

Gainesville Daily Sun

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GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1907

TEN CENTS A WEEK

CAPTAIN CHARGED WITH DESERTION

Passenger on Ill-Fated Steamer Saves Captain's

THIS WAS THE FIRST LOWERED

Statement Created a Sensation in View of the Fact that 20 Per Cent of Crew Was Saved While Only 8 Per Cent of Passengers Survived.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 15.—A statement was injected into the news attending the loss of the steamer Larchmont in Block Island Monday night through a collision with the schooner Harry Knowlton when Captain McVey, of the steamer, admitted that his life boat was one of the first, not the last, to leave the sinking ship. This statement was made in reply to charges made by Fred Hierns, an 18-year-old boy of Brooklyn, one of the survivors, that the passengers were left to shift for themselves; that the ship's crew crowded the boats without attempting to provide for the passengers; that Captain McVey was the first to desert the ship.

The statement of young Hierns created a sensation in view of the fact that ten of the nineteen survivors were employees of the ship, or in other words, that while approximately 20 per cent of the vessel's crew were saved, only 8 per cent of the passengers survived.

Captain McVey explained that while his boat may have been the first in the water, it was because he had a crew, and that he remained by the ship until she went down. He made no move to get into his life boat until he had given orders to his crew to lower all the boats and clear away the rafts. While his boat was in the water it was fastened to the steamer by a rope in the running gear that had been caught and this was cut by the boatswain, Tobeson, who saw that with the ship settling rapidly, the boat and its occupants would be caught in the whirlpool and sucked beneath the surface. The captain's boat was on the windward side and he said he called to the passengers to jump into his boat which would hold about 22 people in all, but the electric lights had been extinguished and in the darkness and confusion no one heeded his summons.

Everybody was on the leeward side of the ship and he ordered his men to go around there, he claims, but the boatswain balked his plan, and the boat was driven away from the steamer. The men had to give up their task and crouch down in the bottom of the boat out of the way of the piercing wind.

At 8 o'clock Thursday morning the number of known lost in the frightful calamity stood at 138. At least 157 persons were known to be on the steamer and there is every indication that the number was nearer 200.

Seventy-one bodies had been recovered up to 8 o'clock Thursday and thirty-nine of these now lie in the morgue in this city awaiting identification.

Pulajanes Murder Constables.

Manila, Feb. 15.—Pulajanes attacked and burned two towns in the province of Occidental Negros Wednesday, and killed six members of the constabulary. Two American teachers, W. J. Bassett and Walter J. Lisle, are reported to be missing. No cause is known for the sudden uprising. Raids were made within a radius of 10 miles and schools were first attacked and burned in both instances. The province of Occidental Negros has been free from disturbances for four years. It is believed the raiders were mountaineers venting their hereditary enmity against the coast towns.

Warrant for Walker.

New Britain, Conn., Feb. 14.—Chief of Police J. G. Rawlings left New York Thursday with a warrant for the arrest of William F. Walker, missing treasurer of the bank of New Britain, who was responsible for a robbery in the bank's

MAY RESULT IN MISTRIAL.

Wife of Taw Juror Still Continues Critically Ill.

New York, Feb. 15.—Mrs. Bolton, wife of Juror Bolton, is dead.

New York, Feb. 15.—The trial of Harry K. Thaw, was resumed on Thursday morning, but court had been in session less than 15 minutes when information was received that the wife of Juror No. 11, Joseph B. Bolton, was in a critical condition, and a recess was ordered until 2 p. m. to enable the juror to visit her bedside.

Mrs. Bolton is suffering from double pneumonia. It had been arranged that the attending physician should have the court officers constantly informed as to her condition, and there was no surprise, consequently, when Captain Ricketts, commanding the court police squad, was seen to whisper to Justice Fitzgerald and the latter interrupted Dr. B. D. Evans, who was in the witness chair to continue his direct examination. After a consultation with district attorney Jerome and Thaw's lawyers the recess until 2 o'clock was ordered.

Much sympathy is expressed for the juror. Mrs. Bolton is quite frail, and there is said to be little hope for her recovery.

It seemed as though the trial is likely to be indefinitely postponed, if Justice Fitzgerald should decide to temporarily excuse Juror Bolton and keep his associates on the panel under lock and key. Unless this is done, a mistrial may be ordered.

Everybody is anxious to avoid the latter alternative, and efforts will be made to carry the case to a conclusion even though Bolton should be away for a week. It is a question, however, whether he would be in a condition to serve at any time in the near future in the event of a fatal termination of his wife's illness.

After the recess was ordered Thursday, Mrs. Harry Thaw, who had expected to take the stand late Friday afternoon, visited her husband in the Tombs.

Thaw received many valentines on Thursday, some of them decided works of art.

Central Train Kills Pastor.

Monticello, Ga., Feb. 15.—A terrible accident occurred at Moss crossing on the Central of Georgia railroad on Wednesday. Rev. J. E. Pounds was instantly killed by the northbound train from Macon. The engine cut in twain the horse from the buggy and fragments of the buggy were carried 190 yards from the crossing. The body of Rev. Pounds was carried 50 yards up the road, his head being crushed in half. The horse was killed and fell almost on the crossing. Mr. Pounds was a missionary Baptist minister, beloved by every citizen in the county and the terrible end of so true and good a man is a great calamity here. Rev. Mr. Pounds leaves a widow and four small children.

Woman Killed by Vicious Dog.

Philadelphia, Feb. 15.—Mrs. Lena Smith of this city, who was terribly torn and bitten by a vicious bulldog at her home died at a hospital later. The dog was whipped by Mrs. Smith on Monday and Wednesday when she went into the kitchen with a plate of meat for the dog she was attacked by the animal. Her arm was torn into shreds and was afterwards amputated. Attracted by Mrs. Smith's screams, her husband went to her assistance, and killed the dog with a poker. Mrs. Smith said: "I beat the dog for disobeying me, and it was sullen all day. I felt sorry last night and was giving it a good supper when it attacked me."

Date Is Named by Cavanaugh.

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 15.—President William M. Cavanaugh has issued a call for the spring meeting of the Southern Association of baseball clubs at the Piedmont hotel in Atlanta on February 22. The only business to be considered at the meeting will be the adoption of a schedule for the 1907 season.

Injured in Wreck.

St. Louis, Feb. 15.—The fast Frisco road train known as "The Meteor," was wrecked near Rankin, injuring Fireman G. A. Douglas and News Agent R. L. Atterbury slightly. The engine, two baggage cars, passenger coach and chair car were dented by striking a switch.

1,000 PEOPLE ARE RENDERED HOMELESS

Ninety Cottages and Two Hundred Barns Burn.

TWO LIVES REPORTED AS LOST

Drunken Man Rushes Into a Burning Building and Nothing Has Been Seen of Him Since—Inhabitants Lost Everything.

Poplar Bluff, Ark., Feb. 15.—Notwithstanding the many wild rumors in regard to the loss of life, as a result of the fire which on Wednesday night destroyed ninety cottages and residences, three hotels, the Carr Memorial church and fully two hundred barns and outhouses, entailing a loss of \$200,000, so far as can be learned today, only two persons lost their lives.

John W. Springer, a foreman in the Cotton Belt railroad yard, was run down and killed while carrying furniture from a cottage, which afterwards burned.

A man by the name of Reed, who is said to have gone into a burning house in an intoxicated condition, has not been seen since.

Nearly one thousand people, including 150 families, are homeless, and many are without clothing other than that which they wore at the time of the conflagration.

Woman Suffragists Fined.

London, Feb. 15.—Fifty-six women suffragists who were arrested within the precincts of parliament on Wednesday evening were arraigned in police court Thursday charged with disorderly conduct and resisting the police. Mrs. Deshard, a sister of General French, who has taken a prominent part in the suffragist movement, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 or undergo twenty-one days' imprisonment. Some of the women who have been imprisoned for persisting in suffragists' rights, have been fined \$10 with the option of a month in prison. The rest of the prisoners were condemned to pay fines of \$5 each or undergo two weeks in jail. They all elected to go to prison.

Strike Is Nearing an End.

Augusta, Ga., Feb. 15.—Indications are that the strike of the car-workers of the Georgia railroad and Charleston and Western Carolina railway shops will be brought to an end within the next ten days. The roads are unable to employ sufficient labor to carry on the work, and other union employees of the shops refuse to handle material that has been worked on by "scab" men. There are at least six engines lying idle because of the lack of workmen. The strikers are being assisted by the principal merchants, who readily contribute to the strike fund.

Milliners' Union's First Meeting.

Chicago, Feb. 15.—The Milliners' Union had its first meeting Wednesday and signaled its entrance into the labor field by attempting to fix a wage scale for "art." The following weekly wage scale was fixed: Milliner apprentices (art students) \$3. Preparers (with a sense of the artistic) \$8. Trimmers (artists) \$12. Milliners (full fledged) \$15. The milliners will apply for membership in the Chicago Federation of Labor.

To Force Mothers to Nurse Babies.

St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 15.—Representative Timberlake, of Minneapolis, introduced in the house Wednesday a bill, which, if enacted, will prohibit any person from inducing a mother to cease nursing her baby within a month of the infant's birth. The bill, which was introduced at the request of a charitable society, was referred to the committee on health and pure food.

Winner of Lottery Prize.

Milan, Feb. 15.—W. Gustav Leeman, employed in the hydrographic works of Fribourg, 38 years old, and unmarried, is the winner of a million lire lottery prize at the Milan exposition. M. Leeman is a native of Switzerland. He will give up his employment and leave Fribourg.

HAPEVILLE MAN MAKES ESCAPE

Alleged Diamond Thief Walks Away From Sleeping Officer.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 15.—Quite a mysterious escape occurred here. John West, of Hapeville, Ga., was detained in the office of the chief of police, and was under the charge of a guard and a plain-clothes man. The latter went out for a few minutes, while, the guard says, he went to sleep. West very promptly took advantage of these circumstances, and walked out, and his whereabouts are now unknown.

West was arrested, charged with knowing something of the murder of S. Weston, a stranger, whose dead body was found in a room of the Southern hotel in this city, on the night of Jan. 29, 1906.

In addition to the charge of murder against West, the police authorities here believe that he is a diamond thief of extensive practice. His baggage being searched, a quantity of unmounted diamonds was found, and a number of pawn tickets, showing that a great number of diamonds had been pawned all over the country.

There is evidence to the effect that West was in Atlanta about the time of the Ryan diamond robbery.

STRANGE DEATH OF MAN.

Aged White Man Is Found Dying in the Forest.

Commerce, Ga., Feb. 15.—The details of a mysterious death, which occurred at Walnut Hill, in Franklin county, have just been received here.

Roland Cheek, an aged white man, was in the forest cutting logs for the saw mill. The bell rang for dinner, but Cheek did not respond. Time and again the bell rang, but nothing was seen or heard of Cheek.

A searching party was organized, and sent into the woods. Cheek was found in an unconscious condition, lying in the brush of one of the tree tops.

The party was directed to the tree top by the groans of the wounded and unconscious man. His head was bloody, his arm broken, his shoulder crushed, and his right leg broken in three places. He lingered several hours, and died. Just how it happened no one knows, or ever will know.

To Fight Dispensaries.

Dawson, Ga., Feb. 15.—It seems now that there is to be a contest of the recent prohibition election in Terrell county which resulted in a majority of 154 against the dispensaries. Those who are proposing to make the contest have employed counsel, a number of prominent Dawson lawyers being among the number, and also Hon. Joe Hill Hall, of Macon, who has been here consulting with the contestants and making preparations for a vigorous legal contest. Under the statute, twenty days are allowed in which to begin the proceedings, and it is understood that the attorneys representing the advocates of the dispensary are taking the necessary steps to put the case in the court.

Don't Want Name Changed.

New Orleans, Feb. 15.—A special to the Pileayune from Columbia, Miss., which was once the capital of the state, and which is about 100 years old, says that the citizens are holding indignation meetings over an order from the postoffice department to change the name of the postoffice there. The reason given is that confusion arises between Columbia and Columbus, also a Mississippi town. The citizens are offered the opportunity to select the new name.

Use of Night Caps Revived.

London, Feb. 15.—Fifty-six women night caps which were discarded a half century ago, except by elderly women, are revived by fashionable English ladies. According to Drapers Record, headgear of that kind is becoming part of a woman's wardrobe.

Indicted for Violating 8-Hour Law.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 15.—The Fayette grand jury has returned indictments against eight contracting companies and firms on the charge of violating the 8-hour law in connection with government work in this federal district.

RAILROAD EARNINGS GREATLY DECREASE

Net Earnings of Alabama Roads a Million Less.

COSTS MUCH MORE TO OPERATE

Over Half a Million Increase in Operating Expenses of the Railroads of Alabama—Some Roads Ran Their Trains at a Loss.

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 15.—By reports in the office of the state railroad commission it cost the railroads of Alabama \$574,358.21 more to operate in the year ending June 30, 1906, than for the twelve months previous, the net earnings for the last year being \$6,555,413.58 as compared to \$7,129,771.79. The per cent of operating expenses to gross earnings in 1906 was 80.29, for the year ending June 30, 1905, 76.09.

The total passenger earnings for 1906 was \$8,369,377.65, and freight \$23,274,771.54. The gross earnings from all sources, including trackage and yard rents, were \$32,846,740.47. During that time the operating expenses and taxes were \$26,372,295.42, and the net earnings \$6,555,413.58. Five lines, the Sumner and Chociw; Sylacauga and Wetumpka; Canton, Aberdeen and Nashville; Atlanta and Birmingham division of the Seaboard and the Birmingham and Atlantic, ran at a total loss of \$80,968.54.

The total earnings of the Alabama roads in the year ending June 30, 1905, was \$29,435,907.94; expenses and taxes, \$22,435,037.60; net, \$7,129,771.79. It will, therefore, be seen that while the gross earnings for 1906 were \$3,000,832.53 in excess of the year before, the excess expenses of the one year over the other was \$3,737,257.83. While it cost, according to figures presented, 76.09 of the total earnings to operate in 1905, it took 80.29 for the service in 1906.

Burning Trestle; Train Flagged.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 15.—Madison Jones, a 12-year-old farm boy, discovering that a portion of a six-hundred-foot trestle had been burned near Sparks Gap, on the Southern railway, twenty miles from Birmingham Thursday, left his wagon and taking off his red flannel sweater, flagged an approaching passenger train from Birmingham. The train came to a halt and the passengers upon discovering the situation, made up a purse for the boy. There was a curve not far from the trestle and the boy proceeded to this curve to flag the train, which carried about 100 passengers. The fire is supposed to have originated from sparks dropped by a passing freight train.

Harriman Refused All Offers.

San Francisco, Feb. 15.—The examiner says that President Harriman of the Pacific Mail company, has refused all offers of the officials of the Toven Kisen Kaisha, the Japanese company, operating steamers between this port and the Orient, to sell out to them his line of steamers in part or in whole. The Pacific Mail company, it is said, is now considering a proposition from Mexico, by which the Pacific Mail is to abandon the Panama route in toto and run its steamers in connection with the Tehuantepec Isthmian line or else divide its steamer services between the two Isthmian roads.

Stricken With Apoplexy.

Covington, Ga., Feb. 15.—While in the act of alighting from his carriage to go into the office of a justice of the peace to have the documents in his will properly attested, James J. Harris, a wealthy planter and prominent citizen, residing in Walton county, 8 miles north of this city, was stricken with apoplexy, and died without regaining consciousness.

Italy's Population Decreasing.

Rome, Feb. 15.—Recent statistics having shown that Italy's population for the last five years has been gradually decreasing owing to emigration, the government has decided to adopt restrictive measures. The lack of laborers is felt everywhere.