cotton mill have been on a strike since Saturday night five out of 256 looms ran yesterday. The strike was confined to the weave department. It is now thought that the trouble will be amicably adjusted. It seems that new machinery was ordered, by means of which the operative made more cloth. The operatives who quit said that the new machine made a reduction in wages.

ROBBERS WRECKED PASSENGER TRAIN

Spikes Removed and Rails Had Been Misplaced.

SIX INJURED; NONE FATALLY

Wreck Occurred on a 45-Foot Embankment—Engine Completely Stripped, Mail Car Demolished and Buffet and Sleepers Damaged.

Des Moines, Iowa, March 22.—Rocks Island officials here say that the wreck of the Rocky Mountain limited near Homestead, Iowa, which happened early today, was the work of robbers, who succeeded in escaping.

Six persons were injured in the wreck, three of them fatally.

An examination of the tracks developed that the spikes for nearly the length of a rail had been removed. The wreck occurred on a high embankment, the road being soft from the recent thaws and rains.

The two Denver, Colo., sleepers landed in the ditch on the end, the embankment at that point being about 35 feet high. The engine, mail car and composite car also went down the embankment. The following message, giving the cause of the disaster, was telegraphed from Homestead to Assistant General Manager W. M. Hobbs, in Chicago, by the division roadmaster:

"The wreck was caused by an unknown person removing spikes, bars and angle bars and misplacing the rails. Spikes were removed from two rails on the south side of the track. The engine and first four cars were thrown down a 45-foot embankment. The engine was completely stripped, the mail car destroyed, the buffet car on its side and two sleepers badly damaged."

CHARGED WITH MURDER.

Sensational Testimony Given in Famous Kentucky Trial.

Lexington, Ky., March 22.—The inquiry into the case of the Hargises and Callahan, charged with complicity in the murder of Cockrell, for the purpose of deciding the question of admitting them to bail was resumed today. A sensational story was told by A. C. Bowman, foreman of the Breathitt county grand jury. He testified that when the grand jury was investigating the case against Will Britton for killing Cockrell, for which he afterward was given a life sentence, Riley Coldiron had just given sensational testimony against Britton.

At this point Alex Hargis rushed into the grand jury room and by threats and angry attitude, compelled the grand jury to adjourn, after vainly trying to get it to investigate a charge of perjury brought by Britton's friends against Coldiron. Bowman said the case was dropped and never resumed by them through fear.

SOUTH MUST SUPPLY COTTON.

Efforts to Grow Fleecy Staple in East Africa Are a Failure.

London, March 22.—The report of the commissioners sent out by the British government to inspect the cotton growing possibilities in East Africa has been published. It says:

"Unless difficulties which at present appear to be insuperable can be removed, cotton cultivation in East Africa will never be undertaken on any considerable scale."

First among the difficulties the commissioners place labor, on account of the apathy of the natives and their disinclination for work. The total area devoted to cotton growing under European supervision can scarcely exceed a few thousand acres. The commissioners' opinion is that the only solution of the difficulty is indentured labor from India or China.

Girl Saves Aunt from Death.

New York, March 22.—Seven-year old Lena Grosskott, of No. 237 West Sixty-sixth street, was quick-witted enough in an emergency to save her aunt, Mrs. Anna S. Lee, of No. 177 West Sixty-sixth street, from burning to death. The little girl was with her aunt in a dressing room in the Grosskott apartment. Mrs. Lee stopped on a match. The lace on her clothing ignited, and in an instant her hair was ablaze. The child ran to the door to call for help, but found it was locked. Then, rushing to the bed she seized the coverings, and threw them over her aunt. She hugged the quilts about the blazing woman, and screamed for help.

Overdue Steamer Reaches Port.

New York, March 22.—The Hamburg-American steamer Patricia, from Hamburg, came into this city four days late, after an extremely stormy voyage. Her 2,800 passengers were confined to their quarters during almost the entire voyage, but beyond the discomforts incident to the weather they were well upon arrival. Captain Magn says that the seas were so high that from the bridge, which is 55 feet from the water line, he was unable to see over the top of the waves.

JAPANESE LOSSES ESTIMATED 100,000

Russians Claim Mikado's Army Is Demoralized.

MAD RACE IS 'ON TO HARBIN!'

General Linevitch Reports that His Army Is Retreating in Good Order and that He Is Pleased with the New Recruits Sent Him.

Gunshoe Pass, 108 miles north of Tie Pass, Manchuria, March 21.—The Japanese losses are estimated at 100,000. Some of the troops employed to cover the retreat from Mukden were badly demoralized, losing their way in the hills eastward and only rejoining their own divisions.

So certain was General Kuropatkin of being able to hold Mukden that maps of the country northward were not even distributed. Kuropatkin however resolved to accept battle against his better judgment, owing to the impatience of St. Petersburg for victory or he was confirmed in this decision by false calculations of Field Marshal Oyama's strength.

One of the main factors of the success of the Japanese were their violation of Chinese neutrality in the use of the Simintin road.

News From St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, March 21.—1:15 p.m.—General Linevitch's headquarters has been established for the present at Chenchawatu, situated at the crossing of the Sungari river, whence he is directing the retreat of the three armies and disposing of the fresh troops of the Fourth corps just arrived from European Russia.

The protection of the Sungari bridge is vital to the salvation of the army as the river is not fordable below Kirin, and once the line of the river is passed and the bridge blown up, the Japanese pursuit will be effectually checked. At the same time the second army is falling back of the line of the railroad, while the First and Third with the transports are retreating along the Mandarin road to Kirin, both destroying bridges and roads and denuding the country behind them and making it impossible for the Japanese to live in their immediate wake without their own commissariat. The Japanese are advancing over the grand trade route 20 miles west of railroad. However, they could probably live on the country, the road just before the opening of the navigation of the Liao river being crowded with Chinese provisions on the way to market southward. Apparently it is a question as to which army will outmarch the other.

In view of the increasing number of doctors required at the front an official order was published today permitting during the war the appointment of students to medical posts and allowing foreigners to join the service.

News from Tie Pass.

Kaopontz, March 19.—Evening, via Tien Tsin, March 20.—(Delayed in Transmission.)—A Norwegian trader accompanied the Russian retreat to Tie Pass and with a single companion crossed over to Fakoman, following the water courses to avoid the Russian patrols from Hungtutzu. The Russians left Mukden with five columns of infantry, in the center of which were two lines of commissariat flanking the body and cavalry acting as screens farther afield.

The demoralized troops discarded their boots and equipments and abandoned their transport carts, left guns and carriages, using the harness to save as many as possible.

All the last day at Tie Pass the Cossacks looted the booths and traders sold champagne at a rouble a bottle and smashed and burned everything unobtainable. They caught a Japanese spy, who, upon resisting, was killed. The guilty Cossacks were shot a quarter of an hour later.

Lieutenant General Mitchenko, with 6,000 Ural Cossacks, some European cavalry and two batteries of artillery is now operating on the Russian extreme left.

Major General Furushima has visited Hainan and perfected arrangements for the installation of a Japanese garrison there and it is probable that in the future that town will be considered within the war zone and all persons arriving there will be required to have a pass.

Believed Big Battle in Progress.

London, March 22.—Russian official circles in London, although without official news are inclined to credit a Harbin story published in Paris concerning the firing reported to have been heard yesterday morning about 7 miles south of Tie Pass with General Rensenkampff's division. The dispatch from Harbin points out that the only explanation of a cannonade in that locality is that Rensenkampff has at length arrived at Tie Pass where the Russian armies were ordered to rendezvous in case of retreat but only to find the place occupied by the Japanese. Consequently it is feared that Rensenkampff is now surrounded.



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