

FRANK WATSON, ATTORNEY J. L. DOWORTH, SAMUEL WATSON, two children of Mr. and Mrs. Lyons. Many others are missing and believed to be dead, while bodies are being found hourly. Latest estimates to-night put the dead at fully 100 in this city and about the banks of the creek and river. A relief association has been formed, and already \$7,000 has been subscribed to the fund.

THE LATEST ESTIMATE.

The Loss of Life at Oil City May Reach 100, Not Counting Titusville. OIL CITY, June 5.—[Special.]—The loss of life here is 75 or 100. We are finding bodies all the time. The probabilities are that some of them never will be found, and it will be a day or two before the exact number of the killed and drowned will be known. The loss will be enormous at Titusville.

At the time of the cloudburst no one knew what had happened, and many thought the millennium had arrived. Forty or 50 bodies were picked up and laid out as soon as found. The town is flooded, and many bodies or their separate parts were lying around.

A MARCH OF DEATH.

The Course of the Fiery Flood From Newtown Dam, Through Titusville to Oil City—Where the Big Refineries Were Destroyed—The First News.

OIL CITY, June 5.—[Special.]—The course of the oil creek is peculiarly adapted by nature and the mistaken handiwork of man for just such a calamity as has overtaken this valley. Nearly 30 miles up the creek from this place stood Spartansburg dam. It is almost hemmed in by hills, while far above and inclining toward it is an enormous watershed miles in area. The cloudburst of early this morning, which seemed to be general in that district, poured an enormous volume of water into Spartansburg dam, which soon gave way under the pressure. The enormous bulk of water dashed down Oil creek, flooding the banks on both sides. Several miles down the creek the Newtown dam was encountered. This dam held the flood in check just long enough to back an enormous body of water, when it also gave way. Headed in by hills and back of the flood, dashed down the narrow valley, sweeping everything before it, and washing upon the city of Titusville like a whirlwind, a deadly unrelenting force.

It was here that the deadly oil, benzine, and refined petroleum added its fury to the flood. Tank cars, containing thousands of barrels of oil, were lifted from the fastenings, and hurled against each other, bursting open, and covering the water with oil for miles. Just above this city refined oil containers were wrecked, and they are on both banks of the stream, lying on low land and extend for miles. It was here that the deadly oil, benzine, and refined petroleum added its fury to the flood. Tank cars, containing thousands of barrels of oil, were lifted from the fastenings, and hurled against each other, bursting open, and covering the water with oil for miles. Just above this city refined oil containers were wrecked, and they are on both banks of the stream, lying on low land and extend for miles.

ROMANCE IS OUTDONE.

HAIR-BREADTH ESCAPES AND DEEDS OF PERSONAL HEROISM.

How Death Reached Some of Its Victims—Thrilling Dashes Through a Sea of Fire to Life and Safety—Appeals for Help Made in Yalu.

OIL CITY, June 5.—[Special.]—Probably one of the saddest stories of the day was the death of Councillman Reinhold. He was around the eastern end of the creek bridge most of the morning watching the flood. Just after the oil began coming down the stream he crossed over and entered his barn. He was there with Jack Stewart looking after the threatened stables when the flash came. Stewart was hurled from the building by the force of the shock, and it was thought that Mr. Reinhold had also been caught to a place of safety with others. When the fire had in some small degree been put under control, inquiry was made for the missing. Reinhold's three daughters were in a place of safety, and looked anxiously for their father, when word came that his charred body had been found lying near the stable. Two children named Loomis had started in the morning for Sunday school at Trinity Church. Learning that there would be no school to-day, they went down to the river to watch the flood with thousands of others. When the clouds of smoke and flame came bursting down the river, they ran to the hills. One was drowned and the other badly hurt. They were not found until late this evening, alive but almost unconscious.

A Brave Horseman's Fate.

Ten-year-old James Collins also started to Sunday school, viewing the flood on the way. When the fire came he ran across the field and fell to the bridge down stream, suffocated. A man riding horseback picked him up, and placing him on the saddle in front, the bold rider dashed through the flames, escaping alive.

Alex C. Parke, editor of the Meadville Star, was standing on the end of the river bridge when the explosion occurred. He dashed across the bridge until he had nearly reached the southside, when he turned to look at the mass of flames which seemed to have doomed that portion of the city known as the "Flats."

It was on the west side of the creek that the deadliest work was done almost in a moment. Hundreds stood on the hills and in places of safety and watched friends and relatives caught by the sweeping flames. One old man, evidently just from a sickbed, stumbled from the door of a burning building and looked helplessly after the fleeing people. He then tried to save himself by crawling away, when the building tumbled with a crash into the street and formed a funeral pyre over his still living body.

A Physician's Flight to Safety.

In many of the houses, above the roar of flames and rush of water, could be heard the despairing cries and wailing of the injured and dying. Dr. J. C. Reynolds saved himself only by superhuman strength in wading, swimming and fighting his way through water and fire until he reached a place of safety. He passed house after house and saw one person after another come to the door. Women and children begged him to save them from certain death. He struggled bravely through with one little child, but was obliged to pass by scores. He believes many more have been drowned and burned than is generally imagined, and said to-night that the total loss of life must be far over 100.

At the railroad bridge, while fighting his way to the Reynolds met and taken down man, probably a workman, who implored him to save at least the bodies of his wife and five children. They were floating in a house which had not yet caught fire. The man turned back and was never seen again.

One Victim Ran Down by an Engine.

At the corner of the bridge five bodies had already lodged, and the work of destruction had hardly begun. One of the bodies was that of Charles D. Miller, em-

ployed by the Standard Oil Company. Miller had stood on the bank when the explosion occurred. His clothes caught fire, and he started to run down the track. Just then the very switching engine had crossed the bridge, and he was struck and hurled into the water. He was found at the foot of the bridge, and his body was recovered. Another of the bodies found there that have so far been recovered was that of H. W. Shafer, operator of the Postal Telegraph Company. Shafer had been standing right in the track of the flames. He was far up the bank, but his body was washed to a crisis. Not a particle of clothing remained on his person, and he was only recognized by his name on a key ring, which had fallen under him. The other bodies were so badly burned that they were unrecognizable.

The Relief Movement Organized.

As soon as it was known that the disaster was widespread, prompt measures were taken to recover all the bodies of the dead and to give to the living what aid might be necessary. It was decided to leave the details in the hands of the Oil City Relief Committee, and a meeting was called at once, even before the flames had entirely died away. During the meeting the Chairman read telegrams from Miller and Sibley, of Franklin, and officials of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad Company, each tendering \$500 for the relief of the victims of the flood and fire.

Out of the Smoke and Flames of the Tube Mills, and the Whirling Waters that Surrounded It, with Houses Lining and Burning all around, it did not seem that any life could come. Late this afternoon, however, some persons passing along the railroad track heard cries of distress from the barrel works. In a few minutes members of the relief corps were on the spot. As the smoke lifted for an instant six persons were seen clinging to detached fragments of the fence. Between these unfortunates and safety was the angry flood, while on the other side of the fence, touching them, were piles of burning wreckage.

Help Comes to the Despairing Party.

A raft was started to bring them to shore, but in an instant it was whirled away by the waters, and the brave occupants narrowly escaped drowning. The only avenue of escape was in the immediate vicinity of the burning oil tanks, which, heated as they were, threatened to boil over every moment. While the rescuers were debating the question, the smoke lifted still more, and several miles down the creek the Newtown dam was encountered. This dam held the flood in check just long enough to back an enormous body of water, when it also gave way. Headed in by hills and back of the flood, dashed down the narrow valley, sweeping everything before it, and washing upon the city of Titusville like a whirlwind, a deadly unrelenting force.

Rescued From the Very Jaws of Death.

At times the water was over the heads of the brave men, who, nothing daunted, swam far out in the whirling stream and finally reached the distressed party. It consisted of Mrs. Freney and five children. The brave mother was almost dead, scorched and half strangled. It seemed impossible that she could hold all her children safely until assistance arrived. She would not let any of them go, but held to the shore, where she welcomed the rescuers with a burst of tears of gratitude, and all were safely brought to land, Mike Hennessy making two trips. The woman and all the children were severely burned, but it is believed all will live.

Soon after they were saved the father was sought for. He was found caved with grief at the supposed loss of his entire family. It was in the burned district of the Third ward that the appalling scenes were visible. After fire and flood had done their work, not an article in any house had been saved, while here and there, amid smoldering ruins, one after another body was dragged out and identified by sweeping relatives. In one case almost a town was placed under military guard to-night, and with daylight to-morrow a more thorough search will be made for other bodies that, no doubt, lie there.

The Work of the Firemen.

The fire laddies did noble work. Before the fire began they were busy with the wreckage and saving what they might from the flood. When the fire started they were promptly out with the hose and saved the big bridge and Trinity Church. All effort was turned toward saving the lives of the men, who were only avenue to the Third ward. Their foresight was shown this afternoon and evening, when wonders were done in that stricken district by the salvage corps. Water was used to extinguish the fire, and when there was nothing else to do the firemen ventured their lives in the flood to save many persons seen floating down.

To-night the bodies of the dead, known and unknown, are being laid in temporary vaults on both sides of the river. Many of the victims are totally unrecognizable. Their faces and forms are roasted, while in many instances either arms, legs or heads are burned entirely off, and identification seems almost impossible. Four spectators who were standing at the south end of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad bridge across Oil creek were cooked to a crisp in a flash and fell in a heap where they stood.

The Waters Begin to Subside.

Late to-night the waters are subsiding and the bodies are being found in greater numbers. Many are as yet unidentified, and the list is growing frightfully. A request has been received by the Mayor from Governor Patton to report the condition of affairs. To-night Mrs. William Monks, Mrs. J. T. Hawk and Miss Mertie Hawk were rescued from the burned portion of the town. They were badly scorched, but will live. Hassan Fritz, in trying to rescue his dead wife, was so badly burned about the face that he is entirely blind.

While rescuing parties were making heroic efforts to land many of the distressed and injured, the body of Dan Sullivan was found and brought in. Only the head was burned, but it was nearly severed from the trunk. Edward Keating, section boss of the Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad, was burned through his clothing, catching fire from the explosion. He ran from the railroad track to his home, where he dropped dead.

The clothing of Henry W. Shafer, Postal Telegraph operator, aged 25, caught fire and he inhaled flames. When found he was face down, partially under a small foot bridge.

To-night an unknown man, supposed to be a fireman, was found near the bridge. He had evidently been trying to cross the foot bridge when overcome. Further away were the remains of a man supposed to be Willis Stewart, who had come down from Silverville, and was brought to assist in the work of rescue from the flood. He was burned to a crisp. Daniel Sullivan, an engineer, was helping to rescue women and children when he was fatally burned by an explosion.

WAITING FOR A FLOOD OF FIRE.

The Flames Had Burned Out Before They Reached the Pittsburgh Shipping. Last evening a telegram announced that a flood of burning oil had passed Kittanning shortly before 7 o'clock and had set fire to a portion of the town. It was said there was a wall of fire and water six feet high sweeping toward Pittsburgh. As a result hundreds of people lined the banks of the Allegheny at Shaysburg and Guyasuta. The fire had spent itself, however, before it reached here, but the water came up at the rate of eight to ten inches an hour.

The rivermen were all alarmed and all day were hauling rope to secure their barges and lumber rafts. At the late hour

the news of the fire was received it was impossible to get boats, but men were stationed on all the rafts and barges to fight the flames. These precautions, however, were unnecessary.

WHERE THE HORROR BEGAN.

THE WAVE OF FLOOD AND FIRE BEGAN NEAR TITUSVILLE.

Thirty-Five Souls Launched into Eternity That City Alone—A Money Loss of \$1,500,000—The Horrors of a Dam Opens the Revolver of Death.

TITUSVILLE, June 5.—[Special.]—Never in the history of this city, or of the oil regions, has there been such a terrible disaster as the one to be chronicled to-day.

The horror has been brought on by both flood and fire and at the present writing fully \$1,500,000 has gone up in flame and smoke, while the loss of life is conservatively estimated at fully 35 souls, with the chances greatly in favor of that being under the mark. This loss is all in this city, while the news from tributary towns shows a proportionate loss from ravages by flood. Fully one-third of the business and resident sections of this city is a mass of charred embers, over which the swift waters still rush with unabated fury.

The streets are filled with crowds of weeping, hungry, hopeless and despairing men, women and children, most of whom have lost their all in both property and loved ones. The water still floods the streets.

Evidence of Destruction in the Sky.

The sky is black with heavy smoke from the burning refineries, cooper shops, radiator works, hotels, furniture factories, freight depots, etc. The big refinery and wax plant owned by F. L. Wood & Co. has just caught, at exactly noon, and the black smoke blowing directly over the city turns mid-day into almost the blackness of night. As the rain continues to come down in bucketfuls, what the outcome is to be is past even conjecture.

The waters of Oil creek are rushing through the streets in the lower part of the city with seemingly resistless force, while from house tops, windows and driftwood piles located directly in the midst of the torrent, come beseeching wails and screams of anguish from helpless victims. Brave men with boats and ropes are battling manfully against the terrific current, and already hundreds of the captives have been brought safely to land.

Fifty People Unaccounted For.

It is impossible to give the reader an idea of the horrible scenes now being enacted here. People do not as yet realize through what they are passing. Fully 50 people are as yet unaccounted for, but in the present crash and excitement it is out of the question to correctly state the number actually drowned and burned to death. But two dead bodies have as yet been taken from the flood. Fully 100 of all ages were seen going down with the flood. Some of these, no doubt, have secured refuge on floating timbers, driftwood and miniature islands, and there lying, awaiting rescue; but many have, without doubt, been drowned.

Five persons, all males, were seen to perish while grasping a piece of timber. Just as the thoughtless spectators who were looking on with bated breath, unable to render the slightest assistance, were led to believe that the sufferers would safely reach land, a neighboring tank of burning oil exploded in close proximity, and in a moment the doomed men were enveloped in flames, and death came speedily to end their sufferings.

The Point of Attack Shifted.

As stated, the manufacturers have taken an entirely new course this year, by which they expect to have an increased force in their movement. The proposition comes to the association through the Mahoning and Shenango Valley Iron Manufacturers' Association, which comprises the great establishments of Brown, Bonnell & Co., the Mahoning Valley Iron Company, Cartwright McCurdy & Co., Youngstown Rolling Mill Company, Bahl Iron Company, Trumbull Iron Company and the association mills in Cleveland and St. Louis. It was for the purpose of securing the combined strength of the manufacturers in Cleveland and St. Louis that the point of attack was changed from this to the Sixth district.

The Mahoning and Shenango Valley manufacturers held a recent meeting and a committee from the above-named firms was appointed to prepare a schedule of desired changes in the scale. The work done by this committee is shown in the appended proposition to the Amalgamated Association.

The first item in the scale is an indication of the wholesale slaughter in wages asked for by the manufacturers. On the face of it, it would require considerable courage on the part of the association to carry out their reported intention to ask for an increase in the price of puddling. The manufacturers want boiling reduced from \$5.50 to \$4.50 per ton of 2,240 pounds on a 2-cent card, and in addition they ask that the boiling charge be striking for limitations in time to the several heats, roughers and double furnaces be struck out entirely, which of course means less wages on account of hard iron. Reductions from 20 to 25 per cent are also asked for in a number of other extras.

Big Cuts All Along the Line.

On the muck or puddle mill the manufacturers want the clause providing for 17 cents per ton extra for doubling on two high muck rolls, struck out. The price of scrapping and busheling on a 2-cent card is reduced from \$2 to \$1.60 per ton, and a 20 per cent reduction is made in the extras. Bar rolling and heating is reduced from 70 to 60 cents per ton, while the manufacturers want a number of the extras in this department cut out.

But the slaughter comes on the guide, 10-inch, hoop and cotton tie mills. Where the rollers, heaters, roughers and catchers now make \$5 per ton, they are asked to accept \$4.20, and on grades where they now make \$5.15 they are asked to be satisfied with \$4. It is very safe to say these are the mills in which the hardest struggles will take place. In rolling iron a reduction of 88 cents per ton is asked for, the same as regards "T" iron, while for angles the same reduction throughout is asked for on the 10-inch and cotton tie mills.

The clause fixing 410 bundles of cotton tie as a day's work for every day in the week except Saturday, and for Saturday 325 bundles, is struck out. Also the clauses requiring that when a mill averages \$32 a day a third rougher shall be employed during the months of June, July and August, on demand of roller, rougher and catcher, and that the night-turn roller shall receive two-fifths of the roller's wages, are struck out. The price for rolling pipe on sheet and jobbing mills is fixed at \$2.50 per ton instead of \$3.40 as at present.

Manufacturers Say They Are in Earnest. With the breath in which these proposed changes are received by the workers their exclamation will naturally be, "What is left?" But a manufacturer in speaking on the subject said that the men will be brought face to face with the stern determination on the part of the manufacturers to force an acceptance of their scale this time, which, if they succeed, would practically mean the permanent crippling of the Amalgamated Association, which has so long enjoyed the distinction of being the strongest independent labor organization in America, if not in the world.

How well the Amalgamated people will be prepared to meet the question remains to be seen. The recent retirement from their ranks of some of their most capable men in emergencies of this kind may be the reason why the manufacturers are so bold. Some believe they are taking advantage of this

AN IRON SCALE FULL OF CUTS.

Big Surprise for the Amalgamated Association and Every Prospect of A BITTER WAGE DISPUTE.

Reductions Ranging From 15 to 50 Per Cent Will Be Asked For.

The Sixth District Combines With Cleveland and St. Louis to Force a Lower Scale—Home Manufacturers Join in the Movement—A Course Never Before Pursued Outlined by The Dispatch—The Price of Puddling Cut One Dollar—Big Slaughter in Other Departments—The Masters Say They Mean Business—First Sounds of a Labor Struggle.

The Predicted War between the Iron Manufacturers and their workers over the wage scale has been declared.

When the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers opens its convention to-morrow it will be confronted by a very startling proposition from the manufacturers of the Sixth district, to accept a reduction in this year's wage scale ranging in the various departments from 15 to 50 per cent.

This is the largest reduction ever asked for by the manufacturers, and the proposition comes at a time and from a source wholly unexpected by the Amalgamated Association.

When the association secured an adjustment of the scale last year a number of successful fights were made against it by individual firms—notably the victory of Moorhead Bros. & Co. It was stated subsequently that more vigorous fights would be made this year; that the effectiveness of the Amalgamated Association would be gradually ground out of existence by one firm after another refusing to sign the Amalgamated scale. The association confidently expected a number of struggles of this character this year, and the present move on the part of the manufacturers comes upon them like a thunderbolt.

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On the muck or puddle mill the manufacturers want the clause providing for 17 cents per ton extra for doubling on two high muck rolls, struck out. The price of scrapping and busheling on a 2-cent card is reduced from \$2 to \$1.60 per ton, and a 20 per cent reduction is made in the extras. Bar rolling and heating is reduced from 70 to 60 cents per ton, while the manufacturers want a number of the extras in this department cut out.

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How well the Amalgamated people will be prepared to meet the question remains to be seen. The recent retirement from their ranks of some of their most capable men in emergencies of this kind may be the reason why the manufacturers are so bold. Some believe they are taking advantage of this

opportunity to force issues they have not been able to carry through previously.

The manufacturers will ask for a conference with the Amalgamated Association on the scale, to take place immediately after the latter has had time to consider the matter, and an effort will be made to adjust the differences amicably. That the workers will file objections goes without saying. The manufacturers, however, are said to be a unit in their determination to accept nothing less than what they now propose, and as a consequence, one of the bitterest labor struggles in iron circles is just beginning to dawn in the industrial world.

THE PROPOSED SCALE.

Big Cuts in the Present Rate—What the Manufacturers' Committee Will Present to the Amalgamated Association—A Technical Document That Will Surprise Thousands.

The following is a copy of the proposed changes in the Amalgamated scale. It is a verbatim reproduction of the official document, the names of the manufacturers on the committee alone being omitted:

PROPOSED CHANGES IN SCALE.

SCALE BOOK 1922.

Page 6: BOILING.

\$4.50 per ton on 2-cent card. Balance in proportion to scale book 1921-22.

8. For hot iron wrought from turnings and half cast iron wrought on cinder bottom, the price to be 70 per cent of the straight price paid for boiling.

9. For wrought iron turnings worked on cinder bottom the price to be 50 per cent of the straight price paid for boiling.

10. Busheling on cinder bottom to be 45 per cent of the straight price paid for boiling.

11. For all light scrap worked in a boiling furnace, the price to be 50 per cent of the boiling price. This to cover hoop No. 10 and lighter, wire No. 5 and lighter, sheet and what is known as Norway scrap, this scrap to be cut from 8 to 16 inches in length for charging.

Classes 12 and 14 unchanged.

12. For cast iron wrought on cinder bottom to make six heats to a turn, and three turns in 24 hours on scrapping and busheling furnace.

Page 7: MUCK OR PUDDLE MILL.

Class 2 struck out.

Classes 1, 3 and 4 unchanged.

Page 8: SCRAPPING AND BUSHING.

Price for piles on boards per ton of 2,240 pounds, \$1.60 on 2-cent card. Balance in proportion to scale presented in page 8 of scale book 1921-22.

Class 1 unchanged.

2. Busheling on sand bottom to be 20 cents per ton above the current price for piles on board.

3. Busheling scrap and wrought iron scrap on sand bottom to be the current price for piles on board.

4. The price for working all light sheet, hoop, wire and what is known as Norway scrap on sand bottom shall be \$2.25 per ton on 2-cent card, and shall advance and decline 5 cents per ton on 100 per cent advance on sand card and decline in the same proportion to a 2-cent card. The company shall cut such scrap from 5 to 10 inches in length before charging.

Classes 5 and 6 unchanged.

Page 11: BAR MILL.

Price for bar rolling and heating 2,240 pounds to a ton, 60 cents on 2-cent card. Balance in proportion to scale as presented on page 11 of scale book 1921-22.

All sizes below 1 1/2 x 3/4 flats, 3/4 rounds and squares, when worked on bar or 12" mill, shall be paid for at guide mill prices. 1 1/2" round, when worked by hand on a bar or 12" mill, shall be paid for at guide mill price.

Class 2 struck out.

Class 3 unchanged.

Classes 4 and 5 struck out.

Class 6 unchanged.

7. On all bar mills working bar or skip iron, one man's help shall be allowed by the firm on piles of 20 pounds and over, and an additional man for 200 pounds and over, to shove under the rolls and all passes. This shall not apply to mills now given extra help.

Guide, 10-inch, Hoop and Cotton Tie Mills.

ROUNDS AND SQUARES.

7/8"..... \$ 2.00

1"..... 2.20

1 1/8"..... 2.40

1 1/4"..... 2.60

1 1/2"..... 2.80

1 3/4"..... 3.00

2"..... 3.20

2 1/4"..... 3.40

2 1/2"..... 3.60

2 3/4"..... 3.80

3"..... 4.00

3 1/4"..... 4.20

3 1/2"..... 4.40

3 3/4"..... 4.60

4"..... 4.80

4 1/4"..... 5.00

4 1/2"..... 5.20

4 3/4"..... 5.40

5"..... 5.60

5 1/4"..... 5.80

5 1/2"..... 6.00

5 3/4"..... 6.20

6"..... 6.40

6 1/4"..... 6.60

6 1/2"..... 6.80

6 3/4"..... 7.00

7"..... 7.20

7 1/4"..... 7.40

7 1/2"..... 7.60

7 3/4"..... 7.80

8"..... 8.00

8 1/4"..... 8.20

8 1/2"..... 8.40

8 3/4"..... 8.60

9"..... 8.80