



GERMAN PLOT SEEN IN RUIN OF BIG PLANT

Officials Agree Series of Explosions in Eddystone Was Not Result of Accident; Four Investigations Under Way; Two Suspects Released; Revised List of Fatalities Place Dead at 122 and Injured at 150; Many of Whom Will Die

By Associated Press

Chester, Pa., April 11.—President Alba B. Johnson, of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, changed his theory that the Eddystone explosion was due to an accident after a visit to-day to the plant. He now agrees with the view of Samuel M. Vaucain, president of the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation, that plotters caused the explosion.

"Although we have only circumstantial evidence," Mr. Johnson said, "it looks as if some one touched off a bomb or a time clock with an explosive attached. I have become convinced, after a talk with the Eddystone officials, that the catastrophe could not have occurred through an accident."

The Chester police have released two suspects, father and son, named Cohen, arrested last night. Nobody at present is in custody in connection with the explosion but four different sets of investigators are at work and developments are expected shortly. The Chester police say that if the explosion was the work of plotters who ever caused it must have died with the rest.

President Vaucain said to-day: "The disaster occurred in the building devoted to loading shrapnel with black powder, commonly known as the base charge. The shrapnel made in the building was three-inch shrapnel for the Russian government. There were 10,000 pieces of shrapnel in the building."

"We will make a complete investigation as rapidly as possible. We cannot understand how it could possibly have happened accidentally."

"There were three explosions, it appears, in rapid succession, with about ten seconds between the first and last explosion."

Plant Well Designed "The plant has been inspected by the best experts in the country, and been pronounced exceptionally well designed in every respect. In the design and construction of the buildings, accidents were virtually eliminated from the list of possibilities."

"Ignition by dropping is exceedingly remote," said Captain William M. Wilhelm, the general manager and vice-president of the plant, commenting on the theory that a shell, accidentally dropped, might have caused the explosion. "Black powder, of the kind loaded into the shrapnel shells, will not ignite by striking, but will ignite by friction. For that reason no person was permitted in the destroyed building except with rubber-soled shoes."

Guards at Every Door "There were guards at every door and nobody could enter the building without passing the inspection of that guard. Secret service men also worked among the employes within the building to see that all safety rules were observed."

President Vaucain said the families of those killed and injured would be provided for by the company.

Revising Lists of Fatalities "The Anglo-French commission had taken over the stock of the Eddystone company, Mr. Johnson declared there was nothing in it. "The stock of the Eddystone is all in American hands," he said.

Six Score Dead Revised lists of the fatalities resulted in 122 deaths and 150 injuries.

Seven Dauphin Countians at Eddystone Plant; Their Fate Is Still Unknown

At least seven Harrisburg and Dauphin county young men are employed at the plant of the Eddystone Corporation, in which a disastrous explosion occurred yesterday. Their fate is unknown.

Joseph Higgins, son of Charles H. Higgins, of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, has been employed at the plant for several months. He has many friends in this city and Steeton. Albert Miller and Clark Bowman, of Millersburg; Carlus Martin, Elizabethtown; Newton C. Elcheberger, of Royaltown, and Middleton lad are other Dauphin county natives working there.

Captain Henry M. Stine, chairman of the "Everybody's Patriotic Demonstration" committee, has called a meeting of the committee as announced in the newspapers for this evening at 7:30 at the courthouse. Plans for the parade, April 23, will be made here, the men were told. All here, the men were told, especially representatives of organizations are urged to attend.

Suspects in Eddystone Explosion Reported to Have Been Arrested Near Here

Reports that two suspects were arrested this morning on a Pennsylvania Railroad train near here created considerable excitement in this city. The men, it was said, know something regarding the explosion at Eddystone yesterday.

The men were Germans and boarded a train at Lancaster intending to go to Lebanon. Railroad officers took them in charge after the train left Conowingo. According to the story told here, the men were taken off the train at Mt. Gretna where an automobile was in waiting, and the officers and prisoners went overland to Mt. Joy at which point they met an eastbound train.

Inquiries at the office of Captain Paul L. Barclay failed to bring any verification of the reports. It was said that two trespassers had been arrested and sent to Lancaster. Trainmen at the Pennsylvania Railroad station said the arrest was bonafide but the charges on which the men were arrested were not given.

Governor Brumbaugh in a telegram to Alba B. Johnson to-day offers any services the State may be able to render in the disaster at Eddystone. The Governor calls attention to the fact that representatives of three State Departments are already on the scene.

THE WEATHER For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair tonight and probably Thursday; slightly warmer to-night, with lowest temperature about 42 degrees.

For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night and probably Thursday; somewhat warmer to-night, with moderate west to southwest winds.

River The Susquehanna river and probably all its tributaries will continue to fall. A stage of about 6.4 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Thursday morning.

General Conditions The North Atlantic coast storm has passed off seaward and the winds have diminished in the Atlantic States from South Carolina northward. The western disturbance has divided, one center being located this morning over Lake Superior and the other over New Mexico.

Temperature: 8 a. m., 42. Sun: Rises, 5:28 a. m. Moon: Rises, 12:14 p. m. River Stage: 6.5 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 51. Lowest temperature, 28. Mean temperature, 46. Normal temperature, 48.

RECRUITING TENT IN LOBBY OF MAJESTIC GETS QUICK RESULTS



The orchestra struck up "The Star Spangled Banner," the entire company of performers at the Majestic Theater mobilized before the footlights and sang the National anthem, the big audience stood and reverently joined in the patriotic song and then, as the curtain lowered the big crowd began to file out toward the street. Still humming the tune that seems to have a hypnotizing effect that thrills one with patriotism, the hundreds of vaudeville devotees moved through the lobby and into the street. But there were two members of the audience who weren't so quick to leave. A pair of healthy-looking young men halted in front of the official recruiting station that, through courtesy of Wilmer & Vincent, has been established in the theater lobby and then there, five hours after the branch was opened, the first Majestic recruits to Uncle Sam's army were enrolled.

"We'd been thinking about enlisting," said one of the young men, after both had signed the papers, "and after we got in here and heard this big audience sing 'The Star Spangled Banner' we decided not to wait any longer. We're ready to fight for Uncle Sam."

Captain William F. Harrell, who was quick to accept Wilmer & Vincent's proffer of space in the lobby for a recruiting station, believes that many a soldier boy will be enlisted from the ranks of Harrisburg's big vaudeville army.

Secretary of War Declares He Will Call For 287,000 Men

Washington, April 11.—Secretary Baker, concluding his testimony before the House Military Committee to-day, announced that he had decided after consultation with army officers to take immediate advantage of the authority to increase the regular army by all the increments authorized.

Under the present plan the War Department will immediately increase the regular army to its full complement of 287,000 men, instead of 202,000, as was contemplated. This increase is wholly apart from the new army to be authorized by selective conscription.

THE GOVERNOR'S ATTITUDE When the Governor vetoed a full bill (Continued on Page 18)

NO NEED TO TAKE OVER COLLECTIONS OF ASHES--BAILEY

Speaking of Commissioner Gross' latest decision on the ash question, Edward P. Bailey, of the American Surety Company, the bonding concern that has been pushing the Pennsylvania Reduction Company in an effort to solve the collection problem, said:

"So far as the matter of the city's taking over the contract for the removal of ashes is concerned, there is no necessity for it now and we will see to it that there will be none."

More Complaints Pouring In More complaints by card of no ash collections for weeks in various districts of the city reached the City Health Bureau to-day and are being filed according to localities.

With fair and warmer weather, it is believed some of the accumulations which have been reported, can be removed.

Mr. Bailey seemed well pleased with the progress that is being made under the circumstances. He declared that four gangs of men now at work are keeping ahead of their schedule and are collecting on the back surplus that has piled up in boxes, buckets, cans and other receptacles over the winter.

Plans have already been started to prevent a repetition of conditions next winter similar to the situation which has caused no end of trouble for city officials during the last few months.

Start Street Repairs in Downtown District

After a delay of weeks because no supply of sand could be obtained, repair work on the many holes in the city streets was started to-day.

Highway Commissioner Lynch has started work in the downtown section and will rush repairs on the streets which are in worst condition. No further delay is expected.

Work of surfacing Swatara street between Eighteenth and Twentieth streets, will probably be started in a few days. Other plans include paving in the West End district; and in Chestnut street, between Nineteenth and Twentieth streets.

As the funds for paving street intersections are almost exhausted, Commissioner Lynch said, it is not probable that anything will be done in connection with the proposed paving of Cameron street, between Herr and Macley streets.

New Cruisers Christened With Famous Naval Names

Washington, D. C., April 11.—Names of historic naval vessels have been given to the five battle cruisers being built for the navy. They will be called the Saratoga, Constellation, Constitution, Ranger and Lexington, after the famous frigates of the first American navy yard.

The present cruiser Saratoga will be renamed City of Rochester, and another name will be chosen for the gunboat Ranger, in the service of Massachusetts as a schoolship. There is no Lexington now on the navy list.

ALLIES CRASH INTO GERMAN BATTLE LINE

British Push Forward Unchecked For Big Gains on Teuton Front; Famous Hindenburg Position Broken; More Than 11,000 Prisoners Along With Rich Booty of Guns Taken; Birdmen to Fly Under U. S. Colors

Paris, April 11. — It was decided to-day that the LaFayette flying squadron composed of Americans who have distinguished themselves at the front, will change from the French to the American military uniform and hereafter carry the American flag at the French front.

Vigorously pressing their great offensive on the Arras-Lens front, the British have pushed further into German-held territory behind the famous Hindenburg line.

To-day's official statement from London reports the capture of the village and heights of Monchy Le Preux, nearly five miles southeast of Arras and just north of the Arras-Cambrai main road.

Satisfactory progress along other sections of the fighting line is announced, one of the points taken being the village of La Bergere.

Apparently the first swift rush of the forceful offensive is over but the reports from correspondents indicate that the work of consolidation the ground won was taken up speedily and done thoroughly while during the progress of this task there was no interruption of the pressure upon the retreating Germans. Already more than 11,000 prisoners and guns in excess of 100, many of them heavy pieces have been taken by General Haig's victorious troops.

The minimum advance has been effected in the sector of Vimy ridge, the northern pivot of the Hindenburg line, now turned by the British where the German resistance was naturally stiffest in view of the importance of the commanding hill positions. Nevertheless the British accounts show further gains against the Germans there.

Brazil's decision to sever diplomatic relations with Germany has so far not been followed by any other of the South or Central American nations but similar action on the part of the other of the South American countries is expected in diplomatic circles there. A dispatch from Argentina reports the government announcing that it supported the action of the United States in reference to Germany. Uruguay, however, has declared her neutrality.

FIEND MANUFACTURED BOMB TO BLOW UP EDDYSTONE PLANT

CHESTER, APRIL 11. — "THE EXPLOSION WAS THE RESULT OF A DIABOLICAL PLOT CONCEIVED IN THE DEGENERATE MIND OF A DEMON IN HUMAN GUISE," A HIGH OFFICIAL OF THE EDDYSTONE AMMUNITION CORPORATION SAID THIS AFTERNOON. A BOMB MANUFACTURED FROM A SHELL IN THE PLANT BY ONE OF THE EMPLOYEES CAUSED THE EXPLOSION WHICH COST AT LEAST 116 LIVES, HE DECLARED.

SUBPOENA FOR POWELL

Harrisburg. — When Auditor General Powell to-day notified the joint special appropriation committee that he would not attend the session because he was very busy and for the reason that as his term ends soon he is not interested in appropriations, Senator Snyder moved a subpoena be issued for his appearance next Tuesday. The motion was adopted.

ABOLISH BUTTER AND EGG SPECULATION

Chicago, April 11. — Speculation in butter and eggs through the Chicago Butter and Egg Board was abolished "as a patriotic duty," by unanimous vote of the directors to-day. This was accomplished by abolishing all rules covering deals in these products for future delivery.

SENATE VOTES \$278,000,000 TO ARMY

Washington, April 11.—The army appropriation bill carrying \$278,000,000 for the existing regular army was passed to-day by the Senate, amended so that it becomes immediately available.

Noted Penna Artists to Be Given Opportunity at Capitol Decoration

The Board of Public Grounds and Buildings yesterday decided to give Pennsylvania artists other than Miss Violet Oakley opportunity to have their works in the State Capitol. Miss Oakley has many beautiful paintings on the walls of the Senate and elsewhere throughout the building and the board feels that some other noted Pennsylvania painters should be given consideration when there is more work of the kind to be done.

Discussing this action of the board State Treasurer Young to-day said: "It is the disposition of the present board not to extend, or rather, not to make new contracts with Miss Oakley. Notwithstanding the excellence of her work the board realizes that there are other equally eminent mural painters who are natives of Pennsylvania, among others John Sargent and Maxfield Parrish, whose work it would be desirable to have represented in the embellishment of the Capitol through means of the fine arts."

"Speaking for myself merely, I sincerely hope that the lunettes in the north corridor may be filled by Maxfield Parrish."

TO INSIST ON CONSCRIPTION

Washington, April 11.—President Wilson after a conference with House Leaders to-day indicated that he would insist on the selective conscription measure in the army bill. Sentiment is said to exist for first trying the volunteer plan.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Samuel M. Conrad, Royaltown, and Lorene Palster, Middletown. Robert Francis Biggs and Fannie Barbara White, Baltimore. Joe Faulkner and Margaret Baker, Steeton. William Fletcher Wheeler and Isabel Bailey, Harrisburg. William E. Boden, Wiennice, and Myra L. Thiberson, Lykens. Charles Jake Myers and Vera Gladys Reeves, Steeton. Edward Luther Geary and Helen Margaret Garberich, Penbrook.

A Comparison Speaking of results, and the "pulling power" of classified advertising, how's this? A newcomer to "Rooms Wanted" advertisement in each of the Harrisburg papers. The ad ran 3 days in each paper. The TELEGRAPH brought the advertiser TEN replies, the other two brought ONE, that one being a duplicate of one of the replies received from the TELEGRAPH. (The name of this advertiser on request.)