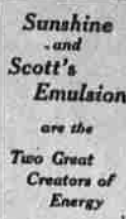




BIG SANDY NEWS.



Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

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WORST DISASTER

In Marine History Occurs In Atlantic Ocean.

Nearly 1500 Lives Lost by Sinking of Ship.—Congressman Hughes' Daughter on Board.

In all the annals of the sea, with its dreadful record of shipwreck, disaster and death, none approximates in magnitude and horror the dark record made on Monday morning last, when the rightly named steamship Titanic went into a grave two miles deep, carrying with her more than 1,300 human beings. The ill-fated steamer sailed from Liverpool on Wednesday, April 10th, and was scheduled to arrive in New York on last Tuesday. But she and nearly two thousand of those she carried never saw American shores. At 10:25 o'clock on the night of Sunday, April 14, when about 500 miles from Halifax and 1,150 miles from her destined port, she struck an iceberg and in four hours went down in water two miles deep. The saved, estimated to be 710 in number were taken off in life boats and were picked up by steamships called by wireless telegraphy. The rescued are on the steamship Carpathia and are due to arrive in New York today, Friday.

That one soul escaped from this greatest of shipwrecks is due to that greatest of all inventions, wireless telegraphy. This mighty machine, this wonderful, and to many, mysterious instrument is part of the equipment of every seagoing vessel, and since its first practical use it has been the means of saving hundreds of lives and much valuable property. Its call travels many miles through trackless space, and its call is never slighted. The men who operate it are always at their post, and when the danger call is heard no time is lost in hastening under full steam to the point whence it came. So on that fateful night, when the call "S. O. S." (Save Oh, Save) was heard over the wild waste of water, hundreds of miles away, help went swift and sure. From the drifting life boats of the submerged monster the helpless survivors of this latest horror of the sea were taken on board the Carpathia, and, if all went well, they are now in safe harbor.

Even the survivors suffered hardships from exposure. The Carpathia picked up lifeboats eight hours after the ship sank.

Every wireless station in New England is trying to pick up possible messages that may give information of more survivors.

There were 2,170 aboard the Titanic:

Crew, eight hundred.
Seven hundred and forty third-class passengers.

Six hundred and sixty in cabins.
Of the latter, 236 women and children.

Notable passengers: Mr. and Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Major Archie Butt, President Mays, of Grand Trunk Pacific, wife and daughter, W. T. Stead, Benjamin Guggenheim, F. D. Millet, artist, Vice President Thayer of Pennsylvania lines, Henry B. Harris, theatrical manager.

It is estimated that half a billion dollars is represented in the first-class passenger list. Six are worth over ten millions. They are: Astor, Guggenheim, George Widener, Philadelphia; Isadore Straus, of New York; Bruce Ismay, of New York, and Washington Roebling, of New York.

Mrs. Eloise Hughes-Smith.

A feature of special interest to our readers in connection with the sea of the Titanic is the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Lucian P. Smith, of Huntington and Morgantown, W. Va., were passengers on the ill-fated vessel. Mrs. Smith was Miss Mary Eloise Hughes, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Hughes, of Huntington, and niece of postmaster A. M. Hughes, of this city. They were married in Huntington in February last and were returning from a honeymoon trip abroad. They had

made especial effort to reach Southampton, England, in order to sail on the new and magnificent ship, the latest word in marine architecture. This fact was known to Mrs. Smith's parents, and their feelings when the news of the disaster reached them can be better imagined than described. For many hours they were in mental agony, partially relieved when they learned that their daughter was saved. It is believed, however, that her husband is lost, as his name does not appear in the list of the rescued. Mr. and Mrs. James Hughes left Huntington for New York on Wednesday to meet their daughter when she lands. Mr. A. M. Hughes went to Huntington as soon as he heard of the probable loss of his niece. Much sympathy is expressed by the many friends of Mrs. Smith on account of the great loss she has sustained.

It cost ten million dollars to build the Titanic, and it is estimated that when she went down at least that much more in treasure of various kinds went with her. To render her enormous length appreciable by our people, let it be understood that she was as long as the distance from the C. & O. tracks to the edge of the Big Sandy at the foot of Main street, and she was almost half as wide as one of our city blocks. Eleven steel decks added to the stanchness of the vessel, and the vast promenade alone had an unbroken sweep of 190 yards on each side of the ship. Icebergs are veritable mountains in size. They drift almost imperceptibly. The enormous bulk of the Titanic, going at possibly 25 miles an hour, struck this almost stationary body. Nothing but wreck could be the result.

Washington, April 17.—Representative James A. Hughes of West Virginia has been trying all day to get permission to board the steamship Carpathia from a tug at sea in order to reach his daughter, Mrs. Lucian P. Smith, who was on the Titanic and whose husband went down with the vessel. Mr. Hughes has received word by wireless that his daughter is in a critical mental condition and is eager to reach her as speedily as possible.

Additional Details.
A scene of indescribable panic prevailed when the giant Titanic struck the iceberg last Sunday night. She was rent almost asunder by the terrific impact with the iceberg.

The wireless operator had barely clicked his instrument for the final letter of his distress message, when the water flooded the dynamo room.

He turned to his accumulator set, which was weak and fluttering. Messages were sent out, but they were incapable of carrying a great distance than a hundred miles.

The first S. O. S. call was picked up by the Carpathia, which headed at once for the scene of the disaster. The Titanic had gone down before she reached the spot but numerous pieces of wreckage told the story of what had happened.

Smith ordered the lifeboats lowered, and they were filled with women and children. The lifeboats were rocked and swayed by the wind and rolling of the big boat and great difficulty was experienced in getting the women aboard without mishap.

When the collision occurred about 200 sailors sleeping in the bow of the Titanic were drowned like rats. After the impact the lights on the Titanic went out in four minutes.

DEATH OF MRS. LAUNDER.

Mrs. Launder died at Zanesville, Ohio, last Friday and was buried Sunday. She was 76 years old and had been sick two weeks. Mrs. Launder was T. L. Muncester's grandmother and made her home with him during all the time he was in the government office at Louisa. She was a woman of fine character.

Skene and Richmond Get Contract

A telegram from New York yesterday to Skene and Richmond, of this place, stated that their bid on the Barge Canal contract had been accepted. It covers the construction of five bridges. The entire contract, including the iron work, amounts to about \$250,000. Work will be started as soon as their plant can be shipped from Shelby to New York.

Bridge Charters.

In compliance with a request from the K. N. C. the NEWS will say something of the steps necessary to be taken to obtain a charter to build a bridge across a navigable stream. The essential step is to get the permission of the United States government, which has the right of eminent domain over the navigable streams of the country. This consent is obtained through Congress, which must pass a bill granting the permission. Such a bill, of course, does not become valid until signed by the President of the United States. The erection of such bridges is directly connected with the War Department, and must be done under certain restrictions. It must be so high as not to interfere with the passing of steamboats, and not to interfere with or obstruct navigation in any way. This is the government requirement. In case the ends of the proposed structure will be upon private property this must be bought or condemned, and where the bridge will connect two incorporated towns, as in case of the Louisa and Fort Gay bridge, the consent of these corporations must be obtained. This bridge, by the way, is supposed to be the only one which has the unique distinction of spanning two rivers.

Run Down and Killed.

So badly mangled was the body of an unknown man, who was run down and killed by an N. and W. train near Chattanooga, a small station 60 miles east of Kenova, one day last week, that the body was immediately interred along-side of the railroad tracks. No marks of identification were found on the man, not even a scrap of paper being found in any of the pockets of his clothes. His dead body was discovered by a local crew enroute to Williamson.

CIRCUIT COURT.

Tinker Pigg Convicted on Two Charges of Burglary.

Circuit Court resumed business Monday morning, after a recess of a couple of days. The petit jury was dismissed on last Friday until the following Monday, and the grand jury adjourned from Saturday until Wednesday and is still at work.

In the case of Mrs. Sam Carter, charged with assault upon the person of Mrs. William Hughes with intent to kill, the jury was unable to agree and the case was continued. Prosecutor Waugh returned on Tuesday and the trial of commonwealth cases was resumed. There were two cases against Tinker Pigg for the burglary of the store of E. E. Shannon. Both were tried and he was convicted in both instances. This is his third conviction for a felony, and had fact been stated in the indictment it would have carried with it imprisonment for life. Each term of imprisonment is from 1 to 5 years.

In the case of the commonwealth against George Rickman, charged with removing brands from logs, the property of the Vansant-Kitchen Lumber Co., of Ashland, Judge Hannah, being one of the company, could not preside. This fact had been certified to the Governor, who appointed Judge A. J. Kirk as the trial judge. Judge Kirk came down from Paintsville on Wednesday, and the parties not being ready this case and all other commonwealth cases set for this term were continued.

Sarah Carter, charged with stealing a diamond stickpin, the property of R. E. Rollings, was indicted by the present grand jury and released on bail.

The jury in the case of Silas Hunley against the C. & O. railroad for alleged personal damage, was unable to agree.

ATTENDED THE COUNCIL.

Mrs. G. A. Nash was a delegate to the meeting of the Woman's Missionary Council of the M. E. Church South, which was held in Washington, D. C., recently. The meeting was held in Mt. Vernon church. Mrs. Nash is expected home this week.

WOMAN SUICIDES.

Mrs. Matilda Cole Shoots Herself in the Head.

A Widow, Worried Over Financial Losses, Ends Her Life Early Monday Morning.

At the early dawn of last Monday the residents of that part of Louisa known as "Italy" were aroused by pistol shots and were startled by loud screams which emanated from the residence of Mrs. Matilda Cole and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Richards. Hurrying to the house the near neighbors were horrified to see Mrs. Cole in the arms of Mrs. Richards, with two gunshot wounds in her forehead and blood and brains showing where the deadly bullets had found lodgment.

Physicians were hastily summoned, and Dr. J. C. Bussey responded to the call. He found that one ball, probably the first, had entered the skull a little to the left of the center of the forehead, and that the other had penetrated the brain somewhat nearer the left temple. The woman was unconscious remaining in this condition until she died, which was about five o'clock that afternoon.

On Tuesday morning undertaker Kilgore, of Catlettsburg, embalmed the body, and in the afternoon it was sent to Point Pleasant, W. Va., for burial. Undertaker Augustus Snyder, of this city, accompanied the body.

The story of the self-murder as told by Mrs. Richards, who is a niece of the dead woman, is that she and her aunt, the only occupants of the house at the time, had gone to bed as usual. At the hour above mentioned she was awakened by the first pistol shot and saw Mrs. Cole, fully dressed, seated in a rocking chair directly in front of a mirror, holding a pistol in her hand. She was paralyzed by the sight, and before she could collect her senses, the woman raised the weapon again, holding the pistol some distance from her head, and again fired, this second bullet doing its deadly work.

Mrs. Richards says that for some time her relative had been brooding over some financial losses, and had become very despondent. Only the day before her successful attack upon her own life she had proposed to her niece that both should commit suicide by drowning themselves in a barrel of rain water that stood near the house.

Mrs. Cole was an intelligent woman, about 58 years of age. She was born near Gettysburg, Pa., and with Mr. and Mrs. Richards, who was also her adopted daughter, moved to Louisa something like a year ago. They purchased a house and lot on Lock avenue, also the house and lot formerly owned and occupied by Billie Wilson, where they were living at the time of the tragedy. Mrs. Richards is a young woman, being about 19 or 20 years of age. She is a woman of refined manner, as was Mrs. Cole, and the house was well furnished.

All sorts of stories were soon afloat concerning the tragedy, the wildest of them being that Mrs. Cole was murdered and Richards was her slayer. He had been seen by some, and had been heard by others on the night of the suicide, so it is alleged. According to one report the captain of the Edna Riley had been hailed three miles below Louisa by Richards a few hours after Mrs. Cole killed herself, and that Richards had got aboard and gone to Catlettsburg, all of which did not occur. The talk about murder grew so strong that County Judge Boggs ordered an inquest, which was held at the Cole residence shortly before noon Wednesday. The case was fully inquired into and a verdict of suicide was rendered.

Richards is not here now, and has not been in Louisa for two or three months, and his whereabouts are not known to the public.

Jesse Stevens, age 5, was burned to death at Pikeville.

Woman Slashed With Razor.

On Monday afternoon last Mrs. James Thompson, so the story goes, cut her sister-in-law, Mrs. John Thompson, with a razor, inflicting several severe wounds before she could be restrained. All the parties live at Torchlight, seven miles from this place, on the C. & O. The razor user and her victim married the two brothers, John and James Thompson, and both families live on the same property, a tract of land belonging to the heirs of the late Sampson Billups. It is out of this occupancy that the cutting grew and which is the outcome of a family quarrel of long standing. It is said that the accused woman lay in wait for her relative, and opened the affray by throwing a stone at her sister-in-law.

After her wounds had been dressed by Dr. Marcum, of Torchlight, Mrs. Thompson came to Louisa on No. 39 and swore out a warrant for the arrest of her assailant. She presented a rather startling appearance with her face and arms all but covered with bandages. It is said that she received cuts on other parts of her body.

Tribune Has Suspended Publication.

With its issue of Saturday, the 13th, the Catlettsburg Tribune suspended its publication in that city. No particular cause is given for this step, but the proprietor says that "for reasons thought to be entirely justifiable and proper by its present proprietor, today's issue of the paper marks the closing of its existence under the present ownership and management."

It is intimated that the paper may appear in Huntington as The Independent Tribune.

High Jinks in Valpo.

Valparaiso, Indiana, Apr. 13.—Three thousand students of Valparaiso university last night and early today rioted in the streets here driving before them, smashing windows, firing revolvers and creating general havoc. The rioters burst into Memorial theater and drove the audience out in a panic. The theater furniture was smashed. The city authorities were powerless. The arrest of the students for playing baseball in the streets started the rioting.

Called Council Conclave.

A called meeting of the city council was held on last Monday. The committee on street paving was empowered to employ Mr. John McDyer, of Ashland, to make the necessary surveys and maps and to agree with him as to terms and whether the terms should be for the day or for the work as a whole.

The ordinances relative to gas, fire limits and dogs were ratified and signed without change.

PRISONERS FROM MARTIN.

Sheriff Fletcher, of Martin county, recently passed through Louisa having in his charge two convicts and a lunatic. One of the convicts was James Maynard. The other was George Dowden. Maynard goes to the penitentiary, but Dowden, on account of his youth, goes to the Reform School. The sheriff also had Hayes Patrick, a lunatic, in charge and was taking him to the State Hospital in Lexington.

AN OCTOGENARIAN.

Mr. Mont Johnson, of Red Jacket, came down last Friday to celebrate with his mother her 81st birthday. Mrs. Johnson, who lives at Charley, this county, was a sister of the late James I. Muncey and is still in good health. Mr. Mont Johnson is in the commissary department of the Red Jacket coal mines and has been with the company eleven years.

ANIMALS KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

During the storm which passed over this section at an early hour last Monday morning lightning killed a fine horse and a calf, the property of Mr. Henry Cains, of Pottery. The animals were in a barn not far from the house, but the building was uninjured. The horse was a fine saddle and driver, highly prized by its owner.

Cranted Paroles.

The State Prison Commission granted paroles last Thursday to about thirty convicts, after each case had been investigated by writing to the county officials, the latter recommending the paroles. Among the paroled ones are W. P. Craft, Morgan county, hog stealing; Jack Morgan, Letcher county, obtaining goods by false pretenses; John Moore, Knott county ten years for robbery, served seven years, and William Fitzgerald, (Bill Jarrell) Lawrence county, house breaking. It will be remembered that a year or so ago Bill got mixed up with a wagon, a barn door and two dollars and a half. The wagon belonged to Bert Shannon and was in his barn in this city. Bill forced his way into the said barn, abstracted therefrom the aforesaid wagon and sold the same for the before mentioned two-fifty. For this he received in the Lawrence Circuit Court an indeterminate sentence of from one to five years in the penitentiary. He has served about a year and a half.

Arrived Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Burchett, of this city, are rejoicing over the arrival of a son, Wayne Carey, which auspicious event occurred Sunday afternoon. Peculiar interest attaches to the advent of this young man. It is their only child, the happy realization of many hopes. May he live long and prosper.

Big Price for Mountain Lands.

The Consolidation Coal company has bought 76 acres of coal lands the rate of a little more than \$250 near Jenkins for \$19,700. This is at an acre—perhaps the largest price ever paid for coal lands anywhere in the mountains.

D. T. & I. RAILROAD

Reported to be Going into Hands of N. & W.

There is a report that the Norfolk and Western has been considering the acquisition of the Detroit, Toledo and Ironton, the sale of which was deferred Monday until next October. Should the deal go through George E. Johnson will, it is understood, be made President of the road, giving two members of the Johnson family that title, as his father, L. E. Johnson, is President of the N. & W.

The acquisition of the D. T. and I. will give the N. & W., an outlet to the great lakes, as at the present time it sends its lake coal over the Hocking Valley, C. H. and D. and the Pennsylvania, part of it coming through Cincinnati, The N. and W., in the event that the D. T. and I. is bought, could use its own motive power and rolling stock on the Ohio road. Connection could be secured by the N. & W., at Waverly, Ohio, on the Columbus Division, south of Columbus.

At the present time the N. and W., sends coal over the C. H. and D., from Ironton. The acquisition of the D. T. and I., with its subsequent improvement, will enable the N. and W., to have a longer haul on its lake coal instead of dividing the haul with a number of other roads. This, of course, means more freight for the N. and W.

The coming year the N. and W., will greatly increase its coal tonnage, which last year passed the 21,000,000-ton mark, making it one of the most important coal carriers in the country. However, officials of the road point to the fact that the N. and W., is other than a simple coal carrier, as the tonnage outside of coal is very large. Taking 100 per cent as the basis of all of its tonnage, statistics show that about 60 per cent of the tonnage is coal, while the remaining 40 per cent consists of miscellaneous freight.

The N. and W., will invade the Kentucky coal fields, building south 11 miles from Williamson, W. Va., to Pike County, Kentucky. The coal in this field has peculiar properties that make it an excellent product for the firms manufacturing coal by-products. Cincinnati Enquirer.