

EXTRA

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DEATH LIST GRADUALLY GROWS HIGHER AS REPORTS COME FROM INJURED. 41 FATALITIES

THOUSANDS OF VISITORS COME FROM SURROUNDING TOWNS, AND, COUPLED WITH LOCAL CROWDS THE BLEEDING DISTRICT IS SWARMING WITH HUMANITY. OTHER LEAKY GASOLINE TANKS HAVE BEEN CONTROLLED. PEOPLE TERRORIZED BY FRIGHTENED ONES WHO TOLD OF MORE EXPLOSIONS TO FOLLOW

DAMAGED BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED AND A VAST AREA OF THE BUSINESS DISTRICT TO BE TORN AWAY. THERE WILL BE A GREATER ARDMORE BUILT UPON THE HAVOC OF YESTERDAYS DESTRUCTION.

Awakening from the daze caused by the most stupendous disaster that ever befell this city or section of the state, Ardmore citizens and business men this morning began the work of repairing the damage wrought by the tremendous explosion of yesterday afternoon, when a tank containing 250 barrels of gasoline exploded in the yards of the Santa Fe east of the freight house. Workmen began early this morning clearing away the debris, and merchants whose houses were wrecked yesterday, were making arrangements for temporary quarters until their buildings can be rebuilt or repaired. Notwithstanding the appalling loss of life, and the great property loss by yesterday's disaster, the business men and every citizen have put their shoulder to the wheel and are determined that Ardmore will arise from the ashes of ruin and be a bigger and better city than ever. Offers of assistance have been received from many nearby cities, who have sent their doctors and nurses to assist the local physicians, and they have made offers of cash donations as well.

Robert McFarland, a prominent oil operator of Tulsa deposited \$1,000 to the credit of the school board this morning to be used for the needy and suffering of the city. The schools resumed this morning notwithstanding that the high school building was badly wrecked entailing a loss of approximately \$5,000.

It is hard to estimate the actual property loss at this time, but it is evident that the first estimate of half a million dollars is too low, the loss will reach over one million dollars.

The wreckage east of the railroad and adjacent to the explosion beggars description, building after building of stone, brick and wood were leveled as though crushed by a giant. The cigar factory of W. C. DeWitt was completely wrecked, entailing a loss of several thousand dollars. All night long the streets were thronged with curious sightseers from nearby towns and cities; this morning the city is full of curious strangers who were dumfounded when they witnessed the magnitude of the wreck. Newspaper men and photographers from Fort Worth, Dallas, Oklahoma City and other points who have been covering such scenes for years state that this is the most destructive wreck according to area covered, they ever witnessed. Telegraph calls have been pouring into the Ardmoreite office from all over the continent asking for friends and relatives. The police department handled the crowds admirably last night and today. Martial law was declared and over 100 extra men sworn in to protect property. Not a case was reported by the police this morning. The town is still under martial law and is admirably handled by Chief Hutchins and his men. This morning the city commissioners met and authorized the chief of police to employ as many extra men as he deemed necessary and to make any other expenditure of money he thought was necessary without further consultation with the commissioners in order that prompt relief might be given wherever needed.

The business men of the city awoke with a determination this morning to be cheerful and co-operate with one another in the rebuilding of the city. A tremendous task confronts them but they will win if the spirit is maintained. This morning a report was circulated that another tank car was in the fire zone and was leaking gasoline. This caused the crowds to desert that end of the city, but the report was exaggerated inasmuch as pumps were placed on the car and contents transferred to another that could be moved by a switch engine. The car was referred to was blocked at both ends.

It was suggested when the above report became current, that all stores be closed until the tank car was removed or emptied, but upon investigation it was learned that very little if any danger attended the transfer of the gasoline and the stores were permitted to remain open.

The schools all opened this morning but after a brief session they were dismissed until tomorrow, when they will resume as usual.

The moving picture theatres of the city have combined to suspend operations for time being, or until the city is partly restored. Pleasures are taboo here now. Every citizen is bent upon doing his or her mite toward bringing order out of chaos.

The freaks attendant upon the explosion were many and varied. About everyone met who was uninjured either saw or heard it from different angles, and speculation as to the cause of the explosion ran the gamut from plain black powder to naphtha, nitro glycerine and dynamite; that it was gasoline there was little doubt.

All the patients at the Hardy Sanitarium this morning were resting as comfortably as could be expected under the circumstances, but that other names will be added to the death list, there seems to be but little doubt. The destruction wrought by the explosion yesterday was without a parallel in the state. Other tank cars have given way in the oil districts but never was one exploded so close to the congested business districts of any city, and loss of life is without a parallel in the history of and the record established yesterday for property loss and loss of life is without a parallel in the history of petroleum.

Mayor Clint Graham of Marietta learned of the horrible affair shortly after it occurred. An engine and caboose that were standing on the Santa Fe track was pressed into service and all the doctors, with one exception in Marietta together with what trained nurses reside there, were soon in Ardmore assisting the local physicians in the herculean task before them. Doctors and nurses have worked unceasingly since the hour of the explosion until they are nearly exhausted. They are uncomplaining, however, and every case brought to them is given the best attention possible. It will be some time before an accurate estimate can be made of the property loss, but one contractor stated this morning that the item of plate glass alone would total over \$50,000.

To fix the responsibility for the explosion is the next great task for the citizens of this city. Just where this will rest is but speculation, but that it will be placed there is not the shadow of a doubt. The citizens of the city are determined to have a settlement with those who, through carelessness or otherwise, were responsible for the appalling loss of life and the destruction of property. Another thing the city and county are determined upon and that is in the future all cars containing inflammable or explosive substances will not be permitted to stand inside the city limits. Preparations are being made for holding the funerals of the victims. Some will be shipped to their former homes, but most of them will be interred at Rose Hill Cemetery. The only announcement made thus far is for the funeral of Charles Smith, which will be held tomorrow.

First Financial Relief.

The first relief in money came from R. M. McFarlin president of the McMan Oil Company. As soon as he heard of the explosion he phoned from Oklahoma City

THE DEAD AND INJURED

Following is a list of those who are at the Hardy Sanitarium for treatment: Walter Williams, Mrs. R. B. Jackson, Jesse Toland, Miss Worsham, C. G. Jones, S. L. Maxwell, H. L. Tucker, Mrs. Clair, E. L. Perry, J. J. Foster, Mrs. N. L. Hill, Otto McClurg, Fred Walker, Harry Foster, Mr. Holibee, Jim Beasley, C. W. Miller, Miss Miller, Walter Graham, M. H. Whitehurst, A. H. Cornell, Collin Mitchell, Newt Burton, Mr. Collier, Walter Messenger.

The dead that have been prepared for burial by Brown & Bridgman are: Henry Simms, Calice Johnny, W. E. Twyford, Will Stalleup, Mrs. Carrie Davidson, Reuben Warren, C. A. Barlow, M. E. Atkins, Walter Anderson, John Gully, M. M. Taylor, E. J. Cox, Samuel Stalcup, Aaron G. Gould, Thomas Gilkey, Henry Hill, Pitman, Richard Barnes and two unidentified dead—one man and one woman.

Besides the more severely injured who are at the hospitals, hundreds of people all over the city are nursing cuts and bruises caused by falling glass, brick and mortar. It may be several days before the extent or the real number of injured persons are known.

The following negroes are known to be dead: Sampson Crisp, Willie Denton, Albert Wright, Jim Hicks, S. B. Berryman, Bennie Waters, Albert Washington, Allen Ruby, Abraham Benjamin, Louis Bonner, Taylor Sterrell, Luther Arnold, Willie Metcalf, Gladys Kenyon. Mrs. K. W. Kenyon and Dr. Sparks, also two unidentified negroes. Those fatally injured are: Jim Beasley, Wm. Lane, Tommy Thompson and Felix White.

Tom Thompson, a negro, was taken from a wrecked building with a broken thigh this morning.

Among the missing is Henry Hill, aged 35, of Baum, Okla., who with his brother, John Hill, were loading goods at the freight house when the explosion occurred. John Hill was badly crushed and burned. He is now at the home of Dr. McCann, undergoing treatment. His brother, Henry, however, is missing, and it is feared that he may be one of the unidentified dead at the morgue. His family will be here this afternoon, and may be able to identify him.

Santa Fe's Liability.

In some quarters it is stated that the Santa Fe had warning to move the leaky car and that for its failure to do so that liability attaches to the road. It is said that W. C. DeWitt, member of the city council, and who operates a cigar factory near the railroad yards, asked the Santa Fe about the noon hour to get the car away.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION.

To Our Stricken City:
I, J. M. Hoard, Acting Mayor, desire to express deepest sympathy to the families of the large number of our fellow citizens, who lost their lives in yesterday's disaster. Our profoundest sympathy is extended to the many sorrowing ones.
We kindly suggest that our people compose themselves as much as possible and render to those in need the necessary aid. Knowing the citizenship of our city as I do, I am sure everything will be done that is within the province of human power to assuage the grief and pain of the survivors.
We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our neighboring cities for the generous aid offered in this time of sore disaster.
We further commend our citizens to the All-wise Father who reigns over all and will bring order out of confusion, and good out of apparent evil.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC AND SPECIAL POLICE APPOINTMENTS
There will be 25 special men appointed for tonight and all other appointments are revoked. Recognize the blue badge with the word "Police" only.
BOB HUTCHINS,
Chief of Police.