

SIXTEEN MEN FALL THREE HUNDRED FEET

Gas Bag of Airship Bursts and the Machine Falls with Crash.

ALL HURT, BUT NONE KILLED

Some Lost Their Presence of Mind and Jumped, Suffering Broken Limbs and Bruises.

Oakland, Cal.—A mammoth airship, on its trial trip in Berkeley, rose 300 feet from the earth, in view of 10,000 spectators, tilted, burst and dropped to the ground with its crew of 16 men, every one of whom was injured. With the possible exception of one, all will recover. Seven were severely hurt, while nine were bruised and cut.

The injured: L. V. Rogers, engineer; J. A. Morrell, inventor of the airship; Z. T. Taylor, aeronaut; Otto Olsen, air sailor; C. A. Nelson, engineer; S. Whipple, engineer; Justin Barber, photographer; E. C. Wallin, newspaper photographer; P. H. Goodfriend, engineer; H. Miller, air sailor; Charles P. Hall, photographer; John Peterson, photographer; V. J. Fluno, engineer; John Ahern, engineer; W. Mowrey, engineer.

The accident was spectacular. After much waiting that made the onlookers anxious, the stay ropes were cut and the airship rose slowly from earth.

The five gasoline engines, suspended beneath the long gas receptacle at intervals of about 50 feet, each attended by an engineer, were not put in operation until the airship was well up in the air. Then two of the engines slowly set in motion the long propellers reaching from them on each side of the ship. Before the ship could be propelled further than a few feet the forward end tilted downward until the craft stood at an angle of 45 degrees, nose downward.

The men on the airship were apparently unable to run along the canvas pathway in order to equalize the weight and to right the airship, and they clung desperately to the netting and superstructure. The rush of the gas to the stern of the long gas bag caused the envelope to burst with a loud, rattling noise.

The release of a great quantity of gas caused the airship to settle toward the earth. For a few moments it looked as though it would come down slowly enough to avoid any injury to the 16 men.

Some of them, however, lost their heads before the ship could alight and jumped, suffering broken limbs or severe bruises. Nearing the earth, the ship lost gas more rapidly and the overweighted remnant of gas borne to earth rapidly with great force. Morrell, the inventor of the craft, and several of the engineers were caught in the understructure and injured by the engines.

BLIZZARD IN NORTHWEST

Snow Three Feet Deep—Heavy Loss of Live Stock.

Sheridan, Wyo.—Snow, which in many places reached a depth of three feet, fell on the 20th. It is a heavy, damp snow and has done great damage in many places. Fruit will be ruined and the loss of live stock is great. It is the worst spring snow for 25 years and extends over Northern Wyoming and parts of Montana. Alliance, Neb.—Northwestern Nebraska experienced a heavy snowstorm. The temperature dropped to 25. Considerable damage to early crops will result.

Butte, Mont.—Heavy losses of sheep and lambs are reported from Rawson county by a blizzard. The snow lies two feet on the level and five feet and six feet in drifts.

\$30 Cigar Given to Cannon. Washington—"Uncle Joe" Cannon has a cigar twenty-two inches long and two inches thick which cost \$30. It is said to be the most expensive "smoke" ever rolled up. The National Association of Piano Manufacturers presented it to the speaker.

PLATT DENIES CHARGES

Aged Senator Says He Never Married Mae Wood.

New York.—Physically so feeble that practically he had to be carried in and out of the court room, United States Senator Thomas C. Platt was at times a spirited witness today when he appeared to testify in his own behalf in Mae C. Wood's suit for divorce from him. His denial of all the charges brought by Miss Wood was emphatic.

Senator Platt in his testimony categorically denied that he ever married or promised to marry the plaintiff, repudiating the signature purporting to be his on the marriage certificate and the genuineness of several letters Miss Wood testified came to her from him.

Priest Stabbed.

Salisbury, Mo.—In the presence of 400 worshippers, Father Joseph F. Lu-beley, aged 33, pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic church, was stabbed twice with a pocketknife and perhaps fatally injured in church Sunday, by Joseph Schuetz, a farmer, who is believed to have become suddenly demented. A panic was narrowly averted among the communicants, many of them women. The injured man's condition is critical.

Say Flour is Misbranded.

Washington.—Suit has been instituted in the supreme court of the District of Columbia by the department of agriculture, under the pure food law, for the seizure of a consignment of 1,440 sacks of flour to local dealers here, the allegation being that the flour was so labeled as to give the inference it was ground wheat grown in Minnesota, when it was milled in Ohio. Justice Barnard has empowered the government agents to seize the products, pending the outcome of the suit.

PLATT'S ACCUSER JAILED

Mae Wood's Action for Divorce From Senator Is Abruptly Dismissed.

New York.—Mae C. Wood, whose suit for divorce from United States Senator Thomas C. Platt of New York, has been on trial in the supreme court here for several days, was committed to the Tombs prison after Justice O'Gorman had dismissed the complaint in her action and ordered her held in \$5,000 bail on a charge of perjury.

The decision in Senator Platt's favor and the sudden and sensational end of the suit came after a day which the defense occupied largely with the introduction of expert and other testimony attacking the authenticity of the documents by which the plaintiff was seeking to establish her alleged marriage to Platt.

The handwriting expert testified that in his opinion the body of the letter, in which Senator Platt was alleged to have admitted his relation as husband to the plaintiff, was added after the senator's signature had been affixed.

More telling still for the defense was the deposition of engravers and stationers called by Senator Platt that the blank form upon which the alleged Platt-Wood marriage certificate was prepared was not lithographed until three months after the date upon which the marriage of Miss Wood to the senator was alleged to have taken place.

She Reiterates It. Miss Wood was regaled to the stand in rebuttal. She was asked if, after hearing the testimony about the marriage certificate she still reiterated that the defendant gave her the certificate as she previously testified, "I still reiterate it," she replied.

Justice O'Gorman turned to Miss Wood and pointedly questioned her. She repeated her assertion that the marriage occurred as she had stated. She admitted that Senator Platt never supported her, and when asked by the court if she did not consider it the duty of a husband to support his wife she replied:

"I do, but as long as he was not enough of a gentleman to do so I never asked him to."

Senator Platt's counsel then again moved for a dismissal of the complaint. It was forthwith granted by Justice O'Gorman, who in rendering his decision, said:

BRYAN GETS DELEGATES

One Northern and Two Southern States Solid for Him.

Lansing, Mich.—William J. Bryan was endorsed by the State Democratic convention, and the Michigan delegation to the national convention is instructed to vote for him under the unit rule until he is nominated for the Presidency. The instruction was by unanimous vote of the convention.

Jefferson City, Mo.—Vociferously applauding every mention of William J. Bryan's name delegates to the Democratic state convention instructed Missouri's 26 delegates to the national convention to vote as a unit for his nomination.

Montgomery, Ala.—The latest returns from the primary indicate the selection of the four Bryan delegates to the national convention is assured. Mobile elected a Johnson district delegate.

No Change in Steel Prices.

New York.—There will be no reduction in the selling price of iron and steel, according to a statement given out by Chairman E. H. Gary of the United States Steel Corporation at the close of the meeting of the general committee of iron and steel manufacturers.

WILLS \$10,000 TO ROOSEVELT

Recluse Who Never Went to Church or Theater Leaves \$500,000.

Boston.—On the authenticity of a new will and two codicils, just discovered, which provide for a bequest of \$10,000 to President Roosevelt, depends the distribution of the \$500,000 estate left by Benjamin Hadley, an eccentric recluse, who was found dead in his home in Somerville last December. If the new documents are genuine all of the estate, except the \$10,000 bequest to the President, will be distributed among English relatives.

Mr. Hadley never rode on a train and never attended a church or a theater.

To Succeed Late Premier.

London.—The bye-election in the Stirling district of Scotland to replace the late premier, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, resulted in the return of Arthur Ponsonby, Liberal, who was secretary to Sir Henry, by the greatly increased majority of 1,361.

The house rejected the conference report on the postoffice appropriation bill, 147 to 155. This means the defeat of the ship subsidy.

Powder Explodes on Car.

Reynoldsville, Pa.—An Italian starting to work at the Ertion mine, boarded a DuBois Traction Company car near Sykesville, deposited a five-pound keg of powder on the controller at the rear, and then sat down in the smoking compartment to study the scenery. With a deafening report, the powder exploded, wrecking the rear end of the car, shattering most of the windows, seriously injuring three of the car's 25 occupants and causing a panic among the rest.

WRECK OF FAST TRAIN COST SCORES OF LIVES

Express Running at High Speed Crashes into Pilgrims' Train. in Belgium.

TRAIN CRUSHED INTO SPLINTERS

Fast Express Leaves Main Line and Demolishes the Lighter Coaches. Scene Is Sickening.

Antwerp, Belgium.—One of the worst railroad accidents in Europe in recent times occurred at Contich, a station six miles southeast of this city. The exact number of victims had not been determined owing to the difficulty of removing the bodies from the debris, but the latest estimate places the number at 60 killed and 100 wounded.

The catastrophe seems to have been due to a defective switch where the main line crosses a branch. At this point a train carrying a large number of pilgrims on their way to a local shrine was standing. Into this the Antwerp-Brussels express dashed at a speed of 50 miles an hour, literally leaping on top of it. The heavy coaches of the express crushed the lighter train into splinters.

Passengers Fled Frenzied.

The sides of the express cars were torn from their fastenings, the floors practically collapsing, thus precipitating the passengers to the side of the track uninjured, whence they fled, frenzied, across the fields. But for this fact the death toll would be much greater. Few of the occupants of the local train escaped alive. Those that were not killed were badly injured, many of them mortally.

The rescuers, even the doctors, hardened to such scenes, were sickened at the sights that met their gaze. One body was found lying across the boiler of a locomotive, crushed into a shapeless mass. The majority of the dead could not be recognized, either being decapitated or their heads being terribly crushed.

Many Harrowing Scenes.

The work of extracting the dead and wounded from the debris appalled even the stoutest of the rescuers. Many of the bodies had completely lost all human shape and were reduced to pulp, heads, arms and legs having been ground off by the wheels and scattered through the wreckage. Three decapitated bodies were found 20 feet from the track.

The cars were literally ground to pieces, and practically all the passengers were either killed or badly injured. Streaking and helpless wounded persons remained under the debris for hours and the scene was one of horror that beggars description.

WAGE SETTLEMENT APPROVED

The Amalgamated Association Takes Important Action—Officers Are Elected.

Youngstown.—The Amalgamated association convention approved the proposition for local settlements of wage scales, which will allow non-union mills to participate. It is expected the action will result in bringing some of the non-union mills into the union.

JOINT ACTION FOR FORESTS

Congress Lay Plans to Have States and Nation Work Together.

Washington.—Under suspension of the rules the house passed a bill appropriating \$100,000 to enable Secretary of Agriculture Wilson to cooperate with states and private owners of wood lands for conservation of forests. A commission of five members each of the senate and house of representatives is provided to study the necessity, desirability and legality of the purchase of forest lands by the United States and to report to the next congress.

Merry Party of Seven Drown.

Clarendon, Ark.—Seven young society people were drowned when the tank of a gasoline launch in which they were going for a moonlight excursion exploded, wrecking the boat. Two were men and five women.

RUSSIA HANGS PEASANTS

Forty Pay Death Penalty for Agrarian Outrages.

Kherson, Russia.—Twenty peasants who took part in recent agrarian disorders in the Kekaterinoslov district were hanged here May 22 under decree of a court martial. They belonged to a revolutionary agrarian organization of which was to drive out landed proprietors by the burning of their estates.

CHINA FIGHTS OPIUM

Appoints Commission Headed by Prince Kung.

Washington.—In its effort to suppress the use of opium the Chinese government has appointed a commission of high officials among whom is Prince Kung, whose duty it will be to select native and foreign physicians of ability and to establish sanitariums, to which persons addicted to the habit will be required to go for treatment. The government's edict points out that it is reported that even among officials themselves, there are not lacking enslaved victims of the opium habit and threats are made of punishment of those who are found guilty of the practice.

Save Women's Jobs in Postoffices.

Washington.—The fight made by Georgia and Texas senators against supplanting women postmasters with male employees resulted in the rejection of three nominations of men before the senate. Senators Clay and Culberson served notice on the postoffice department that they were opposed to women being ousted and their position was so determined that no attempt to confirm the appointments was made.

Practice Marches Ordered.

Washington.—Preparations have been completed by the war department for point maneuvers during the coming summer of all branches of the regular service and many state militia organizations, for which Congress has appropriated \$1,000,000. Practice marches have been ordered in which infantry will cover 200 miles and cavalry 250 miles.

Prohibitionists of Indiana Nominated Summer W. Haynes of Portland, for governor.

WISH PROMPTLY FULFILLED

Expresses Desire to Be Struck by Lightning and Is Instantly Killed.

Cumberland, Md.—George Martin, living near Hancock was killed by lightning while sitting under an apple tree. When the storm came up, two companions remarked about the danger and went into the house nearby. Martin said he would stay where he was and "wished the Lord would strike him with lightning."

In a few minutes a bolt shattered the tree, killing Martin instantly.

CLEVELAND GETS \$500,000

Lake City Fares Well in Public Buildings Bill.

Washington.—The senate committee on public buildings and grounds completed consideration of the omnibus public buildings bill which passed the house last week. The committee added about \$8,000,000 bringing the total carried by the measure as reported to the senate to over \$30,000,000.

The addition includes \$3,000,000 for the purchase of land for buildings in Washington; Chicago for \$750,000 to \$1,500,000; for sub-treasury at San Francisco an addition of \$250,000; Salt Lake City an increase of \$250,000; Everett and Walla Walla, Washington, \$140,000; Denver, Col., \$50,000 immediate appropriation and \$1,800,000 authorized. Senator Lodge's amendment for an embassy building at Paris to cost \$400,000 was incorporated, as was also a provision for the erection of a building in Washington for the departments of state and justice at a cost of \$2,500,000.

The house appropriation of \$850,000 for Cleveland, O., was reduced to \$500,000.

MINES BUREAU BILL

House Passes Huff Measure by a Large Majority.

Washington.—Only one discordant note was sounded against passage by the house of representatives of the bill establishing a bureau of mines and mining under the interior department and which was introduced by Representative George F. Huff of Greensburg.

By provision of the bill a commissioner of mines is authorized and it is provided that it shall be the province and duty of the bureau and its commissioner to foster, promote and develop the mining industries of the United States; to investigate the methods of mining, the safety of miners, the possible improvement of conditions under which mining operations are carried on, the treatment of ores, the use of explosives and electricity, the prevention of accidents, the values of mineral products and markets for the same, and of other matters pertinent to the industries.

TEETH ARE IDENTIFIED

Considered Positive Proof of Mrs. Guinness' Death.

Laporte, Ind.—Louis Schultz, the miner, found in the ashes of the Guinness house the upper and lower bridges, containing what the officials here pronounce the false teeth of Mrs. Belle Guinness, who is thought to have murdered a dozen persons.

The lower set of teeth tally exactly with the description and diagram furnished by Dr. I. P. Norton, the dentist, who built the bridge, and who today identified the teeth positively as those of Mrs. Guinness.

In view of the unmistakable evidence, Coroner Mack stated this evening that he would probably render an official finding that the burned adult female body was that of Mrs. Guinness.

BURNS 10,000 ACRES OF TIMBER.

Bellefourche, S. D.—Government rangers have succeeded in extinguishing a forest fire on Long Pine forest reserve, north of here which burned over an area of 20 square miles. Over 10,000 acres of timber were entirely destroyed.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

The senate passed the public buildings bill, carrying total appropriation of \$35,000,000.

Kansas City, Mo.—Rev. Baxter P. Fullerton of St. Louis, was elected moderator of the Presbyterian church in the United States to succeed Rev. William Roberts of Philadelphia.

The bill passed by the house granting certain employees of the government compensation for injuries sustained in the line of duty today was reported to the senate favorably from the committee on judiciary.

Pittsburg Companies Quit Illinois. Springfield, Ill.—The Pittsburg Life and Trust Company and the Reliance Life Insurance Company, both of Pittsburg, have withdrawn from business in Illinois, and their licenses to transact business in the state have been revoked by the insurance superintendent.

Increase Naturalization Fee.

Washington.—The senate committee on immigration ordered favorably reported the house bill amending the laws in relation to the naturalization of aliens. The committee amended the bill increasing the fees for naturalization from \$5 to \$10.

General Septimus Marius, formerly Haiti's minister of war and the navy, and also general of police, has issued a manifesto denouncing General Alex- is Nord, the President of Haiti, and calling on Haitians to rebel.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Nebraska Man's Followers Turned Down and Delegates Not Instructed.

BRYAN'S NAME IS LEFT OUT

Colonel Guffey in Control of Conven- tion from Start to Finish—Tariff Revision Demanded.

Harrisburg, Pa.—The Bryan forces in Pennsylvania went down in defeat before the banner of James M. Guffey of Pittsburg. Beaten in the resolutions committee where an attempt was made to incorporate in the platform an indorsement of the Nebraska man, the Bryan men also suffered a setback in the selection of a permanent chairman.

By a vote of 187 to 123 in the state convention, the delegates refused to instruct Bryan, and by an overwhelming majority a distinctly anti-Bryan delegation to the national gathering was chosen. These delegates are: National delegate-at-large—Colonel James M. Guffey, Pittsburg; Senator J. K. P. Hall, Elk; Senator Arthur G. Dewalt, Lehigh; the Hon. John G. Harman, Columbia.

Alternate national delegate-at-large—Senator Edward F. Blewitt, Scranton; Mayor S. M. Hoyer, Altoona; B. Gordon Brownley, Philadelphia; John T. Brew, Erie.

Presidential electors-at-large—Albert J. Barr, Pittsburg; Joseph P. McCullen, Philadelphia.

Judge of superior court—Senator Webster Grim, Bucks.

District Electors.

- The following were elected district electors.
- 1—Daniel F. Carlin, Philadelphia.
 - 2—Edward B. Seibertich, Philadelphia.
 - 3—Aaron G. Krause, Philadelphia.
 - 4—Clarence Loeb, Philadelphia.
 - 5—James T. Nulty, Philadelphia.
 - 6—Michael G. Howard, Philadelphia.
 - 7—John C. Ferron, West Chester.
 - 8—J. Howard Danenhower, Bethayres.
 - 9—Louis M. Spencer, Lancaster.
 - 10—A. W. Dixon, Scranton.
 - 11—Major John T. Flannery, Pittston.
 - 12—Oliver P. Bechtel, Pottsville.
 - 13—Harry D. Shaffer, Reading.
 - 14—Charles A. McCarthy, Honesdale.
 - 15—John F. Stone, Connersport.
 - 16—J. I. Welsh, Shamokin.
 - 17—Cyrus C. Gilchrist, Huntingdon.
 - 18—George B. Krause, Lebanon.
 - 19—S. M. Hoyer, Altoona.
 - 20—Harry W. Washburn, York.
 - 21—J. N. Baird, Sinnemahoning.
 - 22—John K. Holland, Hilliard.
 - 23—John N. Panley, Waynesburg.
 - 24—Not selected.
 - 25—Robert H. Browne, Meadville.
 - 26—Howard Mutchler, Easton.
 - 27—W. L. Neal, Indiana.
 - 28—Fred A. Shaw, Tidouit.
 - 29—Henry Meyer, Pittsburg.
 - 30—Wesley S. Guffey, Pittsburg.
 - 31—Dennis J. Boyle, Pittsburg.
 - 32—Casper Mayer, Bridgeville.

The platform protests against government by declamation and proclamation, demands an immediate and just revision of the existing tariff laws, and insists that the same shall be so altered that infant industries, which have now become giant monopolies, shall be curbed, so that the consumer may receive, at a fair price, the commodities for which he now pays an exorbitant sum by reason of undue protection. But at the same time we declare that such revision should be based upon the equitable protection of American labor when competing with foreign manufacturers.

The enactment and administration of laws giving labor and capital impartially their just rights, and calls for the enforcement of the antitrust laws, not by threat, but by performance.

The enactment of remedial legislation in regard to the currency and the management of the fiscal department of the government, whereby the amount of currency may be regulated to the needs of business, and at the same time such currency be amply secured.

It condemns the policy of the party in power when it seeks to unduly increase our fighting strength upon the plea of guaranteeing peace, and when the result is an enormous increase of unnecessary taxation.

WORK TO RESUME FOR 35,000

Many Coal Miners in West to Return to Duties—Next Week.

Kansas City, Mo.—Thirty-five thousand coal miners of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, members of the United Mine Workers of America, who have been on strike since March 1 last, will return to work. The convention ratified and signed the agreement reached by the joint sub-committee of the miners and operators.

Warren, R. I.—Announcement was made at the cotton mills of the Warren Manufacturing Company, that, beginning May 23, the entire plant will go on a full-time schedule, after having run five days a week for nearly two months. The agent states that it will be necessary to operate the mills over time for several weeks. The company employs about 1,000 hands.

Nevada Governor Dies.

Reno, Nev.—Governor John Sparks of Nevada, who had been ill for some time, died at his ranch near Reno, Governor Spark's term would have expired December 31, 1910. He died of Bright's disease. Don S. Diskerson will now become governor.

Senate Confirmations.

Washington.—The senate confirmed the nominations of Edward T. Sanford, of Tennessee, to be United States district judge for the Eastern and Middle district of Tennessee, and Fletcher Maddox, of Montana, to be solicitor of internal revenue.

President Roosevelt signed the bill directing the restoration to gold and silver coins of the motto, "In God We Trust," ordered by him stricken from the gold coins some months ago.

RIOTING AT CLEVELAND

Striking Street Car Men Shoot and Set Car on Fire.

Cleveland, O.—In Lakewood a car was stopped and the crew was fired upon. Four persons were shot and seriously injured, and the car was burned to the trucks.

The first disturbance in the downtown section also took place after dark, when a Woodland car was held up on Ontario street and the motor-man and conductor attacked. The police dispersed the rioters.

The burning of a Clifton boulevard car in Lakewood was the most serious riot the first crowd began shooting at the members of the crew and guards. The latter, W. J. James and John Swanto, returned the fire. More than thirty shots were exchanged.

While the shooting was in progress the crowd grew so near one thousand. Another car arrived and its crew and guards joined in the fight for all fight. Gasoline was poured upon the second car and it burned to the trucks.

The Cleveland police were notified and 60 officers were sent to the rescue. The first car, riddled with bullet and windows broken, proceeded to the car barn.

Motorman P. C. Elsholtz was shot in the leg. John Gray and George Alexander, guards on the second car, were shot in the chest. Mace Burlington, who was in the crowd which made the attack was shot in the hand.

CHURCH UNION PROPOSED

Overtures Presented by M. E. Church to M. P. Church to Return to the Fold.

A committee consisting of Bishop Henry W. Warren, Rev. John S. Goucher, President of the Women's college of Baltimore, and Senator I. P. Dolliver of Iowa, from the M. E. General Conference, appeared before the General Conference of the M. P. church at Pittsburg with an invitation to the Methodist Protestant Church to reunite with the Mother Church from which they separated in 1828.

Rev. Dr. Douglass MacKenzie, President Congressional Theological seminary, Hartford, Conn., representing the national council of the Congregational church, presented the overtures of his denomination on the proposed union of churches.

Predicts Good Crops.

"From the present outlook the fruit and grain crop of the Southwest this year will be the largest in history," said S. A. Hughes, general irrigation agent of the Rock Island-Triaco Lines of St. Louis, while in Pittsburg. "The frost has done little or no damage to that section of the country, and there are many reasons for forming the opinion of a bumper crop for 1908. The prospects for the corn crop is extremely flattering, particularly in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas, and the same may be said of wheat and oats. It is the expectation of farmers that five crops of alfalfa will be realized this year."

Gunner Killed.

Eureka, Cal.—As a result of the explosion of an old four-inch cannon which was being used to fire a salute to the passing Atlantic fleet, Isaac Davis, the gunner, was killed; Miss Church of Grizzly Bluff was struck by a fragment of the gun and had an arm and one leg broken; Miss McDonough was severely injured, Eugene Stohs, a boy, had a leg broken, and Mrs. Frank Slingaby was painfully injured.

High Officials Accused.

New York.—High government officials at Washington are alleged to have conspired to retain possession of love letters said to have been written by United States Senator Thomas C. Platt to Miss Mae C. Wood, according to a signed statement introduced as evidence during the hearing in Miss Wood's suit for divorce against the senator.

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