

WORLD'S BIGGEST WARSHIP

King Edward VII Launches The Dreadnought at Portsmouth.

THE CEREMONY WAS SIMPLE

Will Hurl Shells 25 Miles—Powers Are Baffled in Efforts to Learn Her Secrets.

The great battleship Dreadnought, which will cost \$7,500,000 when finished, was launched at Portsmouth, England, by King Edward. The ceremony was the most simple possible, the king having forbidden all decorations and pageantry on account of the death of his father-in-law, King Christian.

When ready for sea the ship will displace 18,500 tons and will have the heaviest armament ever carried by a ship. British vessels have carried heretofore four 12-inch guns throwing 850 pound shells; the Dreadnought will have 16 of these weapons of a new type with a muzzle energy of 46,568, as compared with the 33,522 of the guns carried in as recent battleships as the Majestic class, an increase of 50 per cent. In a great sea fight the Dreadnought will be able to discharge every minute ten projectiles weighing 8,500 pounds with sufficient velocity to send them 25 miles or to penetrate about 16 inches of the hardest armor at a range of about 20 miles. Unlike all British and foreign battleships built in the past 30 years the new addition to the fleet will carry no weapon smaller than the great 12-inch piece except 18 three-inch quickfiring for repelling attacks by torpedo craft.

The Dreadnought will be the first battleship in the world to be driven by turbines. These engines will supply the power for four propellers, two more than on any previously built British battleship, which should make her the fastest of her class afloat.

Details of the Dreadnought's construction remain a secret. Efforts of naval attaches to gather information have been fruitless, the answer to all inquiries being that Great Britain intends to maintain secrecy as to what her experts learned by Japan's experiences of one year, and by rushing to completion the Dreadnought will gain a year in naval construction over all other powers except her ally.

TRAIN KILLS THREE

While Crew Is Repairing Locomotive They Are Run Down.

While repairing a tire of a locomotive wheel near Seltzland, Pa., three members of a freight crew were run down and killed by a passenger train. The dead are Engineer J. C. Baughman of Shrewsbury, Conductor Silas Adler and brakeman Frank McFadden, both of Baltimore. Steam from the disabled freight engine prevented the men from hearing the noise of the approaching train.

NEGRO LYNCHED

Third to Pay Death Penalty for Crime in Alabama.

Bunk Richardson, a negro charged with the assault of Mrs. Sarah Smith July 15 last, was forcibly taken from jail and hanged to the bridge of the Louisville & Nashville railroad over the Coosa river. Four masked men went to the jail, overpowered the sheriff and jailer and made short work of the prisoner.

METHODISTS HONOR LINCOLN

Epworth League Societies and Congregations Hold Services.

Methodists throughout the United States celebrated the 97th anniversary of Lincoln's birthday and 10,000 Epworth societies and 60,000 congregations held song services in connection with the general celebration, Sunday.

Death of Negro Murderer.

Rufus Johnson, the negro who was arrested in Baltimore about a fortnight ago, charged with killing Miss Florence W. Allison, near Moorestown, N. J., January 18, was placed on trial at Mt. Holly, N. J., convicted of murder in the first degree and immediately sentenced to be hanged, February 23.

Confesses Thefts.

A young man who gives his name as Walter E. Bowen and who says he is the son of a former Mayor of Pelham, Ga., was arrested and later confessed that he had stolen about \$2,000 worth of goods from trains on the Seaboard Air Line while he was employed as a baggagemaster on the run between Atlanta, Ga., and Monroe, N. C.

Three earthquake shocks were felt throughout the late copper district of Michigan.

HOUSE PASSES RATE BILL

Hepburn Measure Carried With but Seven Votes Against It.

The House passed the Hepburn railroad rate bill by a vote of 346 to 7. Those voting against the bill were Littlefield, McCall, Perkins, Sibley, Southwick, Vreeland and Weeks.

The Hepburn bill, according to Mr. Hepburn's statement, in closing the debate on the measure, was intended to and does so far as it could be made comply specifically with the recommendations of President Roosevelt on the rate question. It gives the Interstate Commerce Commission authority, when a rate has been complained of as "unreasonable," by a shipper, to investigate that rate, state whether or not it is unreasonable, and, if found to be unreasonable, to name a rate which is to be just and reasonable and fairly remunerative, which is to be the maximum rate to be charged.

This rate so fixed is to go into effect 30 days after it is announced by the commission, subject during that time to be set aside or suspended by the commission or by the courts. After it has gone into effect it is to remain in force for three years. During this time the opinion has been expressed by those who have participated in the debate that the rate may also be reviewed by the courts and if found to be in conflict either with the terms of the act or with the constitution by being confiscatory, can be set aside by the courts.

TOWN NEARLY WIPED OUT

Business Section of Littleton, W. Va., Is Visited by a Destructive Fire.

Fire broke out in the business section of Littleton, W. Va., an oil town of about 1,600 inhabitants in the morning, and was not under control until late in the evening. Both the Mannington and Cameron fire departments were at the scene. The fire destroyed the following buildings: A. M. Crow's store, five dwellings, Baltimore & Ohio depot, Exchange bank, Methodist Episcopal church, Odd Fellows' hall, Commercial hotel, postoffice, Bank of Littleton, Anderson hotel, Christian church, Keffer's hotel, Bell Telephone Company's exchange, three stores and 10 dwellings.

EMPEROR HOSTILE TO TREATY

He Asks Powers' Protection From Japanese.

Douglas Storey, telegraphing from Che-foo, states that he has obtained from the Emperor of Korea, a document bearing the imperial seal, the original of which he says he has proved before the British consul at Che-foo.

In this document the emperor denied that he signed or approved the treaty with Japan or consented to the appointment of a Japanese resident, and "invites the great powers to exercise a joint protectorate over Korea for a period not exceeding five years, with respect to the control of Korean foreign affairs."

NINE DIE IN FIRE

Only One Person Escapes From Burning House in Maryland.

About 3 o'clock in the morning an isolated small frame house near the village of Curtis Bay, in Anne Arundel county, Md., was consumed by a fire in which were burned to death nine colored persons. The only inmate who escaped with her life was Ella Webster, a woman who managed to get to a window and jumped from the second story to the ground.

Parson Tries Suicide.

Rev. Justin G. Wade, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Waukegan, Ill., who was arrested by Postoffice inspectors on a charge of mailing obscene letters, tried to commit suicide by throwing himself in front of a train. His chance of recovery is slight.

55 DROWNED IN MINE

Becomes Flooded While Men Are Engaged at Work.

The shaft of one of the deep mines at Johannesburg, in the Transvaal, became flooded, as the result of heavy rains.

The Philadelphia "ripper" repeater passed both houses of the Pennsylvania general assembly.

EXPLOSION KILLS MINERS

Workmen's Lives Suddenly Cut Off—Some Escape.

DEAD TERRIBLY MUTILATED

Parts of the Mine Were Badly Wrecked and the Property Damage Will Be Great.

The death list resulting from the explosion in the Parol mine of the Stuart Colliery Company in Fayette county, W. Va., will not be as large as was first feared. Six dead bodies have been recovered, 12 were rescued alive and 12 more are still in the mine. The latter, no doubt, have succumbed to the gas and foul air which filled the mine for hours after the explosion, and all hope of finding any of the alive has been abandoned.

The men rescued are: F. Z. Fitzgould, John Kimball, Robert Pratt, Ervin Riggs, Rodman Opinski, F. P. Zark, Robert Gill, Donald Bell, Jule Neal, colored, Charles Matthews, colored; Herbert Calloway, colored; The dead taken out are: George Morris, Ike Spears, Hans Cova, Joseph Hunter, Joseph Lumley, one unidentified.

All the dead were found east of the air shaft, where the force of the explosion seems to have been the most severely felt. William Morris, a gigantic negro, was found with his body cut in two, the upper and lower parts being 100 yards apart. The other dead who have been found were little burned and easily recognized.

GREAT ROAD TO BE BUILT

Will Extend Across Ohio and Be One of the World's Best.

Within a year work will be begun by the National Good Roads Association on a highway extending clear across Ohio, from Pennsylvania to Indiana, that will be one of the finest in the world. This information was given by Colonel W. H. Moore, President of the National Good Roads Association.

INTERNAL COMMERCE GROWS

Volume for 1905 Largest in History of Country.

According to a report issued by the department of commerce and labor, the aggregate volume of internal commerce during 1905 was undoubtedly the largest for any corresponding period in the history of the country. The report says:

"The greatly increased activities in the iron, steel and copper industries were particularly worthy of note, having caused iron production, according to reliable commercial sources, to advance 40 per cent, and copper nearly 15 per cent, over similar production in 1904."

Pension Bill Passes House.

The pension appropriation bill, carrying \$139,000,000 for pensions and \$1,245,000 for pension administration, was taken up by the House, debated and passed without amendment. The feature of the bill aside from the appropriation made is a provision making statute law of the famous "Order No. 78," of the President, declaring age conclusive evidence of disability.

CAPITAL NEWS NOTES.

The Longworth bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for the purchase of American legations and embassies in foreign capitals was favorably reported to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs by a sub-committee.

Representative Wanger (Pa.) introduced a bill appropriating \$1,000,000 for the construction of a cable from Key West, Fla., to Guantanamo, Cuba, and thence to the canal zone on the isthmus of Panama.

The Senate in executive session confirmed the following nominations: U. G. Smith, Washington, Pa., Third Secretary of Embassy to Great Britain. Postmasters: Pennsylvania—Charles J. McGill, at Dawson; Joseph S. Paul, South Fork; Frank N. Donahue, Carrolltown.

Mr. Tillman presented and the Senate adopted a resolution calling upon the Postmaster-General for information as to the number of postal clerks killed in railroad accidents during the past five years; also asking how many steel cars are now used in the postal service, and whether the fatalities have been so great as in other cars.

A bill for the taxation of all railway property in Arizona and New Mexico, according to the plan under which other property in the Territories is taxed, was introduced in the House by Representative Hamilton, Chairman of the House Committee on Territories. Colombia has renewed her demand for a recompense from the United States because of the separation of Panama. The amount of damages sustained by the parent State on account of Panama's secession is not set down. It is believed nothing has occurred to change the position originally taken by the State Department.

CITIES MAY CONSOLIDATE

Pennsylvania Legislature Passes Greater Pittsburg Bill.

The Greater Pittsburg bill passed both houses of the legislature and was signed by the Governor.

The senate passed the bill finally as amended by the striking out of the Henderson amendment, giving Allegheny a separate vote and then went over to the house for concurrence.

There was a heated debate in the house, but the action of the senate was concurred in by a large majority vote.

The bill enables cities that are contiguous or in close proximity to be united with any intervening land. Consolidating and annexing the lesser city with the greater through an election.

Councils may direct that a petition be filed in court, or 2 per cent of the registered voters of either city may do so, praying for consolidation.

If order of court is made more than 30 days and less than 90 days before the next regular municipal election such election be held at regular election; otherwise a special one shall be ordered.

Annexation to be carried by majority of joint vote of the two cities. Question cannot be submitted to voters more than once in two years. Constituent communities to pay their own floating and bonded indebtedness.

Mayor of larger city shall be Mayor of consolidated city and Mayor of smaller to be Deputy Mayor for term for which they were elected.

Present departments preserved and consolidated heads of those of larger city to remain in control, with heads of departments of smaller city to be assistant heads.

CRAZED BY SICKNESS

Mother Kills Infant and Cuts Throat of Little Girl.

Mrs. R. W. Kavel, of Allegheny, Pa., aged 23, crazed from the effect of pneumonia following three days after giving birth to a child, cut the throat of her new born babe and of a daughter, Margaret, three years old. The babe is dead, the older child is in a precarious condition.

Mrs. Kavel is the wife of R. W. Kavel, an employe of the Pittsburg Locomotive Works in Allegheny. They live at 16 Iowa alley. Dr. D. M. Adams was attending her and he found her delirious. Mrs. Kavel was in such condition that Dr. Adams told Kavel to keep the children out of her room. Kavel obeyed the instructions carefully and his wife seemed to rest more easily. About 6 o'clock she called her husband and told him to take Albert, the oldest child, downstairs and get him some supper, leaving the baby and the little girl in her room.

Kavel was gone but a few minutes and on returning found that Mrs. Kavel had cut the throats of each of them and then slashed them across the wrists.

CONVICT WINS FORTUNE

Splits \$25,000 Prize With Lawyer in Order to Insure Getting Part.

The winner of the \$25,000 prize for correctly naming the attendance at the St. Louis exposition in 1904, was Frank Campbell, a convict in the Nebraska state penitentiary, who still has about one year to serve. Campbell was convicted of embezzlement.

He will receive only \$12,500 as he, fearing difficulty in securing the money while imprisoned, agreed to pay a lawyer half in case of success in securing it. The money will be received in a few days, but he will be unable to use it until his term expires.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS

At Sidney, O., W. Riggs and his wife were struck by a Big Four train while in a covered wagon. The woman is dead and Riggs will die.

Cyrus Henderson, a Baltimore & Ohio engineer of Chicago Junction, was instantly killed at Lodi, O., by a train.

A measure to tax property of the Catholic Church in Quebec province has passed through the Private Bills Committee of the Legislature.

Two men who robbed a shoe factory in Dover, N. H., and killed an Italian laborer of the "Sunrise" express, were captured by a posse after a 15-mile chase.

St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, Ashland avenue and West Harrison street, Chicago, was destroyed by fire, which started from an overheated furnace. The loss is \$125,000.

A bill was passed in the House granting a Federal charter to the Carnegie foundation for the advancement of teaching, the fund consisting of \$10,000,000, the income to furnish a pension to retired educators.

Driven insane by excessive use of cigarets J. Sherman McLaughlin, a young man of Ada, O., was taken to the insane asylum at Toledo.

The trial of Pat Crowe, charged with robbing E. A. Cudahy of \$25,000, in connection with the kidnaping of E. A. Cudahy, Jr., five years ago, has begun at Omaha.

The British bark Mobile Bay, which arrived at Anping, island of Formosa, January 16 from New York, July 9, was totally destroyed by fire. Her crew were landed. The bark had 7,000 cases of kerosene on board.

The lower branch of the Kentucky General Assembly has adopted the proposition to submit to the people at the November election the question of so amending the Constitution as to provide that a tax receipt shall be a qualification for a voter in all elections.

Metzger heirs throughout Eastern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania are about to begin a concerted movement to secure the vast estate worth from \$125,000,000 to \$128,000,000, which the Holland Government is declared to be willing to begin overtures to settle.

ASKED TO PROVE MERGER

Moody Urged to Take a Hand in Probing Alleged Combination.

SOFT COAL MEN COMPLAIN

Pennsylvania and Vanderbilt Roads Charged With Acts Violating the Sherman Law.

Attorney General Moody will be urged to begin proceedings against the railroads alleged to control the bituminous coal traffic on the ground that they have entered into a combination in restraint of trade. The appeal to the attorney general will be made by Mr. Townsend, of Michigan, one of the authors of the Hepburn rate bill.

Mr. Townsend will base his request on the interstate commerce commission, in response to the Gillespie resolution and information furnished him by Logan H. Ballitt, of Philadelphia, president of the Red Rock Fuel Company.

The latter's complaint of discrimination by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company has been presented to congressional committees and made public in the Senate by Mr. Tillman, of South Carolina.

Mr. Townsend is convinced the bituminous coal-carrying roads, under the domination of the Pennsylvania and Vanderbilt systems, have forced a combination clearly obnoxious to the Sherman anti-trust law. He believes he can induce Mr. Moody to take action without waiting for the further investigation provided in the second Gillespie resolution introduced February 7.

Meanwhile Mr. Gillespie will strive to secure from the House committee a favorable report on his resolution requesting the President to direct the commission to begin an investigation. If the attorney general declines to undertake prosecution the Gillespie resolution will be pressed. Mr. Gillespie has already had many letters from the railroad sections offering him evidence. Some of them are unsigned, the writers declaring they fear business disaster.

DEATH ATTENDS WRECK

Eight Persons Are Killed in Railroad Accidents—Two Others Missing.

Four persons were killed and ten were more or less seriously injured in a collision between two passenger trains on the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company's line near Bridal Veil, Ore.

The dead are: E. L. Sinner, of Portland; Henry A. E. Edwards, of Portland, and an unknown man.

A runaway Northern Pacific freight train crashed into a passenger train on the same line, wrecked it completely and set fire to it. Four persons whose identity is assured were known to be dead, with a probability that two more whose names it is impossible to learn may have been burned in the wreck.

The known dead are: J. H. Robinson, Missoula; Charles Brickie, conductor; J. A. Jessup, express messenger; Foster Senegal, merchant of Elliston. None of the passengers who escaped with their lives was seriously injured.

The crash of the collision was heard by persons living in the vicinity, who immediately started for the wreck. When they got there an awful scene met their gaze. The combination car was on fire and pinned under a mass of wreckage was Jessup. He was conscious, and heroic efforts were made to release him from his situation. Finally the fire became so hot that the rescuers had to give up the task.

Missing Man's Body Found.

All doubts as to the identity of the man found in a woods near Rogoche, Va., with a bullet in his head was removed when the clothing was thoroughly inspected and found to be that of Sturley C. Armstrong, the former cashier of the Washington National Bank, of Pittsburg, who had been missing since January 2.

Wool Market.

The strong closing of the London wool sales and the auspicious opening of goods in New York have had a beneficial influence upon the Boston wool market. Prices range about as follows: Ohio and Pennsylvania XX and above, 34½ to 35½c; X, 33 to 34c; No. 1, 33 to 29c; No. 2, 33 to 40c; fine, unwashed, 25 to 26c; quarter-blood, unwashed, 33 to 33½c; three eighths blood, 33½ to 34c; half blood, 33 to 33½c; unwashed delaine, 28 to 29c; fine washed delaine, 37 to 37½c; Michigan fine, unwashed, 24 to 25c; quarter blood, unwashed, 32 to 32½c; three eighths blood, 33 to 33½c; half blood, 32½ to 33c; unwashed delaine, 27 to 28c.

Say Son Got \$100,000.

Gordon Bigelow, son of Frank G. Bigelow, defaulting president of the First National bank of Milwaukee, is alleged in an indictment returned against former Assistant Cashier Henry G. Goll by the Federal Grand Jury to have received from F. G. Bigelow \$100,000 of the funds alleged to have been embezzled by Frank G. Bigelow, abetted by Goll.

Murderer Confesses.

After maintaining his innocence for several days, Charles C. Deigen, made a signed confession that he killed Randolph K. Lewis, aged 70, the wealthy farmer and stockman at West Farmington, O., January 19.

At a meeting of the Illinois coal operators at the Auditorium hotel, Chicago, it was decided by unanimous vote to refuse demands made by the United Mine Workers of America.

HUSBAND DISCOVERS BODIES

He Is Unable to Assign Motive; All Was Well When He Left Home.

A woman and four children were found dead in bed at their home, 29 Dennis street, Roxbury district, Boston, on the night of February 6. An investigation by the police indicates that the woman, Mrs. Annie L. Dixon, had killed the children and herself by opening three gas jets. The children were Annie, aged 3 years; George, 3 years 6 months; Mildred, 2 years, and Marion, 1 year.

The tragedy was discovered by the woman's husband, Arthur B. Dixon, when he returned home from work in the evening. Dixon found the house locked and was obliged to break in the front door. He found the bodies of his wife and children in a bedroom.

Medical Examiner A. McDonald decided that Mrs. Dixon had killed the children and herself. Dixon told the police that he left home at 6 o'clock in the morning to go to his work. At that time his wife was up and the children were all awake and he did not notice anything unusual.

Dixon is 31 years old and his wife was 27. They had been married for about six years. Of late Mrs. Dixon had not been in good health.

AFFECTS 10,000 MINERS

Company Closes Mines Pending Settlement of Dispute.

All mines along the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg railroad operated by the Clearfield and Jefferson Coal and Iron company were closed, pending the settlement of trouble at Yatesboro, Helvetia and Sykesville.

A convention of the miners and sub-district officers was held at Punxsutawney Monday and Tuesday, and an unsuccessful effort was made, then to adjust the difficulties at the above places. The convention decided to call mass meetings of all miners in the region to be held at Punxsutawney and Reynoldsville. About 10,000 miners are affected.

As a result, orders were issued by the railroad authorities to discontinue all coal and coke shipments. This move will effect about 2,000 railroad men besides about 500 mechanics in the shops at this place.

CONSCIENCE A LITTLE LATE

Woman Returning in Installments Money Stolen in Childhood.

E. P. Ashbrook, 90 years old; who lives with his son, C. S. Ashbrook, in Mansfield, O., has received the first installment of conscience money, the total amount of which he does not know.

Thirty-four years ago Mr. Ashbrook operated a woolen mill at Mattoon, Ill., and among his employes was a girl of ten. She is now married and living in Peoria, Ill. Mr. Ashbrook has received a letter from her enclosing \$4, which she says is the initial installment of weekly payments which she proposes to make until she has restored to him all the money she stole from him while in his employ. He never suspected that any money had been stolen.

LINK IN BIG PIPE LINE

Standard's System to Extend From Indian Territory to Atlantic.

The Standard Oil Company has begun the construction of an eight-inch auxiliary pipe line from the refinery at Lima, O., to Chicago, connecting at Whiting with the Kansas-Indian Territory-trunk line and making possible the handling of oil underground from the trans-Missouri field through Ohio to the seaboard, touching refineries at Lima, in Cleveland and throughout Pennsylvania.

Asphyxiated While Skating.

Escaping fumes from a small gas stove in the Elite roller skating rink at Zanesville, O., caused a panic among the 1,500 people there. At least 25 skaters were affected by the fumes so seriously that they dropped out. All were resuscitated.

Insurance Investigation.

The inquiry into the conditions in the Insurance department of the State of Pennsylvania has been concluded. The commission which made the investigation and uncovered padded pay rolls and generally loose if not criminal practices in the management of the department spent considerable time in discussing the report which will be transmitted to the Legislature some time. The report is certain to recommend civil and criminal prosecutions against George B. Luper, James H. Lambert and Israel W. Durham, former commissioners of the department.

Philadelphia Politicians Sentenced.

William J. Wood and John Schueckler, election officers of the Twenty-sixth ward, of Philadelphia, who were convicted of substituting a ballot box and making a false return at the November election, were sentenced. Schueckler to two years imprisonment and \$200 fine and Wood to 15 months imprisonment and \$200 fine. H. J. Starr, another election officer who was also convicted, was granted a new trial.

Runaway Car Demolishes Church.

Through the mistake of a brakeman in throwing a switch on the Pittsburg & Lake Erie railroad in West Newton, a car of slag ran off the end of a siding, dashed across a street, smashed a fence around the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and crashed into the church building. All the windows on one side of the church were shattered and the structure was knocked askew. The building may have to be torn down.