

TEN ADDED TO DEATH LIST IN ARDMORE DISASTER

Bodies of Six More White Men and Four Negroes Discovered in Debris; Known Number of Fatalities Reaches Fifty

DYNAMITE EXPLOSION FOLLOWS FIRST BLAST

Scores of Buildings Wrecked; Fires Rage Till Late Hour; Property Loss Placed at Half Million; Still Search for Bodies

By United Press. Oklahoma City, Sept. 28.—In reply to the Red Cross offer of aid to Ardmore, Gov. Williams has wired that while fifty are known to be dead in Ardmore he does not believe outside aid is needed.

By United Press. Ardmore, Sept. 28.—The known number of dead in yesterday's disaster was raised today to fifty when the bodies of six white men and four negroes were discovered in the debris.

The explosion of a quantity of dynamite which was stored in a nearby freight shed, immediately following the gasoline blast, added to the destruction.

A spark from a workman's hammer cost the lives of at least half a hundred persons, injured forty or more seriously and two hundred others less seriously and did property damage which is estimated at half a million dollars.

Ira Woods, a refinery employe, was repairing a tank car containing two hundred and fifty barrels of gasoline in the Santa Fe railroad yards, when he struck the car with his hammer, causing a spark which ignited the fumes escaping from the tank. The first terrific explosion was followed by several smaller ones.

The Ardmore station, which was used by the Santa Fe, Frisco and Rock Island lines, was demolished and scores of other buildings were fired. The flying liquid spread until a large part of the main street was a furnace. Many of the fires were not under control till a late hour last night.

Scores of workmen are still digging in the smoldering ruins for bodies, looking for persons who may possibly be alive and imprisoned in the wrecked buildings.

The six additional bodies were found in the ruins of a pool hall where seven bodies had been recovered last night. Hospitals are filled and private homes are caring for many of the victims.

"Most Terrible Calamity."

An extract from a personal letter received in Chickasha this morning from Ardmore says, "Have just witnessed the most terrible calamity Ardmore's history has ever known. The explosion of a few hours since has thrown the city into mourning and wrought financial havoc. Have just seen twenty dead bodies carried into one undertaking establishment. No one knows the number of dead as yet, and the number may probably never be known. Many residences were badly damaged, particularly in the vicinity of the high school and the First Baptist church.

"Every plate glass window on Main street is out. The union depot is down, the Pennington wholesale grocery house is totally destroyed by shock of explosion and fire, the Whittington hotel has collapsed and all the large dry goods stores are shattered, their roofs having collapsed. The Rose Croix hospital is a scene of frightful suffering where many are dying. Gas mains destroyed, electric light wires down and the city will be

in darkness tonight." This letter was mailed out of Ardmore, according to the cancellation stamp of the postoffice, at 6:30 yesterday evening, about four hours after the explosion.

Property Loss Great.

The Santa Fe freight station was wrecked and was burned to the ground. The union passenger station is almost a total wreck. The express office was partially wrecked. From the Santa Fe freight station to the Whittington hotel every building, including Pennington wholesale grocery house, is wrecked. The east side of the Whittington hotel was wrecked from the top story to the first floor. On the opposite side of the street the wreckage was almost as bad. The Swift Packing company building was wrecked and burned. The two story rooming house over the Canton cafe at the corner of Main and Caddo streets, was wrecked, as was also Bob Briggs' restaurant. Shorty Twyford was killed here. A woman was dragged from the ruins and was in a manner dead. Some dead negroes were also taken from the ruins. Ladd & Davidson's wholesale house, east of the railroad, was badly wrecked. Mrs. Clara Davidson was completely covered with falling bricks and severely injured. The bookkeeper, Raymond McCoy, who was also in the store, was severely injured.

The scene beggars description. Almost every family had as many as one member out in town some where, and men and women were frantically searching for missing ones. Telephone poles were twisted, so great was the force of the explosions. The lights were out Monday night and the city left in darkness.

Martial law has been declared and Chief of Police Hutchins appointed many extra men to protect merchandise.

Dewitt's cigar store was wrecked. Forty girls were employed here, but so far none has been reported killed. Tom Gilkey was blown down and almost every thread of his clothing blown from him. A two story building, occupied by negroes as a pool hall and rooming house, was wrecked. A negro stated that twenty persons, all colored, were pinioned in the place and as many as two were calling for help while a crew of men were at work. The Hardyman hotel was demolished and it was reported that persons were in the building. A crew of rescuers is at work there.

DELINQUENT TAXES ARE BEING PAID

Sheriff Bailey, in whose hands the county treasurer placed over 600 delinquent tax vouchers a week since, reports that returns are coming in fast to the notices mailed those owing the taxes. Every mail, Mr. Bailey says, is bringing in remittances in payment of claims, while a large number of out of town delinquents are calling at his office and settling up.

CHICKASHA WILL PLAY LAWTON

The Chickasha football team will meet the Lawton team on the local gridiron Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The game will be played at University park and a most closely contested struggle for honors is promised.

This will be the first time for four years that the Chickasha and Lawton football armies have met on the Chickasha gridiron.

The Lawton team is said to be an extra good one this year, but the Chickasha boys say they will clean up on them as they did the last time Lawton played here.

Chickasha has played one game this year, defeating Mountain View on its own gridiron, last Friday, by a score of 18-6.

The Chickasha line-up in Friday's game will be: D. Luster, quarter; G. Goetting, full back; Juoyce, left half; Poole, right half; Riddle, center; Bowie, Collier, guards; Shook, tackle; W. Griffith, tackle; Wilson, end; H. H. end. Coach, Reid.

The price of admission will be twenty-five cents.

BRYAN ON PROGRAAM

By United Press. Hot Springs, Ark., Sept. 28.—Representatives of the eight Presbyterian synods of Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas gathered here today for the church efficiency convention of the southern district. They will consider the conditions and problems of the church and devise means for making its work more efficient.

William Jennings Bryan will head the list of speakers. Others on the program will be: Dr. J. Rose, Stevenson, moderator of the general assembly; Dr. Charles L. Thompson of New York, veteran missionary secretary; Drs. J. M. Broady and W. L. Darby of Alabama, C. E. Hayes and M. L. Gillespie of Arkansas, W. F. Irwin and F. J. Cheek of Kentucky, R. A. Cody and R. L. Phelps of Mississippi, F. W. Russell, W. H. Black and W. R. King of Missouri, J. R. Lamb and C. W. Kerr of Oklahoma, E. A. Elmore, J. P. Calhoun, T. A. Wigginton and J. E. Clarks of Tennessee, and B. A. Hodges, J. Frank Smith and Mrs. W. B. Preston of Texas.

GRADY GETS FIFTH PLACE ON EXHIBITS

By United Press. Oklahoma City, Sept. 28.—In the award of honors on collective county exhibits at the state fair today, the fifth prize went to Grady county.

Last year Grady county was ninth in the list, while Caddo county was first. The latter dropped several notches below Grady this year, taking fourteenth place. The credit for bringing Grady county up to a place among the top-notchers is given to County Agent Cooper, under whose supervision the Grady display was installed.

Competition among the various counties was exceedingly keen. Thirty-seven counties were entered and the first fifteen ranked in the awards as follows:

- 1. Cleveland; 2. Pittsburg; 3. Canadian; 4. Tulsa; 5. Grady; 6. Comanche; 7. Kiowa; 8. Blaine; 9. Logan; 10. Cole; 11. Marshall; 12. Johnson; 13. Pottawatomie; 14. Caddo; 15. Beckham.

MEXICANS MASSING ON RIVER

By United Press. Brownsville, Sept. 28.—Five hundred Mexicans are massing opposite Progreso. This is believed a feint, while other Mexicans cross to Galveston ranch further down. Soldiers have been rushed to the ranch.

The Progreso band of Mexicans fired into a ranch house near Harlingen, wounding Mabel Carter, daughter of the ranch owner.

Private Smith, who has been searching for Trooper Johnson who disappeared after the Progreso battle, is also missing since Sunday.

WEATHER FORECAST. For Oklahoma. Twilight and Wednesday, unsettled, cooler Wednesday. Local Temperature During the twenty-four hours ending at 8 a. m. Maximum ----- 93 Minimum ----- 66 Rainfall this morning, .38 inch.

MEXICAN BANDITS CAPTURED IN TEXAS



Group of Mexican bandits captured while making a raid in Texas, guarded by the soldiers and deputy sheriffs who took them prisoner.

WAR BRIDE WILLING TO SACRIFICE

British Girl's View Different From that of Her American Cousin; Proud of Serving Her Country

ENGLISH WOMEN CHANGED BY WAR

Thrilled by Thought of Helping Fill Gaps in Fighting Line; "More Soldiers" Heading of Birth Column

By WILLIAM G. SHEPHERD. (United Press Staff Correspondent.) London, Sept. 28.—(By mail.)—The "war brides" question is loaded with human interest.

Two weeks ago, in the United States, I heard American girls giving their opinion of the "war brides" system. Since then I've talked to English girls about it.

"It's simply terrible," said one American girl, "if I understand it right. Is it true that young English officers come home from the front, get married, stay home only six or seven days and then go back to the front?"

"Yes, that's the 'war brides' system."

"It's awful," repeated the New York girl. "I don't see how the English girls stand it."

"What makes it seem awful to an American girl?"

"Well, in the first place, here's a girl, unmarried and perhaps unengaged. Her life is going smoothly. Maybe she becomes engaged to the soldier while he's at the front. He comes home. They're married. Then he goes back to the front again. Her husband has become her whole life. And there he is, under fire. It must be terrible.

"In the second place, suppose there's a baby. What kind of a baby can be born of a mother who is worrying during all the months that she ought to have peace of mind? It isn't fair to the baby who is coming. The mother has two terrible things to worry about. It seems to me. One is whether her husband will live. The other is whether the baby will be weakened and made inferior because of the fact that she is worrying. And, between these two worries, it seems to me that an English 'war bride' would go insane.

"All the girls I know think the 'war bride' system is full of horrors."

"That's the American girl's side of it. Last night an English girl, who has two brothers at the front, listened to what the American girl has told me. There was a queer smile on her face, as she began to grasp her American sister's viewpoint. Then she said: "They don't understand. They never would unless they come to England or unless their own country was in war.

"In the first place an English girl is proud to do something for England, no matter how small. If her man is to die she's proud of having given him.

"But she'd rather give England her

Allies Resumes Heavy Offensive

CONGRATULATING A VICTOR



King Ludwig of Bavaria (at left) congratulating the noted Austrian commander, General von Boehm-Ermolli, who won high honors in the drive of the Teutonic armies through Russian Poland.

BIGGEST BATTLE OF YEAR

Deliver Staggering Blows and Reform Lines for Second Stroke; Berlin Declares First Onslaught of Foe Checked

By United Press. Paris, Sept. 28.—The allies today resumed the offensive in the greatest battle of the year on the western front.

After delivering staggering blows to the Germans in mighty attacks beginning Saturday and continuing till yesterday, the Anglo-French forces drew back and re-formed to strike another blow.

This explains the apparent slackening in the new offensive of the allies. The second stroke began last night. The Germans are yielding ground in the Champagne district and around Arras.

All the French gains are being held and the British forces to the north are making progress under the greatest difficulties.

Declare Allies Checked.

By United Press. Berlin, Sept. 28.—The Germans met the first rush of the Anglo-French forces and stopped it, according to reports received here. The second rush will be dealt with even more effectively, it is declared.

Military critics here already consider the general allied attack a failure. The opinion prevails that the allies will continue their onslaughts at least a week.

Serbian Diplomat Leaving?

By United Press. Berlin, Sept. 28.—Dispatches from Budapest today state that the Serbian ambassador to Bulgaria is leaving Sofia under the pretense of ill health. The Bulgarian consuls in Macedonia have been recalled under the same pretext.

The Greek minister to Serbia informed the Serbian premier that Greece opposes an attempt of foreign troops to pass through Greek territory.

Dumba Announces Recall.

By United Press. Washington, Sept. 28.—Dr. Dumba, the Austrian diplomat, telegraphed the state department today announcing his unconditional recall as the Austrian ambassador to the United States and asking for safe conduct to sail from New York October 5.

Safe conduct for Dumba will be obtained from the allies and will shortly be forwarded to the former ambassador at his summer home at Lenox, Mass.

CORNELL OPENS SEASON.

By United Press. ITHACA, N. Y., Sept. 28.—Cornell university opened her football season here today, meeting Gettysburg.

husband than her sweetheart. And the baby is part of him; if he must go, there's the baby. England has lost one man but she has put another man or woman in his place; she has filled the gap in the fighting line. You know, English girls find something awfully thrilling in that idea.

"I love what the Scotch newspapers are doing. Over their birth columns they put the headline, 'More soldiers for England.' You see an American girl can't understand how we feel because she doesn't understand what change war can make in a woman. You wait and see, you'll find that these babies of the 'war brides' will be the finest babies England ever had."

"Did you try to tell your American girls friends how English girls feel about it?" she asked.

"I did, and they said that a man would always take the wrong side of the question."

"Of course they said that. They couldn't understand. But English women think just as English men do about it, now. The war has changed the women. And American girls would feel just exactly as we do if they knew as much about war as we do. In peace times women think of themselves too much. But war takes all the selfishness away."

PICKANINNIES STEAL GROCERIES

On account of the goodness of heart a Grady county farmer living west of Chickasha mourns the loss of some ten dollars worth of groceries while the city police department is searching for half a dozen little pickaninnies with petty larceny proclivities.

The farmer, whose name is not known to the police, was driving countryward this morning with his two weeks' supply of sugar, coffee and canned goods in his wagon, when he was halted by a bunch of little negro boys asking for a ride. The farmer told them to climb in and ride as far as they wanted to. They did. But they didn't ride far; only far enough to get a whack at the white man's provender. Watching their chance they made their getaway, each with a portion of the foodstuff. The farmer reported the matter to the police and is now looking for any little negro who asks for a ride with a good, long, healthy blacksnake team whip.

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Road Camp No. 1 Soon a Reality

Camp No. 1, county road gangs, will become a reality Thursday morning of this week. The camp will be established on the county road about midway between Rush Springs and the Stephens county line. Lumber, tents and other equipment have been taken out to the scene of the camp. Also one of the new road graders has been unloaded at Rush Springs, where one of the county's tractors is being kept, and work on that road will commence just as soon as the camp can be properly established.

EVENTS IN THE WAR ONE YEAR AGO TODAY.

The Germans occupied the town of Moll and bombarded Liege on their advance to the siege of Antwerp. Berlin reported that the cruiser Emden had sunk several more British steamers in the Indian ocean. The French and British war offices reported no change on the western front. On orders from the Belgian government, the 35,000 inhabitants of Alost are reported to have abandoned their homes. Budapest admitted the Russian advance through the Carpathian mountains. London reported the German garrison of Kiao-Chau driven into the inner defenses.