

MIKASA BURNED.

Fire Got to the Magazine and an Explosion Follows.

SIX HUNDRED LOST.

The Pride of the Japanese Navy Sinks into the Sea. She was Togo's Flagship, but he was not on Board When the Terrible Accident Took Place.

A dispatch from Tokio says the Japanese navy department announces that the battleship Mikasa had been destroyed by fire and the explosion of her magazine, causing the loss of 599 lives, including men of other ships, who went to the rescue.

The fire started from an unknown cause at midnight on Sunday night, September 10th. Before the officers could be rescued, the fire reached the aft magazine, blowing a hole in the port side of the vessel below the water line and causing the ship to sink.

An investigation is now being held to determine the cause of the fire. As it is well known the Mikasa was Admiral Togo's flagship, but he was not on board when the terrible accident happened.

The ship was at anchor in Sasebo harbor when the fire started at the base of the mainmast at midnight. It spread with great rapidity, exploding the aft magazine, an hour after the fire had been discovered.

The Mikasa sank in shallow water and it is believed the ship can be repaired. Rescuing parties were sent from the various warships in the harbor and there were heavy casualties among them.

Various conjectures are current as to the cause of the fire. Some attribute it to an overcharge of electricity. Great relief was felt throughout Japan, when it was learned that Admiral Togo was not on board the ship at the time of the fire. The disaster has cast a gloom over the whole of Japan.

A FOOLISH BOY

Shoots Two Young Ladies and Then Kills Himself.

At Frederick, Md., because his 16 year old sweetheart persisted in her refusal to marry him and had dismissed him, Leo Weddle, 17 years of age is dead by his own hand, the sweetheart, Nellie Eichelberger, is suffering from two pistol shot wounds that may prove fatal and his friend and companion, Maud Davis, has a bullet wound through her arm.

Weddle was the son of a prominent builder and contractor of Thurmont, this county, at which place the tragedy took place last night. Miss Eichelberger, with Miss Davis and another girl were shopping and had reached the public square of Thurmont when Weddle approached and took Miss Eichelberger to task for sending him his letter of dismissal. Upon her retreating the sentiments she had expressed in the letter, Weddle drew a revolver and fired at her twice.

The first of the bullets went through Miss Davis's arm and into Miss Eichelberger's left shoulder; the second penetrating a few inches to the right of the first. As his victim fell fainting to the ground, the boy believing he had killed her, turned the weapon and sent two bullets through his own heart, dying instantly. He is said to have threatened such an act on several occasions.

Quiet Work

The New York American says the divorce suit by which Mrs. Cecilia Lewis was freed from her husband, was instituted last June, and broke all records in point of time consumed in its trial. It took Justice Marean just two minutes to grant an interlocutory decree. The three months that must elapse before the final decree is signed expired at midnight on Sunday. Mrs. Lewis was so anxious to obtain her freedom that she instructed her lawyer to have documents signed immediately at the stroke of twelve. She had made all arrangements for her wedding to Senator Wilcox Wednesday. The lawyer was unable to get a justice to execute the decrees until Wednesday afternoon. The wedding had to be postponed, much to Mrs. Lewis's chagrin.

Cat Seized Boy

While some boys were bathing in a creek near Belfast, Ga., recently a wildcat suddenly darted from behind a pile of lumber and fastened its teeth in the leg of John Mahoney, a boy of about 13 years of age. Messrs. C. L. Skinner and A. L. Kirkland were at the hotel, some yards distant, and hearing the screams of the lad, secured guns and hurried to the scene. They found the animal still holding on to the boy's limb and making a desperate effort to chew it up. A time was taken from Mr. Skinner's gun only saved the lad from losing his leg.

JOB GO BEGGING.

Officers Southern Democrats Co. Id Get If They Try ed.

REAL LIFE TARGETED

is the City of Rome Which Very Nearly Parallels the Most Improbable Literary Plot of the Novel, "The Masquerader," Not Long Written.

The following remarkable story we take from the New York American: "Impossible, but interesting," people said when they read "The Masquerader," Katherine Cecil Thurston's successful novel, in which two men not related, but looking absolutely alike, change places. And now, to justify her imagination, to prove that the novelist's dream was not only interesting, but possible real, he has come to the rescue.

In Rome the situation that formed the plot of "The Masquerader" has been duplicated. A nobleman, Count Adriano Benicoulli, finding a valet who resembled him, marvellously, employed him as his double. The valet, Paolo, impersonated his master at all sorts of social functions. He imitated his manners and graces to perfection; he walked like him and talked like him, and even as the dual impersonators who made "The Masquerader" the talk of the literary world, deeply seduced not only the Count's friends, but his wife as well.

As in "The Masquerader," the impersonator falls in love with the wife of his double, and it is jealousy of a woman that assists in the denouement. But in real life the denouement is a tragedy. Real life is not accommodating. The right man rarely dies to make the end of a situation picturesque, happy, romantic.

The Countess Benicoulli, lovely as the wife of John Chiloteo of "The Masquerader," committed suicide when she found that she had permitted a mental to make love to her under the guise of her husband.

The poor, deceived wife is dead, and Count Benicoulli has appealed to the courts of Rome to avenge him. He charges that his valet took advantage of the position he had permitted him to occupy and caused the death of his noble mistress.

In "The Masquerader" it is the morphine eater, John Chiloteo, who dies, the man who neglected his wife and his duties, leaving both to the care and attention of his double, John Yoder, the good, clever hero.

The novelist himself seems to realize that the possibility of the extraordinary resemblance upon which she bases her apparently fanciful plot, is going to be much doubted and questioned, for she refers to it in the opening chapter in this fashion: "By that seem too mild for real life, and yet he long to no other sphere, the two faces were identical, feature for feature. It seemed to each man that he looked not at the face of another, but at his own face reflected in a flawless looking glass."

Then, again, John Chiloteo brings up the subject of identity in a conversation with Lady Astrupp. Chiloteo picked up a book that lay between them.

"Other men's shoes!" he read. "A novel, of course?"

"She smiled. 'Of course. Such a fantastic story. Two men change identities."

"Chiloteo rose and walked back to the mantelpiece."

"Changing identities?" he said, with a touch of interest.

"Yes; one man is an artist, the other a millionaire; one wants to know what fame is like, the other wants to know how it feels to be really, sincerely rich. So they exchange experience for a month."

"Chiloteo laughed as well. But how?" he asked.

"Oh, I told you the idea was absurd. Fancy two people so much alike that neither their friends nor their servants see any difference! Such a thing couldn't be, could it? There are likenesses, but not freak likenesses like that."

The novelist plainly foresees that the possibility of such a resemblance as she makes the basis of her plot is going to be questioned by the great mass of her public. Yet in Rome real life upholds her most fanciful imaginings.

A TRUE TALE

That Reads Like the Fiction We Find in Story Books

BOUND AND TORTURED.

Wealthy Illinois Farmers Badly Treated by Three Bandits.

A dispatch to the Chicago Record-Herald from Elgin, Ill., says: Bound, gagged and tortured by fire by three bandits who sought to make them reveal the hiding place of a treasure they thought concealed in the house, Andrew and John Fohren, old and wealthy farmers living near Spring Lake, twelve miles north of there, are in a serious condition, and it is feared that the shock and injuries may prove fatal to Andrew, the elder of the two brothers.

Andrew, after the robbers had searched the house and taken \$360, managed to free himself from the bonds which bound him and started across the fields to secure help. The soles of his feet were blistered, however, and before he had gone far he fainted and fell into a ditch, where he lay until after daylight. Finally he revived and made his way to a cheese factory, where he gave the alarm, but the bandits had gained a start of several hours and could not be found.

The bandits appeared Tuesday night and when refused admittance battered in the door and overpowered the old men after a brief struggle. They searched the house, and finding only \$390, concluded that a larger sum was concealed somewhere. They beat and choked their victims and finally applied lighted papers to the sole of their feet to make them tell where the supposed treasure was hidden.

After half an hour of excruciating torture John Fohren fainted from pain and the robbers left. John was unconscious when assistance arrived, but revived and is in a less serious condition than his elder brother.

POISON IN OUR FOOD.

Kills Dogs, Rabbits and Other Animals in Expert Test.

To demonstrate the effect of impure foods on the human system, Professor Eugene Girard, one of the chief chemists of the International Stewards Association, which is in session at the Hotel Rudolf, Atlantic City, started the delegates and a large number of the outsiders by showing the effects of a remarkable experiment he has been making on animals fed with impurities found in food sold throughout the country.

Prof Girard had on hand a collection of rabbits, guinea pigs and dogs. Professor Girard extracted the coloring matter used in breadstuffs and fed a healthy New-Foundland dog from day to day on this substance, mixing it with his food. To-day the dog is thin and emaciated and it will have to be killed on Thursday.

Other coloring matter that Professor Girard fed to guinea pigs and rabbits killed the animals in a short time. The tissues and every organ was found to be poisoned and discolored.

Professor Girard stated that the adulterations in the foods sold to-day are having the same effect on thousands of persons.

There is a big exhibit of pure and impure foods in the groto of the Hotel Rudolf, and Professor Girard explains the methods used in analyzing the various products. The Stewards Association has become so strong thru many corporations dealing in food stuffs make no attempt to place their goods on the market unless they are first subjected to an analysis by its chemists.

Victims of Fatal Play

J. B. Hawkins, who was found in a mangled and unconscious condition at Calhoun ten days ago and who was later identified as a mill operator of Greenville, S. C., has surprised the physicians by living and though his tongue cannot be controlled, he was able to let Sheriff Gilreath understand that his condition was due to four plays instead of a railway accident.

Four men were killed, six were seriously burned and a dozen more were stunned by lightning which wrecked a crowded poultry exhibit tent at the county fair at Indianapolis, Iowa on Thursday. The lightning struck the tent pole, splitting it in two and tearing the sides of the tent into shreds. Hundreds of the chickens on exhibition were killed.

URGENT APPEAL

To These Farmers Who Are Able and Can Hold Back

STAND BY YOUR GUNS.

We are now well entrenched, with plenty of ammunition in the shape of corn and meat, our banks have plenty of money, the enemy is in retreat, and if we don't whip this fight and force the price of cotton to above 11 cents, then the farmers of the south ought to have a guardian appointed to look after their business interests. The mills of the world have taken a crop of 13,600,000 bales of American cotton during the last twelve months, at an average price of 9 cents per pound. There will be no check in consumption during the next twelve months. The price of cotton goods in very high and going still higher. The whole civilized world is in a prosperous condition and it is unreasonable to say that the farmers should not this season receive an average of 11 cents per pound for a crop of cotton now estimated to be under ten million bales. All you have got to do is to stand pat for your price, refuse to sell under 11 cents and the market will soon advance to that figure. If much cotton is offered under 11 cents, as a matter of course, the market can be depressed and held down.

OTHER ORGANIZATION WILL HELP.

The cotton agent of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of Texas was present with us at Asheville and took part in the secret sessions of the executive committee. He came as the representative of the union and assisted in fixing the price at 11 cents, stating that such a price would be acceptable to the 300,000 members of the union. We can now depend upon the effective co-operation of all the members of the union, as the new president of the union, Mr. Calvin, of Paris, Tex., has written me encouraging co-operation to more completely win out in the fight ahead. We also have pledged the active co-operation of the membership of the American Society of Equity and the Farmers' Alliance of North Carolina in enforcing the demand for the minimum price of 11 cents. This makes the position of the producers almost impregnable, and with all of these powerful farmers' organizations working in harmony for mutual protection, I feel safe in saying that the fight can and will be easily whipped. There will be no misunderstanding among these organizations this season on this matter. We will all work in harmony together, and a knowledge of that fact ought to be most encouraging. If the Farmers' union wanted one price and the S. C. A., another, there would be difficulty ahead, but both organizations are now together and will work together to win out on the price agreed upon.

Sell but little cotton in September and October. Give the mills a chance to exhaust present supplies, which can be done in six weeks and then we can easily dictate terms and win another big victory. Sell no middling cotton for less than 11 cents.

Worst Accident of the Kind in New York's History.

Twelve Persons Killed and Thirty Injured. Not Yet Fixed. The Motor-car a Fugitive and Other Trainsmen Arrested.

The death list of the accident on the Ninth avenue elevated railroad in New York Monday, when a car crowded with early morning workers on their way down town, pitched headlong into the street, stands at 12. Three men are in hospitals with fractured skulls. One of these, who as yet remains unidentified at Rogoovolt hospital, is unconscious and not expected to live. More than two score persons were injured, many of them seriously.

The cause of the accident and the immediate responsibility remain to be settled. The motorman of the wrecked train is a fugitive, while a switchman, conductor and four guards are under arrest. The switchman is charged with manslaughter and the trainmen are held as witnesses. What was the cause of the "mistake," the accident, the witness testimony of the overhead railroad in New York, came when a southbound train on the Ninth avenue line was switched off to the Sixth street line at the Fifty-third street junction.

The motorman, expecting a clear track on the direct line of Ninth avenue, or disregarding the warning signal that the switch was open, rushed his train along at a high rate of speed. The first car swung around the right angle curve, holding to the rails because of the weight of the train behind. Then the strain became too great. The couples broke, the second car was whirled about almost end for end and, to the horror of those who looked on from below, pitched into the street.

The first indication people on the sidewalk had of the accident was a loud rumbling along the overhead structure. Looking up they saw a shower of sparks, then followed splinters and the sound of splintering timbers. Suddenly the outer guard rail of the railroad structure gave way, a score of bodies were hurled through space, and with a deafening crash, the car fell to the street. For an instant it stood fairly on end, then the sides gave way as if they were made of pasteboard, belching out a mass of humanity.

Those passengers who had not jumped from platforms and windows before the plunge came were thrown into a mass at the forward end of the car. As the injured men and women were struggling to free themselves, the heavy front trucks of the third car on the train fell almost in their midst, as the car itself jumped partly off the elevated structure, and was wedged against a building, at the southeast corner of Ninth avenue and Fifty-third street.

Huge crowds were soon on the scene and the first work of the hastily summoned police reserves was directed to clearing a way for the effective rescue of the passengers pinned down by the wreckage. Almost every ambulance in Manhattan was summoned, and the injured and dead were hurried away with all speed. Three alarms of fire brought many engines to the scene. A slight fire caused by burning insulation was quickly extinguished and the firemen set to work chopping out the dead and injured.

The task was not an easy one for the heavy car is falling had almost completely buried pedestrians in its wreckage. At least one was killed outright in this way, while Policeman Henry Atkins, who was standing directly under the elevated structure, is among those most seriously injured. Eight persons were dead when taken out of the wreck and four died later at hospitals. The officers had not time to make arrests, contenting themselves with drugging the motorists as heavily as they could.

Coroner Sobles ordered the arrest of all those immediately concerned. Search was at once made for the motorman, Paul Kelley, who assumed a position on the elevated line six months ago. He came there from St. Louis. Kelley could not be found and at a late hour Monday night was still missing, although it was said he had spent the afternoon at the home of a friend.

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We are now well entrenched, with plenty of ammunition in the shape of corn and meat, our banks have plenty of money, the enemy is in retreat, and if we don't whip this fight and force the price of cotton to above 11 cents, then the farmers of the south ought to have a guardian appointed to look after their business interests. The mills of the world have taken a crop of 13,600,000 bales of American cotton during the last twelve months, at an average price of 9 cents per pound. There will be no check in consumption during the next twelve months. The price of cotton goods in very high and going still higher. The whole civilized world is in a prosperous condition and it is unreasonable to say that the farmers should not this season receive an average of 11 cents per pound for a crop of cotton now estimated to be under ten million bales. All you have got to do is to stand pat for your price, refuse to sell under 11 cents and the market will soon advance to that figure. If much cotton is offered under 11 cents, as a matter of course, the market can be depressed and held down.

OTHER ORGANIZATION WILL HELP.

The cotton agent of the Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of Texas was present with us at Asheville and took part in the secret sessions of the executive committee. He came as the representative of the union and assisted in fixing the price at 11 cents, stating that such a price would be acceptable to the 300,000 members of the union. We can now depend upon the effective co-operation of all the members of the union, as the new president of the union, Mr. Calvin, of Paris, Tex., has written me encouraging co-operation to more completely win out in the fight ahead. We also have pledged the active co-operation of the membership of the American Society of Equity and the Farmers' Alliance of North Carolina in enforcing the demand for the minimum price of 11 cents. This makes the position of the producers almost impregnable, and with all of these powerful farmers' organizations working in harmony for mutual protection, I feel safe in saying that the fight can and will be easily whipped. There will be no misunderstanding among these organizations this season on this matter. We will all work in harmony together, and a knowledge of that fact ought to be most encouraging. If the Farmers' union wanted one price and the S. C. A., another, there would be difficulty ahead, but both organizations are now together and will work together to win out on the price agreed upon.

Sell but little cotton in September and October. Give the mills a chance to exhaust present supplies, which can be done in six weeks and then we can easily dictate terms and win another big victory. Sell no middling cotton for less than 11 cents.

Worst Accident of the Kind in New York's History.

Twelve Persons Killed and