

# FLOOD DESTROYS 850 LIVES WHEN BIG DAM BURSTS

### Tremendous Wall of Water Sweeps Austin, Pa., from Map, Includ- ing Huge Paper Mill.

### WOMEN AND CHILDREN CAUGHT

### Sudden Break of Huge Cement Struc- ture Comes Without Warning.

### RUINED BUILDINGS IN FLAMES

### State Senator Baldwin and Family of Austin Are Drowned.

### LOGS CARRIED AGAINST TOWN

### Property Loss is Hundreds of Thou- sands of Dollars.

### RECOVERY OF BODIES SLOW

### Only Forty Found When Darkness Comes and Fire Makes Work Increasingly Difficult for Rescuers.

### BULLETIN.

AUSTIN, Pa., Sept. 30.—At 9 o'clock the death list is 850, out of a population of 430.

AUSTIN, Pa., Sept. 30.—Five hundred persons were drowned and many more injured this afternoon when the great dam of the Bayless Pulp and Paper company went out. The debris from hundreds of crushed houses caught fire and is still burning. An appeal has been sent to Governor Tener for help.

EMPORIUM, Pa., Sept. 30.—State Senator Baldwin of Austin and his entire family were drowned in the flood, according to word received here at 8 o'clock tonight.

CORNING, Pa., Sept. 30.—The village of Costello, four miles this side of Austin, also was swept away, according to a report received here.

COUDERSPOET, Pa., Sept. 30.—With a roar that could be heard for miles the great dam of the Bayless Pulp & Paper company at Austin, Pa., fourteen miles from here, went out at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Forty bodies had been recovered from the ruins when darkness came this evening and it was estimated that fully 400 were unaccounted for and were believed to be dead.

The dam, which was 100 feet long and forty-nine feet high, was thirty-two feet thick at the base and held back more than 500,000,000 gallons of water. For the first time since its construction two years ago the water was running over the top today and many persons went out from Austin, a mile and a half away, to see the unusual sight.

They were horrified when a section about twenty feet wide gave way on the west side. A great volume of water poured through the hole and the alarm quickly was sounded. People ran for their lives to the hills nearby, but some were caught in the flood and whirled down the valley. A moment later another break occurred, this time on the east side. It was much greater and permitted the bulk of the mass of water behind to rush in a mighty volume toward the lowlands.

Harry Davis, a locomotive engineer of this place, reached a telephone and notified the operator at the exchange. She called as many persons as possible, but the time was short. The raging flood tore down the little valley, carrying death on its debris-covered crest.

Women and Children Caught.  
Hundreds of women and children, the men being away at work, were caught in their homes and drowned or crushed before they knew what had happened. Houses went down before the mighty rush of water, and gas pipes, bent and broken, released their dangerous contents. Before the water had passed on its terrible course through the town a dozen fires were burning in as many places and the cries of injured and imprisoned persons joined in the terrific thunder of the flood.

Much of the debris lodged against the shops of the Buffalo & Susquehanna railroad and there the fire raged fiercest. It is believed that few if any escaped with their lives. The course of the flood was through the business center of the little village. A majority of the buildings were of wood and those which were not immediately wrecked by the torrent were soon in flames.

So sudden was the onslaught of water that many persons had no time to flee to the hills, but others received the warning, and believing it was fire hastened to the center of the town, only to be caught in the flood and swept away. The flood passed quickly, leaving desolation in its wake. Houses had been

crushed and tossed about like toys, while many bodies had been carried down on the crest of the surging torrent.

With the passing of the water, those who had fled to the hills, hastened to return to their ruined homes in search of relatives and friends. Here and there bodies had been cast up along the path of the torrent and about forty bodies were recovered in a short time. Some of them had been so badly battered by the tossing debris that they were beyond recognition, while others had been carried along with no apparent injury. Many were caught in burning buildings and it will be days before the real extent of the calamity will be known. It is believed that no less than 20 persons perished and some estimates are higher.

Estimate 200 Dead.  
HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 30.—Long distance telephone messages received here from the vicinity of Austin, give estimates of more than 400 lives lost by the bursting of the dam.

A telephone operator, who cut in on a wire near Austin, telephoned that the wreckage of the houses left by the flood was burning fiercely shortly after 3 o'clock and it was feared that persons imprisoned in the ruins would be cremated.

The wall of water swept down on the town from a distance of only half a mile and as it passed through a valley its force was little abated when it rushed against the 300 houses in the borough. The dam was owned by the Bayless Pulp and Paper company, according to the operator, and had millions of gallons of water. Less than half a dozen houses were left standing and men, women and children who were in the houses had no chance to escape. Foreman stump of the Bell Telephone company at Austin wired from near the wrecked town that the company's property had been destroyed and told a thrilling story of escape by running to the hill near where he happened to be.

Reports from Coudersport by telephone tell that the disaster occurred about 3 o'clock, but word of the horror did not become known until more than an hour later, as the telephone wires were destroyed, and farmers driving into the borough gave the only news.

Relief parties have gone from towns in Potter and Tioga counties.

The dam was built of concrete and was located in the Sinnemahoning creek.

### Carries Train Down Valley.

The water caught a train of freight cars near the station and they were carried down the valley with the wreckage of the railroad buildings. The hotels in the town were destroyed and as they were located in the path of the torrent no one is thought to have escaped from them. The fire started in the ruins of a warehouse and communicated to a row of houses which had partially escaped the flood.

Telephone reports vary widely as to the number of people who escaped, but eye witnesses declare that the streets were filled with people who had little chance to escape.

The report made by S. S. Ebertz, division manager of the Bell Telephone company to Foreman Stump, says that the water swept down on the town without the slightest warning. It appeared to fill the valley from side to side and the fury of the flood was so terrible that it seemed to tear houses to pieces and hurl the wreckage high in the air.

Stump says he saw the water engulf people on the streets and they fled for safety to the hills. The company's telephone exchange was wiped out and its operators are thought to have been lost.

### Baldwin Lived at Austin.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 30.—Telegrams have been received here from Austin asking for state police to guard the ruins and preserve order. Governor Tener, who is at Chambersburg, near Pittsburgh, is expected to order police to go to the scene.

Austin is the home of State Senator Frank E. Baldwin, who is its largest property owner. He owns the leading bank and is interested in various enterprises. His home is in the center of the town and as his wife is an invalid, it is feared his family may be lost.

The big pulp mill was right in the path of the flood and a huge quantity of logs were carried against the town by the flood, adding to the horrors of the disaster. The impact of the logs probably accounts for the wrecking of the buildings so completely.

At 7:30 the Bell Telephone office received word that a line was working into Austin, but that no definite figures as to loss of life could be obtained. The loss of property will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The telephone reports from Austin are that the houses on the hillside escaped serious damage, although nearly all were swept by water. The central part of the town was literally wiped out.

## Corporal Cameron Improves Slightly

The condition of Corporal James C. Cameron, of the Nebraska National guard, who was stabbed by Private Arthur E. Cooper, is slightly improved and attending physicians have hope of his recovery. The crisis is believed to have passed Saturday. No symptoms of blood poisoning have appeared. The change to cooler weather was beneficial to the wounded man.

Verdict for Miss Christopher.  
MIDORA, Ia., Sept. 30.—(Special.)—Miss Blanche Christopher of Alden, who brought suit for \$10,000 for breach of promise against E. G. Vandenberg soon after he had married another young woman, was today given a verdict of \$1,500 by the jury.

# OMAHA'S DISTINGUISHED GUEST TODAY



## WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

—Photo Copyright, 1906, by the Lumiere Studio, Omaha.

## U. P. SHOPMEN GO OUT ON A STRIKE

### Twelve Hundred Mechanics Leave Their Work in Union Pacific Shops in Omaha.

### VETERANS REMAIN AT POSTS

Officials Sit Calmly By and Say They Will Await the Return of Some of the Men Before Filling Their Places.

Obedying the instructions of the international officers a strike was declared at the Union Pacific railroad shops in this city at 10 o'clock Saturday, and according to the men who walked out a long struggle is expected unless the company recedes from its position and officially recognizes the federated union, a practically new organization made up of the different craftsmen in the shops of the Harriman system.

At the usual hour of going to work something like 1,200 of the men employed in the Union Pacific shops wended their way through the gates of the high board fence enclosing the buildings. A slow, drizzling rain was falling and they walked more heavily than usual. As usual they picked up their tools and went to work, there being nothing to indicate that two hours later a large number of them were to leave their benches and machines, going out to remain until a battle should be won or lost.

When the clocks in the several shops of the Union Pacific company recorded the hour of 10 of the men looked up at the faces of the familiar timepieces that for years have called them to and from their labors. Then several hundred of them stepped back, slipped out their jumpers and overalls, packed their working tools, washed up, put on their street clothes and as quietly and deliberately as if they were finishing the work of the day walked from the shop grounds, some going to their homes and others to the halls of the unions of which they are members.

Routine is Continued.  
The strike had been officially declared, and the men obeyed. However, not all of the 1,200 men walked out. Enough remained in all of the departments so that the routine work was continued until noon, the regular Saturday quitting hour.

As to the number of men out, opinions are at a wide variance. Men high in the affairs of the union contend that more than two-thirds of the entire shop force is out, pointing to the fact that of the 250 machinists, but twenty-five failed to obey the strike order. They saw that of the car shop workers, a still larger proportion responded to the call.

Officials Keep Count.  
Union Pacific men, who assert they checked the men as they left the shops Saturday morning, state that but

## TORRENTS SPOIL KIDS' FUN

### Rain Falls Down All Day Saturday on Carnival Grounds.

### CHILDREN ARE DISAPPOINTED

Latest Steam for Big Merry-Making Is All Stopped Up and Will Be Let Loose This Week.

### AK-SAR-BEN DATES.

Sept. 27 to Oct. 7, inclusive, Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 3, Manufacturers' parade. Wednesday night, Oct. 4, Electrical parade. Thursday afternoon, Oct. 5, Military parade. Friday night, Oct. 6, Coronation ball.

### ATTENDANCE FIGURES.

Wednesday	1903.	1910.
Thursday	4,372	3,215
Friday	7,988	2,551
Saturday	8,577	6,967

Rain, rain, rain. All day Saturday it fell in torrents and streams, pools stood in the streets and the tents on the Ak-Sar-Ben carnival grounds looked drooped and disappointed.

A better incentive for making this week the greatest carnival week in the history of Ak-Sar-Ben could not have been thought of. Hundreds, say, thousands of merry makers, were disappointed Saturday and their fun had to be stored up until this week. All the plans for a good time that went to waste for this rainy day will have to wait until this week to reach fruition, and for that reason they will be all the more enthusiastically carried out.

Too Bad for the Children.  
It was unfortunate that the first bad weather should have come on children's day, when the little folks were to be admitted to the grounds on a half rate. There were very few of them who ventured forth because the drowning rain kept up its steady pour all day. The carnival grounds had very few people, excepting those who had business there.

Excepting for the unkindness of the clouds, the beginning of the carnival has been unusually auspicious. This week probably will break the record of the best year ever, 1908, and that it will equal the record of last year is most confidently expected. The shows are improved and there are more of the good ones, everything is there, waiting for the people who will through the King's highway to have a memorable festival and a worthy celebration in honor of his majesty, King Ak-Sar-Ben XVII.

## FLEET READY TO BOMBARD TRIPOLI

### Italian Government Investing Coast and Preparing to Take Turkish City.

### ROME, Sept. 30.—The Messagero an- nounces that the government, acting un- der the provisions of international law, is allowing twenty-four hours to elapse between the summons to surrender and the bombardment of Tripoli. The twenty- four-hour period expires at 4 o'clock this evening, and a bombardment will begin at that moment.

### TRIPOLI, Sept. 30.—The Italian squad- ron opened fire upon the forts at 10:30 o'clock.

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### CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 30.—It is of- ficially announced late today that Italian warships this morning attacked two Tur- kish torpedo boats off the port of Du- razzo on the west coast of Albania.

### It is officially announced that Greece is mobilizing troops.

### The newspapers announce that Minister of War Mahmoud Shekaf Pasha has tel- egraphed the Turkish commandant at Tripoli to defend that territory with the utmost energy and to appeal to the re- ligion of the people.

### It is probable that the Italian declara- tion of war and the attack on Turkish torpedo boat destroyers at Perveza has decided the Turkish government to re- verse its decision not to defend Tripoli.

### In this attack a Turkish torpedo boat was sunk in the harbor and the govern- ment house was destroyed.

### The Turkish government today addressed an appeal to the powers expressing pain- ful surprise at Italy's action in declaring war yesterday and saying that there is still time to prevent the disastrous and evil effects of a war which nothing in the attitude of the Turkish empire justifies.

### The port appeals to the peaceful, humanitarian and friendly sentiments of the powers to assist in convincing Italy of the conciliatory intentions of Turkey and so prevent the useless shedding of blood and grief to thousands of families.

### The government has asked the United States to take charge of the interests of Ottoman subjects in Italy. The German ambassador to Turkey, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, not- ified the port this morning the Germans had assumed the protection of Italian subjects and interests in Turkey. The Italians in Turkey number 50,000. It was reported that an Italian warship had gone ashore near Tripoli. Later accounts state that the crew of

the Turkish torpedo boat destroyer which was sunk in the harbor of Perveza in Epirus by an Italian cruiser yesterday escaped.

The war office announces measures to make the rule of martial law more severe because of the public excitement. Public meetings and alarmist publications are prohibited and any movement calculated to endanger public order will be immediately suppressed by force of arms. Sufficient troops have been stationed in convenient places to meet emergencies.

Official version of the engagement off Perveza says that an Italian cruiser, accompanied by torpedo boats, attacked two Turkish torpedo boat destroyers as the latter were leaving Perveza. One of the Turkish vessels found refuge in Perveza harbor, while the other was struck by several shells and ran ashore. The crew was saved.

The committee of union and progress published the following proclamation: "Italy at length has unmasked its hostile designs on Tripoli. The Italian charge has handed a note to the ports announcing the occupation of Tripoli province yesterday. The Ottoman nation prefers honor to life and indignantly repels the Italian audacity."

"There will be war between the two countries and our nation will employ every means against the enemy. Tripoli will courageously defend itself. The Ottoman government will expel all Italians from Turkey and Italian schools and business houses will be closed."

"Our committee will employ all its influence to cause the powers to be applied in a calm spirit towards the nation which has trodden under foot our most sacred rights. We beg the population to remain tranquil and leave to the government the duty of acting against the Italians, thus demonstrating that Ottomans are more civilized and equitable than the powers who drove their government to the present action."

"We invite all children of the fatherland to be united at this critical moment."

The principal newspapers use language of unmeasured violence against the Italians while the nation as a whole is advised to show their patriotism by the strictest boycott of Italian products and at the same time to treat the Italians in Turkey as guests.

The government has decided to strengthen its military forces on the Greek and Montenegrin frontiers.

Enthusiasm in Italy.  
ROME, Sept. 30.—The declaration of war against Turkey has been received with enthusiasm in all parts of the country. Upon the receipt of the news from the capital great processions were organized at Genoa, Milan, Bergamo, Parma, Bari, Vercelli and Ferrara, the crowds singing patriotic songs and acclaiming the army and navy.

The government is communicating to the powers its position respecting the various phases of the conflict.

A dispatch from Genoa says that the Turkish consul there has received instructions to go to Tunis and withdraw the Turkish exhibits from the international exposition.

A news dispatch from Tripoli says that a boarding party from the Italian fleet will be sent to Tripoli.

# PRESIDENT TAFT ARRIVES TODAY AS HONOR GUEST

### Chief Executive Will Be Entertained Today by Whole Populace Ex- tending Loyal Greetings.

### DAY GIVEN CHIEFLY TO REST

### Go to Church at Trinity Cathedral in the Morning.

### TO MAKE ONLY ONE ADDRESS

### At Auditorium Will Discuss "World Peace" Before Mass Meeting.

### TOURS CITY MONDAY MORNING

### In an Automobile Will Be Shown the Beautiful and Busy Town.

### OMAHA CLUB WILL BE HIS HOME

### Meals of the Presidential Party to Be Served at the Exclusive Club and the Night Spent There.

William Howard Taft, president of the United States, will arrive in Omaha at 7:30 this morning to be the city's guest today, tonight and the greater part of tomorrow forenoon.

Every man, woman and child in Omaha will in a sense be host to the president, for he is to be the guest of all, rather than of any particular organization. The committee on arrangements is nonpartisan and the reception committee at the Auditorium, where he will speak this afternoon under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian association, is composed of state, county and city officials, directors of a number of business and social organizations and about 100 representative men besides.

The presidential party is scheduled to come over the Missouri Pacific at the Union station at 7:30 a. m. and will be met by members of the reception committee and escorted by the smaller committee on arrangements, composed of Victor Rosewater, chairman; Charles H. Pickens, H. H. Baird, Senator G. M. Hitchcock and M. L. Learned, immediately to the Omaha club, where the members of his party, the local committee of five, Governor Aldrich and Senator Brown will breakfast with him.

The president and his party will attend church at 11 at Trinity cathedral, where pews have been reserved. Services will be conducted by Bishop Williams and Dean Tancock. Going to church he will be conducted by Mr. Pickens.

At 4 o'clock the president will deliver an address in the Auditorium on "World Peace," where he will be presented by Mr. Baird, and on his return escorted by Senator Hitchcock.

Luncheon will be taken at the Omaha club with members of his own party and dinner with members of the committee and a small group of Omaha friends and breakfast Monday morning with his party.

At 9 o'clock Monday morning the president, accompanied by his entire party and a number of Omaha hosts, will start on an auto tour of the city, in which the only stop will be made at the high school building where Mr. Taft will address the students for ten minutes. The president will enter through the south entrance and proceed to the main entrance, where he will be introduced by Superintendent Graff to the 2,000 students drawn up in front of the building.

Residents along the route of the auto tour are requested to decorate their homes with flags. The trip will end at the Burlington station, where the presidential party will take train for Lincoln at 10:30 in the morning.

It will be seen from the program that the president's request to be allowed to take Sunday for rest is to be respected, as he will have the greater part of the day to himself.

The most important public appearance of the president here will be this afternoon at the Auditorium, where he is to speak under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian association, General Secretary E. F. Denton presiding. The doors of the Auditorium will open at 3, the meeting will begin at 3:30 and the president will speak about 4. The Fourth infantry military band from Fort Crook and a double quartet will furnish the music.

On the stage with the president will sit about 600 citizens of Omaha and Nebraska as members of a reception committee. The invitation list for this committee, sent to 600 addresses all elective city officials, elective county officials and elective state officials, including district judges and the congressional delegation, the directors of the Commercial club, directors of the Omaha club, directors of the Young Men's Christian association, Board of Governors of Ak-Sar-Ben, all leading protestant and Catholic clergymen of the city and about 100 representative men in addition. Members of

Boxes of O'Brien's Candy.

Dalzell's Ice Cream, Bricks, Base Ball Tickets.

All are given away free to those who find "r" names in the want ads.

Read the want ads every day, your name will appear some time, maybe more than once.

No puzzles to solve nor subscriptions to get—just read the want ads.

Turn to the want ad page, there you will find nearly every business house in the city is being advertised.

SUNDAY BEE NOT COMPLETE WITHOUT COLORED COMIC SUPPLEMENT.

Read the want ads every day, your name will appear some time, maybe more than once.