

BOAT BENNINGTON BLOWN UP

Rightful Loss of Life Results From Bursting of a Defective Boiler on Board.

NEARLY 100 HURT, MANY FATALY

Were More Than 250 Men Aboard the Vessel at the Time, and of These 15 Sailors Are Missing—The Accident Occurred in the San Diego, Cal., Harbor Just Before the Vessel Was Scheduled to Leave.

San Diego, Cal., Special.—Twenty-eight members of the crew of the United States gunboat Bennington were killed and four-score sailors were injured, 24 seriously, at 10 o'clock Thursday forenoon by a boiler explosion that disabled the vessel in San Diego harbor. Fifteen sailors are missing. There were more than 250 men aboard the warship when the accident occurred, and many men were hurled or forced to jump into the sea by the terrific explosion, which lifted part of the deck and compelled the beaching of the ship. The Bennington, at the time of the accident, was lying in the stream just off the commercial wharf at H street. The warship had received orders from the Navy Department at Washington to sail this morning for Port Hartford to meet the monitor Wyoming and convey the monitor to Mare Island navy yard, San Francisco.

EXPLOSION TERRIFIC.
Steam was up and everything was in readiness for the departure of the Bennington when the starboard forward boiler exploded with a terrific roar. The explosion was terrific. People standing on shore saw a huge cloud of steam rise above the Bennington. Columns of water were forced high into the air. A dozen or fifteen men were blown overboard by the force of the terrific explosion. Capt. Wentworth, who was looking at the Bennington when the disaster occurred, says he saw human bodies hurled over a hundred feet upward. The air was clouded with smoke which enveloped the ship. When the haze cleared away, only a few could be seen on the decks, while a number were floundering in the water. A boat was lowered from the vessel's side and most of the men in the water were picked up and taken on board.

On board the Bennington were presented terrible scenes. The force of the explosion had torn a great hole in the starboard side of the ship, and the vessel was already commencing to list. A section of the upper deck was carried away from stem to stern. Blood and wreckage was distributed over the entire space, the after cabin and that part of the ship adjoining the exploded boiler resembling a charnel house. The shock of the explosion penetrated every section of the ship, blood and ashes being found as far as the stern of the captain's cabin. Great damage was done in all parts of the vessel. The boiler which exploded, it is said, was regarded as unsafe. Commander Young stated that during a recent return from Honolulu the steam pressure was kept reduced in that particular one.

List of the Dead.
San Diego, Cal., Special.—Saturday night's summary of casualties aboard the gunboat Bennington, in San Diego Bay, gives a total of 60 dead and 50 injured, six probably fatally. A number of men are still missing, some of these may be dead, and probably a dozen of the injured will die of their wounds. Following is an official list of known dead, with ages, occupation and place of birth or enlistment: Ensign Newton K. Perry, 26, Columbia, S. C.; Wesley M. Taylor, 28, seaman, Atlanta, Ga.; Bert A. Hughes, 19, seaman, Clarks-ville, Ark.

May Hinder Peace Progress.
Paris, By Cable.—Emperor Nicholas' cruise in the Gulf of Finland to meet Emperor William, the subject of much comment in the press. Certain newspapers express the fear that the German Emperor will influence the Russian Emperor over Far Eastern matters and will hinder the carrying out of the peace programme, while others are of the opinion that Emperor William will seek to estrange Russia from France.

Mine Superintendent Shot by Drunken Man.
Bristol, Va., Special.—A special from Big Stone Gap, Va., says: "This afternoon at Irondale, about five miles east of this place, Jasper Abshire shot and fatally wounded A. M. Hall, superintendent of Kelly and Irvines mines. Mr. Hall is still living, but the physician says he cannot live but a short while. Abshire was drunk and rowdy and was asked to leave. He refused and Hall led him to the commissary door and led him to, whereupon he shot Superintendent Hall three times in the breast. Abshire was disarmed, but not arrested. A posse went from this place this evening to apprehend Abshire."

Frank L. Kelley Missing.
Richmond, Special.—The four brothers of Frank L. Kelley, who has been missing since Sunday, are endeavoring, by the aid of his dog, to find some trace of the man, whom they fear has taken his own life. Soon after his departure his wife found a bundle on the knob of the back door containing her husband's watch and purse, as well as a note, which bade farewell to her and their infant child, and said: "I am crazy; sometimes I don't know where I am."

Sharp Rise in Wheat.
Chicago, Special.—Alleged confirmation of black rust in the wheat fields of the Northwest sent the price of September wheat whirling up to 88 here. The advance was 34 cents a bushel, accompanied with Thursday's closing quotations. The bulge was accompanied by scenes of much excitement in the wheat pit, shorts frantically jostling each other in attempts to secure the coveted grain. Telegrams from Minneapolis and Duluth detailing damage to the wheat crop in South Dakota by the dreaded blight was the cause of the excitement.

The Disease Yellow Fever.
New Orleans, Special.—The official autopsy on a patient, an Italian, who died of what has been called suspicious fever, has disclosed that the disease was yellow fever. President Souther, of the State board of health, has notified Governor Blanchard and the health officers of Mississippi, Texas and Alabama. Arrangements have been made for a detention hospital to treat the remaining cases. Application of the same methods which were pursued at Havana is to be made and the authorities are hopeful that the disease can be stamped out.

SUMMARY OF LATE NEWS

Minor Happenings of the Week at Home and Abroad.

Down in Dixie.
Two trainmen were killed and others badly injured in a collision of "double-header" freight trains at Madvale, Va. Harrison Field was found dead near the reservoir, Richmond, with a bullet wound in his breast.

The Baltimore and Ohio Duquesne Limited train was derailed at Morgansville, W. Va., but the passengers were not injured.

Robert Grim, who left Barkley a month ago to join his wife and child in Charleston, W. Va., has mysteriously disappeared and no trace of him can be found. His wife is still in Charleston and relatives here are greatly alarmed.

An excursion train composed of eight well filled cars and containing about 400 people, was wrecked near Prospect, Va., resulting in a slight injury to several of the passengers. The escape of all the excursionists is considered almost miraculous in view of the dangers to which they were subjected. Workmen on the track had jacked up one of the rails, and this is given as the cause of the wreck.

At the National Capital.
The War Department made public a long list of the soldiers to whom certificates of merit have been awarded for acts of notable bravery.

Major Carson has enlarged the scope and made other improvements in the daily consular reports.

James J. Hill, in an interview, declares there are too many political theories for the good of business in this country.

Ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives D. B. Henderson is said to be suffering with paresis.

Through the North.
The Roosevelt, with the Peary North Pole expedition on board, left New York on her long journey.

The heat waves still spread over the cities in the North. Chicago, New York and Philadelphia for the past few days have sweated under the burning grasp of a deadly heat. Many deaths and scores of prostrations have occurred already and there is no indication for speedy relief.

Swam the Niagara.
Niagara Falls, N. Y., Special.—Carle H. D. Graham, of this city, and William J. Glover, J., of Baltimore, Md., successfully swam the lower rapids of the Niagara river from the American side of the whirlpool to Lewiston Monday afternoon. The distance of four miles was covered in 26 minutes by Glover. The start was made at 4:02 p. m. from Flatrock, which is on the American side. The swimmers did not venture in the upper rapids, where Captain Webb lost his life.

Both men wore life belts and inflated rubber rings around their necks. From the start Glover took the lead. He entered the rapids about a minute ahead of Graham. Until the Devil's Hole was reached the swift current and roaring rapids had the swimmers in their grasp. At that point a swirling eddy caught Glover, and he was down nearly two minutes. His life belts saved him. Graham by this time had gained on Glover, and when the two men reached the end of the rapids just above the suspension bridge at Lewiston there was but little distance between them. Swimming in the swift, smooth current was hard for Graham, but evidently easy for Glover. At 4:28 o'clock Glover was pulled up on the dock at Lewiston. He was dressed and about 15 minutes later telling his story. Graham was taken to a hotel in a wagon and did not leave bed until late in the afternoon. Neither of the men was injured.

Foreign Affairs.
The Japanese now completely occupy the southern part of the island of Sakhalin.

Bulgaria has appealed to the powers to intervene in alleged Turkish persecutions at Adrianople.

A revolting scene was witnessed inside the French submarine boat Farfadet, which sank recently with 14 men.

The ceiling of a hospital chapel at Fermo, Italy, fell, killing 16 women and injuring 32.

Life saving runs in the family of J. Parsons, a young lighterman of the Hollows, Brentford, England, who, on his twenty-third birthday, received the Royal Humane Society's certificate for rescuing two boys from drowning. His father saved forty-eight persons from drowning and the son now has a total of twenty-three lives to his credit.

Miscellaneous Matters.
The condition of Senator Clark, who was operated on for cerebral abscess, is as favorable as could be expected.

Prof. Charles Schuchert, dean of Yale University Museum, will make an extensive tour during the summer months through the maritime provinces of Canada, making a geological survey of the regions of Nova Scotia, especially in order to study more minutely their direct bearing upon the formation of the rest of North America.

Admirers of the late Secretary Hay are planning for the erection of a suitable monument for the perpetuation of his memory. It will likely stand in Lakeview Cemetery, or in a new building at the Western Reserve University, named after the much lamented statesman.

Dispatches received Wednesday indicate a movement among the leaders of the Russian people to issue a proclamation favoring the deposition of Emperor Nicholas from the throne of the Empire.

Daniel Maloney was killed while operating the aeroplane of Professor Montgomery, in San Jose, Cal. He fell a distance of 3,900 feet, as 2,000 people stood watching him while making the ascent.

WILL NOT BE EASY

Statement From High Official That the Japanese Will Show No Leniency

HAVE ABUNDANT RESOURCES LEFT

The Minister to London Says the Public Evidently Mistake the Japanese For Angels in Thinking the Peace Terms Will Be Moderate—The Baron Said That Russia Had Named Good Men as Plenipotentiaries, But All Depends Upon the Powers Conferred Upon Them.

London, By Cable.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister here, said to the Associated Press that Russia had appointed good men as plenipotentiaries. Nevertheless even M. Witte and Baron Rosen had not inspired Japan with confidence in a favorable outcome of the negotiations. "We do not know," the minister added, "what powers have been delegated to them and after the events of the past 18 months Japan puts faith only in accomplished facts. The terms will be communicated only at the conference. Then we will discover what powers the Russian plenipotentiaries possess."

The Associated Press representative suggested that the general opinion prevailed that the Japanese terms will be moderate.

"I cannot see where people get such an idea," replied the minister, "the public evidently mistake the Japanese for angels."

Minister Hayashi, intimated that Japan was ready to continue the war unless she secures suitable terms. He called attention to the fact that practically the entire sum realized by the last two loans was unexpended and said the capture of the island of Sakhalin was not precipitated by the approach of the conference, but was a natural sequence of the Japanese campaign the plans for which had not been altered since Russia acceded to the conference. An earlier attack on the island was not undertaken principally because of the severe winter and because the summer season was preferable for campaigning and the establishment of a new government in the island.

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Stunned by Lightning.
Winston-Salem, Special.—During a baseball game at Fairview Park, between two colored teams Tuesday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock, lightning struck near the grand-stand, which was occupied by some 500 people, stunning two negroes, Will Harris and Arthur Palmer, the former seriously. No other damage resulted. Governor Glenn was in the grand stand, but was not shocked.

Telegraphic Briefs.
Charles D. Graham, of New York, and William J. Glover, of Baltimore, successfully swam the lower rapids of Niagara river Tuesday afternoon, covering the distance of four miles in 26 minutes.

Emil Arton, sentenced to eight years imprisonment for complicity in the old Panama Canal scandal, was found dead Tuesday in his apartments. It is presumed that he committed suicide.

A negro attempted an assault upon the daughter of a prominent citizen of Little Rock, Ark., Tuesday and has been captured by a posse of townsmen. The sheriff of the county has gone to prevent a lynching.

Secretary Wilson has instituted an investigation into the report that a certain female employe of the Agricultural Department is guilty of having sold the questions to be asked in the civil service examinations.

Alabama troops in annual encampment at Montgomery are charged with looting the store of a negro Tuesday, while he was held at bay by rifles. The affair has been reported to the civil authorities and also to the government officials.

The accident bulletin issued for the quarter beginning with January last and ending with March, shows that during that time there were 28 passengers and 294 employes of the railroad killed and 1,651 passengers and 2,062 employes injured, making a total of killed, 232 and a total of injured, 3,731, in all train accidents.

An investigation which has been going on under the supervision of a special committee from the South Carolina Legislature has revealed startling facts in connection with the finances of Greenville county. Sensational results are expected to follow, and prominent men have been arrested.

The cruiser Maryland broke the record for speed in filling her coal bunkers.

Acting under the suggestion of his counsel, Elihu Root, Mayor Weaver, of Philadelphia, may soon bring additional suits against some of the most prominent men of that city, who are alleged to have been guilty of wrong doing in municipal affairs.

Bertha Claiche, the French girl who is charged with the murder of Emil Gerdorn, has been committed to the Tombs without bail. The man, it is alleged, enticed the French maid to America under promise of marriage and afterwards forced her to go on the streets to earn his livelihood.

Attempt to Murder Official.
Naples, By Cable.—An attempt was made early this morning to murder Admiral Mirabello, brother of Admiral Mirabello, the Italian minister of marine, who is residing at Portici, a residential town on the bay of Naples. The admiral's wife was seriously injured while defending her husband.

Oklahoma and Indian Territory delegates to a joint convention demanded staidhood for the Territories in strong resolutions.

DRUNKEN CLERK SHOT THREE

Awful Deed of a Man Made Desperate by Drink.

Pensacola, Fla., Special.—Crazed with drink and the thought that he was to be discharged, William F. Williams, a salesman in the clothing store of John White, late Tuesday afternoon walked up to the office where Mr. White was sitting reading and shot him dead. He turned his revolver upon another salesman, Ed. Dansby, and inflicted a mortal wound in the back, then fired upon James White, the manager and son of the proprietor, the bullet passing through his lungs and causing a wound from which it is expected that he will die before morning. Another clerk was fired upon, but the bullet went wide of the mark.

All during the day Williams seemed nervous, and later in the afternoon he began to imbibe to such an extent that it was noticed about the store and some remark was made by the proprietor. This infuriated Williams, it seems, and without a word he walked to his coat, took therefrom a new revolver and walking up close to Mr. White, fired, the bullet striking him near the right ear and passing out on the left side. White never moved.

Girl Held Without Bail.
New York, Special.—Berthe Claiche, on trial by a coroner's jury for killing Emil Gerdorn, on July 9, was held responsible for his death and was committed to the Tombs prison without bail. Subsequently she was indicted by the grand jury.

After enticing Berthe Claiche to America from France under a false promise of marriage, Gerdorn forced the girl to go on the streets and earn a living for him at the sacrifice of her own good name. His excessive cruelty caused the girl to have Gerdorn arrested on July 9, and then frightened by his threatening attitude she shot him while the police were in the act of making the arrest.

Negroes Moved to Anniston.
Montgomery, Ala., Special.—Following the attempt made Sunday night by a mob at Gadsden to take from the county jail five negroes charged with criminally assaulting and murdering Mrs. S. K. Smith, the Governor Sunday ordered the alleged criminals taken to Anniston for safe-keeping. They will be taken later to Birmingham, where they will remain until their trial. The five negroes were removed under military escort, Company C, of the Third Alabama Regiment, accompanying them.

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SOUTHERN FARM NOTES.

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE PLANTER, STOCKMAN AND TRUCK GROWER.

What is Rich Soil?
A soil which is able to produce good crops is considered to be a rich soil. In order to produce good crops, a soil must supply a sufficient quantity of the food required by the plants. That is to say, the plant must be able to obtain enough potash, lime, magnesia, phosphoric acid, iron, sulphur and water from the soil to supply its needs, and if any one of these substances is absent, or not furnished by the soil in sufficient quantity, the soil will not produce good crops.

Few farmers realize that their soils contain very large quantities of these substances. The trouble with a poor soil, is not that it does not contain plant food, but that the plant food in it cannot be taken up by plants. The food is locked up and the plants cannot get it, and suffer accordingly. By far the greater part of the plant food in every soil is in such a form that it cannot be taken up by plants. But every soil is undergoing a continual change, by which small portions of the locked-up plant food is daily made soluble, and in such a form that plants can use it. It is within the power of the farmer to cultivate and manage his farm in such a way that the quantity of plant food released each year will become more and more each year. In such a case his farm is growing "richer." It is also possible (and very often the case) that a farm will be managed in such a way that the agencies which release the locked-up plant food will decrease in power from year to year. In such a case his farm will grow poorer; not because the plant food in the soil is exhausted, but because, by bad management, the farmer no longer has a sufficient supply of plant food in his soil in a form available to plants. The most important agency in releasing the locked-up food in a soil, is a supply of decaying vegetable matter. Decaying vegetable matter forms various acids, which act upon the soil and decompose it. Decaying vegetable matter allows the growth of minute plants, which also act upon the soil and release inert plant food. Humus, as the decayed vegetable matter in soil is called, is very important in a soil for other reasons, but it is certainly very important in aiding to provide plants with a supply of plant food from the soil. A soil containing much humus is always more fertile than the same soil with little humus, and one reason for this fact is that already stated, namely, that the humus aids in bringing the plant food to such a form that plants can use it.

The most natural method of farming is to utilize as much as possible the plant food already in the soil, and resort to fertilizers only to supply the deficiencies of the soil.—Dr. G. S. Fraps, Ph.D., of Raleigh, in Philadelphia Farmer.

How to Get Eggs.
The following from the Baltimore Sun is just as good as it would be if taken from the columns of the best poultry journal in the country:

If it costs in actual money one dollar a year to keep a hen and the hen lays 200 eggs, there is a net profit of 100 per cent., even though the average price of eggs is only twelve cents a dozen.

As no other farm stock will pay this average profit, this subject is one that should be studied. On this subject a poultryman gives the following general facts:

The pullet that begins laying at the earliest age and continues to lay the longest is the ideal mother for a strain of layers.

But there is something beyond this, for a laying strain must be started ahead of the eggs from which its members are hatched. The hens must be in the best possible condition before the eggs are laid. The eggs they lay will hatch out strong, vigorous chicks, and these should be forced to the limit. Vigorous constitution means a capacity to produce a large number of eggs. Good feed and care induce continued vigor. The artificial stimulus grows into a characteristic that becomes fixed and descends to the progeny generation after generation, and in the end a laying strain is established, and the value of such a strain is undiminished. Any one who breeds poultry may do something toward increasing the general average by attending to the details of care and feeding. Upon productiveness depends the profit that may be made from commercial poultry, to a large extent. These are not idle theories; they are facts that have been established by years of experience and observation. The study of them is a material factor in making improvements in our flocks.

To this we add that eggs being most profitable in winter, every effort should be made for winter eggs. So it is best to have a field of cow pens near the house for the chickens to forage on and a pasture of rye.

Large or Small Cows.
A reader wishes to know whether you

would prefer large or small cows for dairy or milk-giving purposes. To make a short answer, we would prefer the cow that would give the most and best milk and would keep at it longest. The object in view should always be kept foremost. If you have a cow that is just such a milker as you wish, she is the best cow without reference to her size.

If the purpose is to buy a dairy herd, the fact that there are special dairy breeds must not be ignored, and these are mostly small, though the Holsteins come in of fair size. But if the idea is to get cows for the farm, where it is desirable to raise calves as well as to get milk, size should be considered. In that case we advise getting a medium to large cow of a well-known milking strain.

Our fathers would have thought it strange had we talked of feeding hay to hogs, or laying in a supply of hay as a winter feed for hogs. But this is done now in many places as regularly as laying in hay for feeding the horses and cattle. Cow pea and alfalfa have been proven good feed for hogs, not only as pasture feed in the fields, but as dry feed in winter.

If you have a mule colt to put on pasture this spring, don't try to make him stay in the pasture by himself. He just won't do it. He'll find some way to get out, and after that no fence will bother him much. Give the mule colt or colts company. A good dispositioned old horse is good, but a gentle old gray mare is the very best company for mules.

Corn Husks and Wheat Chaff.
H. L. D. Scottville, writes: Please give me the feeding value of corn husks and wheat chaff as a feed for cows.

The following table gives the composition of corn husks and wheat chaff:

	Protein	Fiber	Extract	Fat
Corn husks	2.5	15.8	28.3	7
Wheat chaff	4.5	36	34.6	1.4

Wheat chaff contains about twice as much protein, crude fiber and fat as the corn husks. These foods are low in digestible protein and fat and only constitute cheap forms of roughness, more valuable as a filler for ruminating animals than for their entire plant, and they are also considerably lower in nutrients than corn leaves. Wheat chaff contains about as much digestible matter as wheat straw, but it is much lower in digestible nutrients than oat straw, containing only about one-fourth as much digestible protein. Neither form of roughness thus compares well with hay from any of the leaguers or tame grasses. At the same time corn husks and wheat chaff can certainly be utilized to advantage on the farm if fed in proper amounts.—Prof. Soule.

Watering Poultry.
To keep poultry healthy plenty of fresh water must be kept within easy reach of them. Crocks, pans and such vessels have to be filled several times a day. The young chicks are apt to get drowned when enough water is kept to last any length of time; besides the water gets old and unhealthy. My plan is to take a small keg at bottom; set the keg upright on box or frame a foot from ground, put a curved tube in hole, put a vessel under lower end of tube. When water is put in keg the vessel will run full of water to the lower end of tube. The depth of water can be regulated by raising or lowering the tube. If keg is filled with fresh water every morning there will always be a fresh supply of fresh water in vessel. This is the best device for watering poultry I know of. It is a great labor-saver.—H. C. Marsch, Tusculum, Tenn.

Soy Beans and Millet For Hay.
J. S. C. Russellville, Tenn., writes: Will soy beans mature early enough to be sown with millet for hay? What proportion of each should be used when sown with drill and fertilizer?

Some of the early maturing varieties of soy beans might be sown with millet for hay, but the standard varieties would have to be sown in drills, say, about thirty days before the millet was seeded. The millet might then be sown broadcast and covered with a harrow. One of the best varieties of soy beans is the mammoth yellow. A mixture of soy beans and millet will make an excellent quality of hay, and it is somewhat easier to cure than that made from cowpeas. You should sow about a half bushel to three pecks of soy beans per acre, and a gallon to a half gallon and a half of millet seed.—A. M. Soule.

News of the Day.
The President explained his Chinese immigration order in an interview with Samuel Gompers.

A railroad detective and an outlaw were killed and a second outlaw will die as a result of fighting following a Kansas hold-up.

The Elks decided to hold their reunion next year in Denver.

Commander Peary got an amount of money large enough to insure the success of his North Pole expedition.

The railroads in Missouri obtained a temporary injunction in Kansas City to prevent the enforcement of the maximum rate law.

Muraviev has resigned as head of the Russian peace plenipotentiaries, and it is regarded as certain that M. Witte will succeed him.

It is reported that General Stossel has been arrested and that Admiral Kruger will leave for service.

M. Delessa has outlined his views on France's foreign relations, saying he regards Great Britain as the best ally of the Republic.

Five hundred Chinese were drowned by the collapse of a mat shed.