

STEAMERS COLLIDE OFF IRELAND; 300 LOST

CONNEMARA AND RETRIEVER MEET OFF COUNTY DOWN

Both Vessels Sunk And Only One Survivor is Known.

BODIES BEING WASHED UP

Connemara Was Passenger Steamer in Service of Northwestern R. R.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—The London and Northwestern railway steamship Connemara, bound from Greenore to Holyhead, with passengers, has collided with another vessel and is feared the death toll is about 300.

The Connemara collided with the steamship Retriever in the Irish channel last night.

Both vessels were sunk. So far as is known there is only one survivor from both ships.

The railway company says it is unable to state whether any Americans were aboard these vessels. They seldom carry salon passengers.

A Lloyd's dispatch from Belfast says the collision occurred off Carlingford Lough, an inlet on the Irish coast between the counties of Down and Louth. The Retriever was inward bound. A few bodies had been washed ashore on the county Down coast. The dispatch says it is feared 300 lives were lost.

The marine superintendent of the London and Northwestern railroad said that so far as he knew there were only five passengers on the Connemara. Her crew numbered 21. The Connemara was a steamer of 1,100 tons gross and was 272 feet long. The Retriever was 190 feet long and of 574 tons gross.

ROBINSON WILL WIN BY 20,000

Republican State Chairman Gains Makes Final Statement.

(Special Dispatch to West Virginian) CLARKSBURG, W. Va., Nov. 4.—Republican State Chairman Joseph Holt Gaines gave his final statement on the campaign today claiming a general victory for his party all along the line. It is as follows:

"We will carry West Virginia by majorities of over 20,000 for the entire ticket and elect every congressman in the state. We have fewer dissenters in the Republican party than we have had in any campaign since 1900 and our majority for the state ticket will be bigger than we have ever received heretofore."

Dr. James D. Moffat Dies at Washington

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, Pa., Nov. 4.—The Rev. Dr. James David Moffat, president emeritus of Washington and Jefferson college, died here today after an illness of less than a week from paralysis. Dr. Moffat, who was moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian church in 1905, was born at New Lisbon, O., March 15, 1846, and was educated at Washington and Jefferson college and Princeton Theological Seminary. He was admitted to the Presbyterian ministry in 1873 and served as pastor of the Second Presbyterian church at Wheeling, W. Va., until 1882, when he was elected president of W. & J. college in which position he continued for 33 years.

The Weather

West Virginia — Threatening and warmer tonight; Sunday fair. LOCAL WEATHER READINGS. F. P. Hall, Observer. Temperature at 8 a. m. today, 41. Yesterday's weather, clear; temperature, maximum, 64; minimum, 30; precipitation, 0.2.

Gang Government and Business (An Editorial.)

GANG government in New York is benevolent in its predominant instinct. The Tweeds, the Crokers and their successors helped themselves with a lavish hand to the public funds and made the kid gloved and the silk hatted who wanted franchises and other favors pay huge sums, but invariably a large percentage of the proceeds filtered down to the families of the men in the tenements who furnished the votes upon which the whole amazing structure of graft—the richest in history—is based. In Philadelphia there is a fine air of comradery about it. When a Quaker City crowd lifts up its voice at a political meeting and sings "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here" there is much more to it than raucous sound. San Francisco in the days of the sand lot politicians and in the later—and worse—times of Abe Rueff was looted and debauched through the manipulation of a class consciousness which was this country's nearest approach to the selfishness and the greed of a proletariat that has always been a great problem of municipal politics in France and Italy. It is worthy of note that in each of these instances the political condition reflects with considerable fidelity genuine public opinion.

But in Chicago, and in Fairmont, gang government is an unlovely, incompetent, and at times malevolent, thing, without a single redeeming feature, least of all the utility of giving expression to the spirit of the people. It is a strange condition for which there is no reasonable explanation. It provides license for the vicious and temptations for the weak, but why the voters, who could wipe it out in both communities if they but made the effort, permit it to exist is a mystery that defies analysis.

In Fairmont the commonly accepted belief is that certain important interests—and when we say interests we do not mean one coal corporation; there are others—find it necessary to own a political organization and the men they employ to manage this political end of their business believe it incumbent upon themselves to do some things, and to permit others to do other things, which both the moral and the statute law frown upon. If that actually were the condition and the theory to which the wholesale debauchery of this community is due it would indicate unmistakably that these "interests" are either singularly unenlightened regarding the commonplaces of machine politics or totally devoid of a sense of moral responsibility. It would mean that if they run the legitimate ends of their business as stupidly as they run their politics the meaning of efficiency is entirely beyond their comprehension, and it would make imperative the teaching of a severe lesson in the general interest of the future material welfare of this district.

It has been found to be a difficult thing to prevent commercialized vice and crime from purchasing immunity in big cities, but it is a fact familiar to all students of municipal government that from time to time there have arisen powerful district leaders, or bosses, if you will, who would not stand for any of the things the people of Fairmont have been compelled to put up with during the past summer; who "cleaned up" their districts and kept them clean, but who nevertheless ruled the political machine of which they were the head with a discipline that would have done credit to the commander of a Roman legion.

And there are small cities and towns scattered over the United States that are dominated politically by men who control their industries as completely as Dowie dominated Zion City in his heyday in which a bootlegger or a dive keeper of the Jackson street type would stand about as much show as a mad dog.

Corporation managers who are not willing to do their share in keeping their communities clean are going to find that they have lost their nice fat jobs for the simple reason that in the near future alliances between corporations and any kind of crookedness are going to be so decidedly unprofitable that the owners of stocks and bonds will not put up with the men who enter into them.

It is therefore silly to assume that there is any "business" reason why the county government of Marion county should go into a tacit partnership with illicit booze and black and tan vice and the city government become a willing although silent member of the firm. The interests could put a stop to it if they wanted to. It would pay them to do it. But they do not. It is high time therefore for the voters to stop being awed by a feeling that the great corporations upon whose prosperity the prosperity of this district depends are interested in gang government and reassume control, feeling sure that their own bread and butter and the big corporations will in no wise be injured in any one of their legitimate interests—which, by the way, are the only interests the public has any business to be at all solicitous about.

The voters may be sure that if they do smash the vicious ring and administer well merited punishment to the gangsters who are directly responsible for the disgraceful conditions the corporations will not dare to assist any attempt at revenge. Politics in this state has entered upon a new phase. For all practical purposes the direct primary law effected a revolution. The day of conventions controlled from the back room of a groggery, of nominations made by agreement between political bosses with private ambitions to gratify and private interests to serve and of government generally in the hands of a few is past never to return. All West Virginia politicians have not yet found it out, but it is a fact nevertheless. In the future the corporations too will have to behave or they also will be sharply dealt with in a court from the decisions of which there is no appeal. Moreover most of the Marion county gangsters have gone so far with political and other kinds of iniquity that if they did not take their conge with becoming humility it would be possible to present them with the alternative of taking a trip either to South America or to Moundsville.

It may be years before the people of Marion county will have as favorable an opportunity to assert themselves, purify the community and enforce good business management of their affairs as they will have next Tuesday. The candidates nominated on the Republican ticket for county offices are men of high moral purpose and exceptional business qualifications. It will take time and tremendous effort to clean our Augean stables, but they can and will do it. They can and will enforce the Yost law and abolish the understanding between viciousness and the law.

But first and foremost the voters must act. They must realize that they have an individual responsibility. They must prove that they own their own votes and are possessed of the first essential of political initiative—the willingness to stand up for the candidates who represent decency and good government. They must realize that gang government is a millstone about the necks of the community and that it is their duty to help throw it off no matter how they feel about the tariff or the Mexican situation. They must in short acquit themselves as real men worthy to be fathers and to stand unashamed before their mothers.

RUMANIANS TAKE ROSCA HEIGHT BERLIN, Nov. 4.—Rosca Height, southeast of Alpschanz on the Hungarian Rumanian front has been occupied by the Rumanians the war office announces. In the region of Trebul Austro German forces recaptured position from the Rumanians.

ALONG THE SOMME. PARIS, Nov. 4.—There was intermittent cannonading along the Somme front and in the region of Fort Vaux and Fort Duamout north of Verdun last night the war office announced today. Elsewhere conditions were quiet.

West Virginian Election Returns

Fairmont people will know the outcome of the election Tuesday evening as early as the crowds in the big cities, thanks to the arrangements that have been made to place the news before them. The West Virginian and The Times have arranged to display the returns on a single screen in front of their offices in Monroe street.

A special leased wire from the Western Union together with the regular news wires of the two newspapers will bring results from the four corners of the country as fast as they become known and special representatives of both papers will supply the details from West Virginia and Marion county. All this news will be thrown upon the screen as fast as it is received.

For the benefit of those who do not want to come out to hear what has happened and especially for those who are subscribers to the service of the Bell telephone company a special arrangement has been made through F. R. Dunning, local manager for the Bell company. Persons calling the West Virginian over phone numbers 1083, 1084, 1085 and 68 will be promptly informed of the very latest intelligence. Call these numbers at any time during Tuesday night and the following day and as often as you want to. Both the West Virginian and the Bell company want you to make free use of this special service.

27 MINERS ARE TRAPPED IN AN ALABAMA MINE

Gas Explosion Responsible for Trouble Near Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 4.—Eighteen negroes and nine white men entombed in the Bessie mines of the Sloss-Shofield Steel and Iron company, 20 miles west of here, are believed to have lost their lives early today by an explosion said to have been caused by gas.

Two bodies of unidentified negroes have been brought to the surface. The entire police force of state rescue workers under C. S. Nesbitt, chief mine inspector, together with a crew of the United States Mine Bureau were summoned to the scene shortly after the explosion and everything possible, it is said, is being done to reach the men.

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 4.—Ladson Stone, in charge of the Pittsburgh station of the Bureau of Mines, was notified of the explosion in the Bessie mine and prepared to send a force of trained rescuers from here. They will leave on the first available train.

NAME SAFETY FIRST GRAND JURYMEN

Soft Place Fixed for the Law Breakers of Tuesday to Land.

Another safety first grand jury has been called. The names of the men who will serve during the November term have been announced and there are five professional grand jurymen on the list. Judging by past records these men will be looked to by the Gang government of the county to protect any who are arrested for violations of the election laws on Tuesday.

That is to say, they will if all the plans go through and the Democrats carry the elections. If anything slips the poor dupes who fall into the hands of the law will be expected to take care of themselves. The list of grand jurymen is as follows:

- Grand district — John H. Manley, Jr., Clarence Curry, Lincoln district — H. T. Lough, Howard N. Martin, Paw Paw district—Thomas L. Thorn, Jacob Greaser, Fairmont district—F. B. Tennant, J. Fay Watson, Chas. E. Snider, Clyde S. Holt, Union district—Clarence D. Robinson, Clarence Fisher, Winfield district—Ed. J. Hunsaker, Levi Harris, Mannington district—C. L. Kinney, J. Fred Beatty.

B. & O. Men Return to Their Work

PROMISED INCREASE OF WAGES IS RECEIVED AND STRIKE IS SETTLED.

The 22 men who quit work on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad yesterday returned to work, the night shift reporting last night the day shift this morning. This was done after a conference between representatives of the men and J. M. Scott, division superintendent at Grafton. The men will receive an increase in wages of from four to six cents an hour depending on the class of work.

The men have been negotiating for the raise for two months and were promised the money some time ago. When it was not forthcoming the first of this month the men after holding a meeting, decided to quit. It seems, however, that the wage increase had been allowed but that the men were not notified before they went out.

LINEMAN BURNED BY ELECTRIC WIRES

Taken From Pole by Aid of Fire Department Ladders.

Dick O'Brien, an employe of the Consolidated Telephone company, while working on a wire pole at Fairmont avenue and Thirteenth street, was severely shocked this morning at 11 o'clock. He was seen to stiffen and fire to shoot from him, and then to lie crosswise on the wires.

The recollection of the sad death of Taylor Watkins earlier in the week caused the men who worked with O'Brien to fear the worst. One tried to get him down while the other telephoned the city fire department and asked for the hook and ladder truck, the ladders to be used to get him down. By the time the department got on the scene it was noticed that O'Brien was alive and though stunned was breathing easily. A ladder was raised to the cross arms and O'Brien assisted to the top rung whence he managed to climb down himself.

He was taken in an auto to his home where his greatest injuries proved to be bad burns. He is entirely out of danger, though dug to his burned hands and legs he will be unable to work for several days.

Fleming Speaks at Benwood Tonight

Hon. Thos. W. Fleming, candidate for Congress, speaks tonight at Benwood where a big Republican rally and torchlight parade is being held in his honor. Yesterday Mr. Fleming was in Moundsville where he spoke to a large and enthusiastic audience.

ELECTION CAN'T STOP BUSINESS

Activity Continues Unabated Despite Excitement of Windup.

NEW YORK, Nov. 4.—Dun's Review for this week says: Neither the pending elections nor the persistent rise of prices have perceptibly reduced the momentum of the business movement. Activity continues unabated at a time when more or less hesitancy is usually witnessed, and it remains a wonder that with costs mounting steadily, and in many cases rapidly, demands are sustained in such great volume.

New buying for current and forward requirements still outstrips the facilities for both production and distribution, labor conditions and the growing scarcity of materials acting as a brake on manufacturing in many directions. Car shortages are also a hindrance and the consequent restriction of fuel supplies causes some concern among industrial interests. With shipments generally backward and the trend of prices continuing strongly upward, producers display greater reluctance in extending commitments farther into the future and an increasing number of profitable contracts are being rejected.

Yet, even with much business of necessity held in abeyance, bank clearings make a phenomenal exhibit and are 39.0 per cent. larger this week at leading centers outside New York than a year ago, though part of the gain is obviously due to the high prices.

LABORERS 28c Per Hour New Normal School grounds, Locust Avenue.

BOOTLEGGERS SOLICITING BUSINESS UPON STREETS; SELL WHISKEY BY DRINK

Prominent Citizens Have Been Stopped And Asked If They Did Not "Want Something"

SOME DIRECT PERSONAL TESTIMONY

What One Man Saw Who Accepted Invitation to Visit Basement Room of May's Washington Street Place.

Although it has long been a matter of common knowledge upon the streets that liquor has been very easy to obtain in this city yet it has only been in the past two weeks that those engaged in this traffic have ventured to solicit the patronage of any and all passers by who might possibly be a customer for their wares.

This condition has been learned from the large number of persons who have been approached and who were justly indignant that such a condition could exist. The incidents related by the following well known and honorable men of the community bear out this statement and they are only a few of those who have been offered liquor.

Marshall W. Harris, former deputy sheriff under Geo. E. Amos, and prominent citizen of the East Side, tells this one: "Wednesday afternoon Chas. Hawkins and I were walking down Washington street toward Madison on our way to the East Side. As we passed the negro restaurant kept by Billy May, a big black buck, whom I did not know, stepped out and said, 'Do you men want something?'"

"I started to walk on and shook my head, but Charley said, 'What have you got?' The negro replied that he had whiskey and we would have anything from a drink up. Charley told him that he did not care for any and we then passed on."

Chas. Hawkins lives on Locust avenue and is known throughout the county as one of the reliable and respected citizens of the community. He vouches for the correctness of this story and tells it in practically the same manner.

W. T. Black, of the Fairmont Wall Plaster company, states that he was walking down Washington street on the same afternoon and that a negro unknown to him stopped him and offered to sell him a pint of whiskey. Mr. Black says that he did not accept the offer and the negro then offered to sell him a drink if he desired it. This he also refused.

J. R. Prickett, a well known and respected citizen from Barrackville, who has been a lifelong Democrat, relates this one: "About a week ago I came to Fairmont and was standing on the Main street corner by the court house. A tall lanky negro sidled up to me and asked me if I would like to have a dozen bottles of beer. I told him that I did not care for any and that I never drank the stuff. He said he could get me whiskey if I would rather have it. This I also refused."

Another gentleman who is a director in the new Fairmont hotel and prefers not to mention his name, relates this one: "Thursday afternoon I was down looking over the hotel which is in construction at the corner of Jefferson and Washington streets and was standing in the street near Billy May's place watching the steel beams being swung into place on top of the building. On the side walk in front of the restaurant were standing a group of negroes.

"Every few minutes a white man or a negro would come along and turn down beside the restaurant and go in the side room. Presently a well built negro came over to where my companion and I were standing and said, 'What do you want?'"

"I told him that I did not want anything and he said, 'Well, what do you want?'"

"I told him that I did not want anything and he said, 'Well, what do you want?'"

WANTED. Fire boss. Apply Plant No. 9, Jamison Coal and Coke Company, Fairmont, W. Va.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

The 1916 tax books are now completed and ready for collection. The books for all Districts will be found at the Sheriff's Office daily until Nov. 30th, the close of the discount period except Mannington district, which will be found at the Bank of Mannington. Please pay today as I have more time to wait on you now than later. C. D. CONAWAY, Sheriff

ion and I were standing and asked if we wanted something. My companion stated that there were several things that we might want and asked what he had. The negro asked us to follow him and we did; just to see what was being done.

"He led the way to the side entrance of the restaurant and we entered. Inside was a large room with a piano in one corner at which a negro was hammering away in a listless manner. Throughout the room were groups of negroes and white men and a few negro women.

"Our new found friend led us over to one corner of the room which was partitioned off and behind the partition were negroes and white men drinking whiskey out of a bottle. Our guide asked us whether we wanted drinks, at two for a quarter or a pint at a dollar. I told him I did not care for any just then.

"He then reached in his coat and pulled out pints of whiskey of two different brands and said we had better carry some home. We told him that we could not use anything he had. He acted very courteous about it and followed us outside, saying when we left that any time we wanted something to just call around or call up on the telephone and it would be delivered."

Hundreds of other instances of bootleggers who ply their trade right on the streets and in such a way that the city police and the county officers cannot help but be cognizant of it might be cited. For some weeks it has been practically impossible for a man to pause outside the postoffice after dark without being asked if he did not want something. Men passing through Jackson street on business have been stopped and solicited to buy whiskey while an auto which passes in that thoroughfare after the horn has been given a suggestive toot or two is almost mobbed.

Democratic county officers say they can't stop bootlegging. Elect Republicans who will.

NOTICE

City taxes are now due and payable at the City Treasurer's Office, Monroe street. A discount of 2 1/2% will be allowed.

J. R. MILLER, Treasurer.

POLITICAL ADVERTISING

Congressman Neely Will address the Citizens of Fairmont and vicinity at the

OPERA HOUSE

Tomorrow Evening at 8:00 o'clock Members of all parties and the ladies are invited to attend. COMMITTEE

Big Socialist Rally

Harold W. Houston of Charleston will speak in the Court House Monday evening at eight o'clock. Candidates for county offices will be there and present their views on the issues of the present campaign. Candidates and members of other parties are cordially invited to be present and express their views.