

NINE LOSE LIVES

TRAIN ON NORTHWESTERN DROPS THROUGH A BRIDGE

Weakened By Flood Water

COACHES PILE UPON EACH OTHER IN SMALL STREAM

Dead and Seventeen Injured In This Compartment—Hours Before Relief Is Furnished the Victims

CASPER, Wyo.—Melting snow and high water caused the worst wreck in the history of the Wyoming division of the Chicago & Northwestern railway when a work train, running to Casper from the construction camp of Wolton, dropped into a small stream near Natrona, twenty miles west of Casper. Nine men lost their lives. One of these, Charles Moll, was foreman of the outfit, and D. D. Blue section foreman of Cadoma. Seventeen were injured and some of these may die.

The wreck happened at 5 o'clock as the train was crossing the stream. The engine passed over safely, but its weight broke down the piling, which had been undermined by the flood waters and the cars dropped into the ravine. The one coach of the train was filled with Austrian and Italian laborers. The coach was telescoped by a heavy water car following and was crushed like an eggshell.

Many of the passengers were caught under the wreckage and it was hours before they were taken out. One or two were drowned and several were killed outright. Several of the laborers were thrown into the water and had a narrow escape from drowning.

Word was sent to Casper as quickly as possible, but it was eighteen hours before relief could be extended to the injured. The weakened condition of the bridges, due to the floods, made it unsafe to send a train to the scene and hand cars were pressed into service and three surgeons and a party of citizens set out for the scene. Shortly after starting the relief party ran into a severe snow storm and were compelled to abandon the cars and proceed on foot. In the meantime pile drivers and a bridge gang were sent from Rapid City and the bridges west of Casper repaired. At noon a relief train was sent out and later brought in the dead and injured. The blame for the wreck seems to rest on nobody in particular as the train was proceeding slowly and cautiously under orders to be on the lookout for bad places in the track. The coroner will hold an inquest.

The first detailed story of the wreck was brought to Casper by an Italian interpreter, Antonia Levalli, who was in the accident. Levalli says the train, a work outfit composed of one coach, two flat cars and a water car, was returning to Casper from the front. All streams were swollen and in places water was standing on the track. Near Natrona the train struck a small bridge over a swollen stream. The engine passed over in safety, but the coach, loaded with the section men, dropped into the roaring torrent and the flat cars and water car piled on top.

The coach was demolished. There were twenty-six persons in the car at the time of the accident, and all who were not killed or drowned were injured.

Foreman Charles Moll was killed and for a time the laborers, being without a leader, were frantic and did not know what to do. The engineer and fireman and the train crew quickly assumed charge and the work of rescue began.

The train crew and the less seriously hurt worked all night, and as fast as the injured were taken out they were carried to Natrona, where they received such treatment as could be obtained at the section house and two or three ranch houses.

The wreckage caught fire soon after the accident occurred and for a time it looked as if the dead and injured would be incinerated before they could be removed. A bucket brigade was formed, however, and after a fight the flames were extinguished before any material damage was done. One or two of the laborers who were pinned under the wreckage near the stove were slightly burned.

The relief party reached the scene at noon the following day. A train with the wounded on board reached Casper in the afternoon.

GAS WELL PUT OUT

FIRE IN WELL NEAR CANEY, KAS., FINALLY SMOTHERED

HOOD FINALLY OVER IT

STEEL CAP, WITH MUD AND BLANKET, CHECKS IT

Gas Again Turned Loose, to Run at Its Pleasure, Until New Tubing Is Put In—Difficult to Rebuild Derrick

INDEPENDENCE, Kas. — The Kansas Natural Gas company's big gas well below Caney, which was struck by lightning February 23, was successfully extinguished. The second hood which was a failure, was placed over the well again. The ground had been made wet and soft around the well so that the hood sank deep into it. Previously the six inch casing which had caused the horizontal tongues of fire had been dropped into the hole and the only fire now was through the vent pipe in the top of the hood. Over 100 yards of canvas ducking was sewed into big blankets and first a layer of canvas and then a layer of gumbo was built around the hood until there were tons of earth banked up. Then the hood was anchored with big chains. Steam pipes were connected to the vent to prevent the flames from rushing down into the hood when the valve was shut as in the previous trial. Then a big spool was attached to the long arm used to turn the valve and around this spool wire was wound. At a given signal men took the end of this wire and ran, turning the valve quickly and the great fire was out.

The great difficulty now will be to build a derrick over the well, fish out the dropped tubing and retube and shut in the well. After the fire was put out the gas was turned loose and is now blowing into the air out of the top vent of the hood.

Taken Out of Mine Tomb
LENS, France.—Fourteen of the 1,200 miners who were entombed in the coal mines at Courrieres were taken from the mine after fourteen days alive and well. They had lived on hay found in one of the underground stables and the morsels of food which they took into the mine with them nearly three weeks before. All attempts to rescue the entombed had been abandoned more than two weeks before.

The sudden appearance of the imprisoned men caused stupefaction. A gang of salvagers had just completed their night's work when they were startled to see a group of miners, terribly haggard and exhausted and with eyes sunken, appear from a remote part of pit No. 2. The strongest of the party said they had broken out of a distant gallery, where they had been entombed since the disaster of March 10. The rescued men were taken up the elevator, but were unable to see, owing to the dazzling daylight.

The mine officials were deeply affected as the weeping survivors were taken to a hospital. The men were able to talk feebly, but sensibly. They all asked for news of relatives or friends and wished to go home immediately. The doctors, however, prevented them with difficulty from so doing. Later crowds besieged the mines in the hope of hearing of further escapes, necessitating the employment of a strong police force and detachments of troops to maintain order. It is said that others of the entombed miners are alive and about to be brought out, their signals having been heard.

The families of the miners are intensely indignant. They claim that salvage operations were never undertaken in the part of the mine from which Nemy and his companions escaped, and disorders are expected. The most severe repressive measures have been taken. Crowds of women denounce the directors and engineers, crying:

"If you had given us tools we would have saved our own husbands."

The party which escaped originally numbered twenty men of whom six disappeared during the gropings in the darkness. A number of the salvage corps was counted among those brought out, making the actual number of survivors thirteen. The latter are positive that others are alive in the mine.

FOUND SIX BODIES

BULGARIANS MURDERED IN A MINNEAPOLIS HOUSE

Only One Clue in The Case

GERMAN HEARD SCUFFLING IN REAR OF HOUSE

Police Believe Some Were Killed for Robbery and Survivors Quarrelled Over The Division of The Spoils

MINNEAPOLIS.—The hacked and mutilated bodies of six Bulgarians, evidently workmen, were found lying in pools of coagulated blood in a little tumble-down house No. 245 Tenth avenue South. Four of the bodies were found in a sleeping room on the second floor, cut and slashed in a shocking manner, while in the cellar were two others with their throats cut from ear to ear. Near the bodies were found five large bowie knives with razor-edged blades nearly 8 inches long and a blood-stained hatchet.

Two were evidently father and son. All of the men were comparatively young. None bore any names about their clothing, those given being taken from letters in the sacks and satchels in the room where four of the bodies were found.

The nationality of the men was determined by Rev. Boskovic, pastor of the Greek church here. He found among the papers a discharge from the Turkish army, belonging to Agne Karofil.

The only clue to the wholesale murder which may lead to something definite was obtained from a drayman named Mickleberg. He says he was approached by some men, whom he took to be Italians or Greeks who wanted him to take six packages from the house where the bodies were found to the union station. On arriving at the house he found there were twelve packages, and after some haggling about the price he took them to the station. A young man, aged about twenty years, rode on the wagon with him. The other men walked. The man who rode on the wagon said the party was going to Duluth. At the station he noticed that the men from the house were joined by several other men, a woman and a little girl.

From this clue the police believe the murders were committed some time between midnight and the morning of the day the drayman was employed. This suspicion is clinched by the statements of S. Magnuson owner of the house, who asked the police to search the house. He said that an aged German who occupied the lower floor of the house could not be found. He it was who notified Magnuson that a fight had occurred. The German said he heard scuffling in the rear of the house, but thought nothing of it until the next day, when he observed that the tenants above him were not moving about as usual. After notifying Magnuson the German disappeared and has not been located yet. Magnuson at once notified the police, who broke open the doors and made the horrifying discovery.

Magnuson told the police that about four months ago a well dressed Italian rented the upper floor of the house and paid four months' rent in advance. The Italian told him he was foreman of a railroad construction gang, and that none of the hotels would keep the men. The next day twelve men moved their belongings in. They went to work each day and returned in the evening. They were quiet, never drank and those living about the place paid little attention to them. Magnuson never inquired their names and merely entered them on the books as tenants for whom four months' rent had been paid in advance. The "foreman" was never seen again and the police have absolutely no knowledge of his identity. The two bodies in the basement, according to Coroner Kistler had been dead nearly two days. The blood surrounding the bodies in the upper rooms was more fresh than that around those in the cellar. Also the wounds on the four appeared to have been made late. The men in the basement had been killed by having their throats cut and the police are inclined to believe that they were murdered for their money and a free-for-all fight followed over a division of the spoils. This is indicated by the wounds on the bodies found in the upper room.

PERKINS WAS ARRESTED

FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK LIFE HELD

Counsel For Mr. Perkins Alleges Offense Was Purely Technical and That Payments Were Authorized

NEW YORK.—George W. Perkins, member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., and formerly vice president of the New York Life Insurance company, was technically placed under arrest in the proceedings which District Attorney Jerome has begun to test the legality of political contributions by insurance companies.

The warrant was issued upon information presented to Police Magistrate Moss and the allegation upon which it was based is the transfer of \$45,702 of the funds of the New York Life Insurance company to Cornelius M. Bliss, treasurer of the republican national committee in 1904, in which it is charged that Mr. Perkins received the money from the insurance company and paid it over to Mr. Bliss. Immediately after his arrest, Mr. Perkins, through his counsel, Lewis A. Delafield, secured a writ of habeas corpus from Justice Greenbaum of the supreme court by which Mr. Perkins was released from custody and the case was taken directly to the supreme court. Argument on this writ was adjourned until later.

Mr. Perkins was taken into custody while in the office of his attorney by a detective from the office of District Attorney Jerome. He did not appear before Police Magistrate Moss, who had issued the warrant, but went directly before Justice Greenbaum. There the district attorney recited the legal steps that had been taken but did not go into the charges against Mr. Perkins. Mr. Delafield, however, declared that the charges against Mr. Perkins was purely technical and asked for the postponement of the case. He described the payment of \$48,702 by Mr. Perkins to Mr. Bliss in 1904 and said that the payment had been authorized by John A. McCall, the former president of the New York Life Insurance company.

The arrest of Mr. Perkins and the subsequent issuance of the writ of habeas corpus will have the effect of having the highest courts of the state pass upon the legality of campaign contributions by insurance companies. Much attention was directed to this matter at the recent legislative insurance investigation and it was shown that several of the larger companies on more than one occasion had contributed to such funds.

Mr. Perkins in his own testimony before the insurance investigating committee, testified as follows concerning check signed by Treasurer Randolph of the New York Life Insurance company, calling for the payment of \$48,702 to J. P. Morgan & Co.

"That was money" said Mr. Perkins, "paid to Cornelius N. Bliss on account of the republican national campaign fund of last year. We had agreed to pay him \$50,000—as much as that—Mr. McCall had if he wished it. That was all he finally called for and it was paid in that way, as cash to him."

"Mr. Bliss made various calls from time to time for amounts which I paid myself; and when the accounts were made up toward the end of the year this amount was the amount found to be due, and that amount was paid back to me. It was not paid to J. P. Morgan & Co., but to me. I had personally advanced the money."

"This check for the campaign, drawn to the order of J. P. Morgan & Co., has no significance whatever. The money was ordered paid by the president."

When the matter was presented to Justice Greenbaum for argument District Attorney Jerome informed the justice of the issuance of the warrant for Mr. Perkins' arrest and the writ of habeas corpus. Mr. Delafield, Mr. Perkins' counsel then said:

"George W. Perkins, a man of unimpeached character, has been placed under arrest pursuant to a warrant issued by Joseph A. Moss, as a city magistrate, by which he is charged with what I conceive to be a purely technical offense. I shall not ask at this time to enter upon a long legal argument on the technical question involved, but will ask your honor to postpone it to a more opportune moment, when I shall be assisted by other counsel who will be retained for Mr. Perkins."

NEBRASKA NOTES

A big shipment of stone and other material has been received at Beatrice to be used in the construction of the new Burlington depot.

William Pierce, a member of a bridge gang employed in constructing the Rock Island bridge at Beatrice while assisting in handling some heavy timbers.

A slight wreck occurred at Julian in which a freight engine and several cars were derailed. It took several hours to get them on the track and started on their way again. No one was injured.

The citizens and pupils of the public schools of Neligh in a few hours raised a fund of \$100 for the Japanese famine sufferers. A draft for the amount was sent to the Christian Herald Publishing company.

Henry Deml of Fremont, had both thumbs crushed so severely that they had to be amputated at the first joint. The accident occurred at the Platte river bridge, where he was employed with a pile-driving gang.

Philip McIntire, who has been in jail at Chadron for three months on a charge of forgery pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary. He claimed to have made a specialty of defrauding the legal fraternity.

Mrs. John Wertz died at her home in Schuyler. Mrs. Wertz has been sick a long time and her death was expected any time. Mrs. Wertz had been very low since the death of her husband. She leaves a son and daughter.

Gust Anderson, an old resident of Oakland died of paralysis from which he had been unconscious for over a week. Mr. Anderson has been in the employ of the Farmers' Grain and Live Stock company at that place for the last twenty years. He is survived by a wife and four grown children.

Two strangers assaulted the night watchman in the Northwestern yards at Chadron. One man struck him with a club, broke his jaw and otherwise beat him. They are now in the county jail and will be tried in the district court.

While in a fit of temporary insanity, Mrs. Ernest Orent of Ord, drank a phial of carbolic acid, dying before medical assistance could be summoned. She was a daughter of Representative Burroughs of Merrick county.

Ed Brantner of Plattsmouth has accepted the offer of Judge Wheeler to accept the sum of \$8,000 from the Burlington company for injuries received while in the employ of the company as switchman, at Pacific Junction.

Adolph Sternburg of Butte, a bachelor about 40 years old, was adjudged insane by the Board of insanity. The complaint was sworn out by the father, a man 74 years old, and a cousin with whom they have been living. He is not violent, but very melancholy. He was taken to Lincoln.

One of the largest land sales made in Nebraska this year has been closed by L. P. Sargent, a real estate agent at Gibbon. The principal part of the land consisted of what is known as the Merritt ranch near Lexington. This, together with other lands, made a total acreage of 3,200 acres. The consideration was \$70,500.

C. P. Dewey, an old soldier and highly respected member of Horton post, Grand Army of the Republic, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas McMath, of Butte, of pneumonia. This is the second member of the post that has passed away inside of a week. The funeral will be held at the Congregational church in Butte.

H. L. Keefe, an attorney of West Point, will shortly commence the erection of a brick store building and a residence at Walthill, the new town in Thurston county, on the Great Northern extension. Mr. Keefe expresses his belief that this new town will eventually become the seat of government of Thurston county.

Although a report has been current for the last few weeks to the effect that Mayor Shultz of Beatrice would not appoint A. D. White fire chief because he was an applicant for a saloon licence, at a meeting city counsel Mr. White, who was recently chosen chief by the fire department of Beatrice, was named as such officer by the mayor and was confirmed.