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TRAGEDY'S GRIM SHADOW STALKS THROUGH STREETS OF CITY

SORROW'S SHAFT PALLS RESIDENTS

They Mourn With Kin Of Men Who Went Into Mine, Never To Return

BY GRETCHEN GRAY

Tragedy walked the streets of Birmingham Saturday.

While football fans cheered and college colors ran riot everywhere, an undercurrent of disaster was apparent, not only in the Mulga district where 22 men had walked into a mine shaft never to see the day again, but in crowded restaurants, busy street corners and filled bleachers.

Everywhere the cry was the same—why do those things have to happen?

But no one could give the answer. They could only wonder and talk.

"I can sympathize with those wives and mothers," said a woman with soft sad eyes and hair too white for her features as she sat at a counter during lunch. "My Jim went in the Dolomite blast and little Jim had never known his Daddy."

Her friends did not answer. They had never known what it is to have a man, father, son or husband, a provider walk cheerfully from a cottage in the morning and into a perpetual darkness never to return. They had never known hours of wailing and waiting for the identification of charred bodies. They had never known years of bringing up a boy to be like his father without that father's help.

Echoes of the tragedy came from either sides of life too. "Oh, cheer up and stop buying those papers filled with the mine disaster, Skipper," a boy wearing a loose topcoat and the blue and orange of Auburn said as he poked his companion in the ribs. But Skipper only shook his head sadly and asked the boy on the corner for another paper. "Oh, I thought we came here to celebrate," the collegiate one said. But Skipper was buried in his paper.

Even the kids lined up in front of a downtown theater knew that sorrow had come to a mine village near by and they forgot momentarily the Walt Disney cartoons and exciting features which awaited them. "Oh, I've been in mines lots of times," said a tall boy as he ripped his jacket proudly.

"But my mother says it's wrong for children to go in mines," answered a little girl with two pigtails and red ribbons. "Mines are just made for men who aren't afraid of the dark and don't mind getting their faces dirty."

One little girl wouldn't enter into the conversation at all. She had just heard about the explosion and looked fractionally for her mother to take her home, and quickly. Her best little friend had recently moved to Mulga, she tearfully explained to a grownup. Her name was Mary. And Mary's daddy wore a lighted cap on his head and went to work after dark. Her frantic cries for "Mother" showed how earnestly she wanted to get by Mary in her need.

It was a restful day in Birmingham. The stores were filled with shoppers. The streets were filled with week-end guests and the eating places and theaters were just as crowded as any other football Saturday.

But there was a difference Saturday. Every laugh had an undertone of sorrow and every word an echo of grief as Birmingham carried on its duties bravely and yet weep silently with her neighbors across the way.

NEGRO'S CONDITION SERIOUS

George Taylor, Negro, of 717 North Fifteenth Street, was in a critical condition Saturday at Hillman Hospital after being shot with a shotgun in the abdomen Friday night at his residence. Officers Helton, Penland, Joy and Muir, who investigated, said Ada Amons, Negro woman, was taken into custody in connection with investigation of the shooting.

Miners' Families See Death, Refuse To Believe It Has Taken Their Own

Only Occasionally Does Broken Cry Pierce Air As Fellow Workers, Friends Cloak Feelings In Expressive Silence

BY BEM PRICE

Dumbly the small group huddled in the bitter cold of the early morning watched dry-eyed as each trip the elevator made down the mine shaft at Mulga mine Saturday morning brought to light more prone figures on stretchers. Two by two the dead were brought up and loaded into ambulances to be carried away.

Occasionally a broken cry pierced the still air as the full meaning of the tragedy reached some mother or wife or child. Efforts of friends to comfort were futile for the sorrow went too deep for that.

Down the road leading to the shaft straggled a late comer or two, who had been so close to death and yet so far away.

The wails of several Negro women whose "man" was down there lent an eerie atmosphere to the semi-darkness of the breaking day. They shuffled in and out of the crowd, lost, not knowing what to do or where to turn in their bereavement.

The white people, even those who had lost a loved one, tried as best they could to calm their fears.

In the chill of the early morning members of the early shift conjectured among themselves as to who had been on the "owl crew."

"I wonder," said one, "if Red was there? His mother was sick last night and he asked to get off." He received no reply nor did he expect any, for Red's broken body was being placed in an ambulance.

"Finney was a pretty good guy," said another, "but I guess it all goes to show that it doesn't do to make plans. He thought he was going to be married next month, what with his raise and all."

Other members of the "owl crew" who were waiting feverishly to rescue the bodies of their buddies, were careful to remove the lamps from each of the men as they were brought up. Always the cry was "Tighten, we gotta have more lights."

They were the men who were working in other sections of the mine, unaware that fate had chanced to place them out of danger. Little did some know as they toiled away underground that 250 feet down and four miles away the merciless enemy of all miners, gas, had again taken its toll.

The first they knew of the explosion was when they were ordered above ground, many said. Informed of the catastrophe, they waited impatiently for the fatal carbon monoxide was slowly replaced with pure oxygen and they could go to the aid of their friends, some of whom were brothers or brothers-in-law.

Strange, but the men who had been on the shift when death struck with such unexpected swiftness were the ones who were laughing and smoking the most. They formed a group all their own apart. Every once in a while one would pass by the mouth of a light joke as he caught the eye of a comrade and his eyes would cloud with a painful memory and he would look away.

As the early morning sun crept up over the hills, smoke clouds began to take on a definite appearance. Standing together were a small cluster of wives. Each knew full well that her husband was listed among the dead, yet each refused to believe it until they saw the body.

The soft light of the morning was broken by the brilliant rays of the sun and still the grim procession out of the depths of the earth continued. Even after the last remnant of what had once been a stalwart group of men was taken away the crowd remained. Solemn and quiet they stood and all felt the heaviness of sorrow.

Minister In Jail

THE REV. MILLER OLMON JOHNSON, inter-denominational preacher, held in a Lexington, Ky., jail, was quoted by officers as confessing he killed his estranged wife and William Rue, an automobile salesman, when he found them together in his home. Officers said he declared, "I believe the Lord will forgive me."

Decatur Women Rule Town And Make It Success

DECATUR, Ala. — The women took charge of Decatur Saturday and ran the affairs to their liking.

There was a woman traffic cop on every corner, women riding bicycles served as motorcycle patrolmen and more women wore the caps of street policemen.

They all refused to give any traffic tickets for overtime parking, turning around in the middle of the block or any violation of "mam's laws."

They took over the fire department, the mayor's chair, the office of city clerk, city attorney and every other office or job the males hold.

It was their day, they made the laws and enforced them but admitted they didn't intend to arrest any woman, but warned all men to be careful or else.

The women are entertaining Saturday. They invited by personal letter more than 10,000 people from the neighboring trade territory and the merchants are making a trade day of it.

Crowds on the street early Saturday indicate it women were making a success of it and one lady declared that might even keep her jobs."

Mrs. R. N. Harris, wife of Decatur's mayor is acting in his place today.

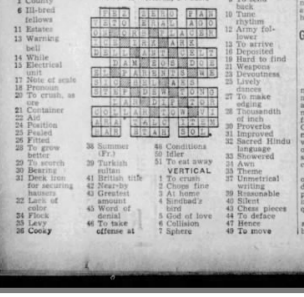
WORKERS GET RAISE

Pay Increases Granted By Birmingham Water Works

Pay increases ranging from 6 to 16 per cent will fatten the pay envelopes of some 50 machinists, electricians and engineers engaged by the Birmingham Water Works.

The increase was announced following the signing of a contract between the company and the three A. F. of L. unions, said Ada Amons, the contract, under consideration for more than a month, is to extend for a year.

News Crossword Puzzle



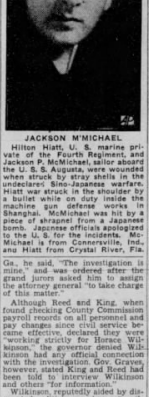
HORIZONTAL
1 Country
6 Ill-bred fellows
11 Estate
13 Warning bell
14 While
15 Electrical unit
17 Note of scale
18 Pronoun
20 To crush, as ore
22 Container
23 Aid
24 Position
25 Pealed
26 Fitted
28 To grow better
29 To scorch
30 Bearing
31 Dark iron for securing banners
32 Lack of color
34 Flock
35 Lazy
36 Cooky
38 Summer (Fr.)
39 Turkish coins
41 British title
42 Nearby
43 Greatest amount
45 Word of denial
46 To base
48 Conditions
50 Idler
51 To eat away

VERTICAL
1 To order
2 Chosen fine
3 At home
4 Sindbad's bird
5 God of love
6 Collision
7 Sphere
8 Belonging to
9 To send back
10 Tune, rhythm
12 Army follower
16 To arrive
19 Deposited
21 Hard to find
27 Weapons
31 Devoutness
33 Lively dances
37 To make edging
38 Thousandth of inch
39 Proverbs
40 Improved
44 Spanish Hindu language
46 Showered
47 Awn
48 Theme
49 Unmetrical writing

Answer to Yesterday's Puzzle

Hit In Shanghai

HILTON HIATT



JACKSON M'MICHAEL

Hilton Hiatt, U. S. marine private of the Fourth Regiment, and Jackson P. McMichael, sailor aboard the U. S. S. Augusta, were wounded when struck by stray shells in the unclaimed Sino-Japanese warfare. Hiatt was struck in the shoulder by a bullet while on duty inside the machine gun defense works in Shanghai. McMichael was hit by a piece of shrapnel from a Japanese bomb. Japanese officials apologized to the U. S. for the incidents. McMichael is from Connersville, Ind., and Hiatt from Crystal River, Fla.

SLAYER SLEEPS WITH BODIES OF VICTIMS IN CAR

Continued From Page 1

The youth was brought in to police headquarters for questioning about 5197 police said he had in his pockets. Meanwhile, Shippee said, Patrolman Norman Turner went out to examine the car and rushed back to the police station with the declaration a woman's body was under the rear seat.

At this point, Shippee said, the youth suggested that they look in a trunk in the tonneau of the car. There they found the body of the physician, the chief said.

He quoted Dwyer as saying he called the physician to his home to examine him for a social disease. When the old man made a "crack about my girl friend," Shippee quoted the youth, he knocked the physician against a radiator.

"I thought I killed him so I choked and beat him with a hammer," the police chief said the youth told him.

Shippee said the morbid confession continued as follows: Dwyer placed the doctor's body in the trunk, put it in the car, drove to the doctor's house, and told Mrs. Littlefield:

"The doctor has just killed two people and is on his way to Boston. He said to get all the money you have and meet him at the railroad station."

Mrs. Littlefield got $197 and accompanied the youth to the station, without knowledge her slain husband's body was in the very car in which she rode.

When Dr. Littlefield did not appear at the South Parts Railroad Station, the chief continued, Dwyer suggested he "go home on to Boston" and proceeded to start southward. When the elderly woman became "suspicious" as the car neared Portland, Me., Dwyer choked and beat her fatally with a hammer, he said.

GRAVES ADMITS ORDERING CIVIL SERVICE INQUIRY

Continued From Page 1

It was pointed out further that 12 members of a Grand Jury, which is made up of 18, is sufficient to vote an indictment and investigate any matter "requiring investigation." In fact, court records showed the Grand Jury, which served the three months immediately prior to Oct. 1, when a new inquisitorial body was organized, did investigate reported sale of inferior foodstuffs to the county for feeding jail prisoners.

The jurors took no action in this other than to state "the Grand Jury does not find willful neglect on the part of the county purchasing agent in buying or receiving food of good quality for county prisoners."

In a specially prepared statement announced by Gov. Graves after his return to the capital from Rome, Ga., he said, "The investigation is mine," and was ordered after the grand jurors asked him to assign the attorney general "to take charge of this matter."

Although Reed and King, when found checking County Commission payroll records on all personnel and pay changes since civil service became effective, declared they were "working strictly for Horace Wilkinson," the governor denied Wilkinson had any official connection with the investigation. Gov. Graves, however, stated King and Reed had been told to interview Wilkinson and others "for information."

Wilkinson, reputedly aided by disgruntled politicians whose "spoils system" wings have been clipped by the civil service merit system in the city, county and Bessemer governments, has been conducting a campaign against civil service since its inception.

City Comptroller Armstrong said King and Reed had worked two weeks at the City Hall in making the "secret probe." He said both told him they were "working for Wilkinson."

The two men were referred to county payroll records by the Civil Service Personnel Board after it had refused to give Wilkinson and the pair the names and addresses of all applicants "to have taken civil service tests, together with information as to whether they passed or failed.

Board members made it clear civil service records always have been and still are open to inspection by applicants, but that because of their confidential nature are not open to general inspection.

In his statement, Gov. Graves said "I note with great surprise that the public record of names of those who take public examinations for public office in civil service, together with the results, is denied the public."

The governor refused to say whether any report had been made to him by King and Reed, but asserted the investigation ordered "to satisfy my own judgment what are the facts of the situation" before acting on the request for assignment of the attorney general to "take charge of this matter."

Gov. Graves' statement follows in full:

"In reference to the investigation being conducted into civil service in Jefferson County, I wish to state that some time ago I received a communication signed by 12 members of the Grand Jury of Jefferson County requesting that I ask the attorney general to investigate this matter.

"Such a request I deem quite serious, although I have not done so asked to do so left upon that request, yet I have sought and am seeking to satisfy my own judgment of what are the facts of the situation, so that whatever action I shall take will be taken upon what I believe to be the merits of the case after investigation is completed.

"I have every desire not to embarrass anyone, otherwise I would have struck while the iron was hot, for I had that request signed by enough members of the Grand Jury to indict.

"The investigation is mine. The reports will be made to me, that I may decide what I should do upon the request of these Jefferson County grand jurors. The jurors are asked to seek information from all available sources, including the courthouse, city halls and Mr. Wilkinson, who has indicated up on the matter.

Reams Declares Withheld

"I note with much surprise that the public record of the names of those who take public examinations for public office in civil service together with the results is denied the public. No one cares to see the papers or percentages of individuals, but the fact that they apply for public office and the fact whether or not they are found qualified therefor, is certainly a matter that the public whom they seek to serve has a right to know.

"A fundamental of our social structure is keeping secret the individuality of members of grand juries as to their position upon such matters as they must act upon. Even upon trial for life no one must know which grand juror favored or opposed the charge preferred.

"I hope that none will be so unsocial as to try to identify directly or otherwise the particular members who signed the communication herein referred to.

"I do not think that there is anything more that should be said now upon this matter, other than this, when I am satisfied as to merits of the case I shall act upon the request before me."

Hit In Shanghai

Explosion At Mulga Mine Is Third Such Disaster In That Community

The explosion Friday night at Mulga in which more than 20 miners were killed was the third disaster of its kind to visit Mulga.

Mulga suffered its first explosion tragedy on April 21, 1910, when 27 lost their lives. On Oct. 5, 1914, another explosion took 23 more lives, leaving a total of 17 dead.

Alabama's worst mine disaster occurred April 8, 1911, when 128 miners lost their lives in a blast that rocked Banner mine. The last major mine tragedy in the state occurred Dec. 11, 1925, at the Overton mine of Alabama Fuel & Iron Company.

Major catastrophes since 1905 and the number of dead follow:

February, 1905	112	Virginia Mine	112
Dec. 16, 1907	57	Yolanda	57
Feb. 2, 1909	18	Short Creek	18
April 20, 1910	27	Mulga	30
May 4, 1910	8	Palos	89
April 8, 1911	128	Banner	128
Aug. 13, 1912	8	Abernant	18
Nov. 13, 1913	7	Acton	24
Jan. 10, 1914	2	Rock Castle	12
Oct. 5, 1914	17	Mulga	17
Oct. 22, 1918	5	Marvel	18
Nov. 2, 1918	30	Bessie	30
April 29, 1919	22	Majestic	22
Nov. 23, 1920	12	Parrish	12
May 20, 1922	8	Acmar	8
Nov. 22, 1922	86	Dolomite	86
Dec. 11, 1925	32	Overton	32

This list includes only disasters in which 10 or more have been killed, since state mines first reported disasters in 1905. In 1905 there were 16 or more are killed. This shows that, including Friday night's tragedy, a total of 776 miners have lost their lives in 18 mine explosions since 1905.

CHEST PREPARATION CAMPAIGN IS CLOSED

Drive For Funds Will Begin Monday Morning, Following Dutch Breakfast

The week of intensive preparation for the active general canvass for the fifteenth Community Chest drive in Jefferson County's Community Chest closes this Saturday, and following Sunday's observance of "Community Chest Day" in the churches, the campaign will be launched at 7:45 a.m. Monday with a "dutch" mass breakfast and inspirational program at the Thomas Jefferson Hotel.

Dr. Richard Clark Foster, president of the University of Alabama, will be the inspirational speaker and deliver the "keynote" address, and a short and snappy program, including music, and short talks by Dr. Charles Scrivener, president, and Thomas W. Martin, president of the Chest, the whole program to last less than one hour.

All Workers Invited

All and every volunteer worker of every division of the appeal is asked to be present, and to make their reservation in advance to their captain or their chairman, and each division leader is responsible for getting these reservations for the meeting to campaign headquarters, 111-113 North Nineteenth Street.

"Be on hand promptly and let's do the job with conviction, enthusiasm and determination," said Karl Lacgbrede, Chest Appeal chairman, in his call for this "kick off" breakfast meeting. "We have the challenge, we have the responsibility, we can and will do the job quickly and well. If each of you start to work immediately after the breakfast Monday, without going to your daily tasks, we can get a large part of the job done Monday."

Ministers Respond

Ministers of the city have responded cheerfully to the request that they make Sunday as "Community Chest Sunday," and practically all will preach special sermons stressing the Chest Appeal and its needs. Standing together were a number of speakers supplied by the speakers' bureau of the appeal with George R. Stuart in charge of the church division. George Bellinger will make a four-minute talk before the morning sermon at the Southside Baptist Church, and others who will speak at the same hour, 11 a.m., include James Arthur Smith, at the Avondale Methodist Church, and R. Earl Hunter at the Woodlawn Presbyterian Church.

A mass meeting of Negroes in the interest of the Chest Appeal will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday in the North Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, with Dr. Charles Setchell Norris, II, professor of English and sociology at Alabama State College, Nashville, as the inspirational speaker.

Chest Appeal Side Lights

Mrs. J. J. Eaton, chairman, and Mrs. Harvard G. Dunlap, vice-chairman of the organization committee of the women's division, declare one of their main activities will be in church division, of which Mrs. F. D. Mudge is chairman, and Mrs. Norvell Cullom, cochairman. This division is divided into two demominational groups, each with a chairman, as follow: Baptist, Mrs. Hearley Jordan; Catholic, Mrs. Bob Hanby; Christian, Mrs. R. H. Mac-Fetridge; Congregational, Mrs. Arthur Alling; Episcopal, Mrs. Norvell Cullom and Mrs. W. R. Gignilliat; Evangelical, Mrs. William Koehler; Jewish, Mrs. Arnold Hirsch; Methodist, Mrs. M. M. Howell; Presbyterian, Mrs. T. M. Winton.

During the Chest Appeal campaign the traffic department of the city has kindly consented to reserve the space in front of the chest building for the men volunteers who are at headquarters all of the time. For all other volunteers, the Birmingham Municipal Garage, Inc., will allow parking for 10 cents, if a card showing the Chest Appeal and a credited volunteer is presented. These cards can be obtained at headquarters, 111-113 North Nineteenth Street.

21 WILL TESTIFY AGAINST DOWNS

City Commissioner's Ouster Case Will Come Up Tuesday Morning

Twenty-one witnesses, including City Commission President Jones, Associate Commissioner Lewis Robinson, Senator James A. Simpson, State Comptroller C. W. Lee, Highway Commissioner Frank Dowdy had been summoned to testify against City Commissioner W. O. Downs when his impeachment trial comes in Circuit Court at 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Names of the witnesses were turned over to the Circuit Court clerks office by Charles W. Greer, attorney for nine taxpayers who instituted the ouster proceedings against Downs.

Copies of the proceedings was passed from Oct. 12 by Presiding Judge Thompson, by agreement of Greer and Horace Wilkinson, counsel for Downs, because of injuries received by Greer in an automobile accident.

Witnesses summoned included the following: C. E. Armstrong city comptroller; T. A. Riley, city detective; Dewey Copeland, state highway patrolman; C. W. Lee, state comptroller, Montgomery; A. C. Smith, traffic officer; Abe Berkowitz, Title Guarantee Building; Evelyn Newman, City Recorders Court; Thomas Skinner, First National Bank Building.

Ethel Burnett, Jackson Hotel; Sidney P. Orr, Crawford Hotel; Mobile Company; C. L. Mullins, capitol Police Department; Chief of Detectives G. C. Giles; Detective W. L. DeGroat; William H. Livingston, Royal Cab Company; W. G. Thottingham, 1964 Bessemer Road; E. L. Coleman, 1904 Eleventh Avenue, South; A. C. McGuire and J. J. Mulvey, police officer; and J. P. Bettis, 517 St. Charles Avenue.

CARLOADINGS GAIN

Coal And Forest Products Account For Most Of Increase

Coal and forest products accounted for nearly all of the increase in revenue car loadings of Southern railroads in the week ended Oct. 2 over the like week of 1936, the association of American Railroads reported. The total revenue cars handled by these roads that week was 118,052 compared with 114,622 and 101,733 cars, respectively, in the corresponding weeks of 1936 and 1935.

By commodities carloadings in these weeks this year and last were: Grain and grain products, 2,398 and 1,894; livestock, 1,058 and 1,168; coal, 22,605 and 21,014; coke, 437 and 372; forest products, 11,634 and 10,192; ore, 1,664 and 720; less than carlots, 29,996 and 26,472; miscellaneous, 48,795 and 48,484.

IT'S "Filter-Fine" MOROLINE SNOW-WHITE PETROLEUM JELLY
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLER AT 5¢

Civil War Shell, Used As Andiron, Explodes In Home

VICKSBURG, Miss.—(Jr)—Russell White, superintendent of a plantation near here, must have thought for a minute last night "Gen. Grant and the Yankees" had come back.

White, thinking he had an old wagon-wheel hub, took a 30-pound shell into the house and made an andiron of it for the fireplace.

In a few minutes there was a terrific explosion. He was knocked from a chair, the kerosene lamp upset and burning embers were blown all over the room.

White was shocked but otherwise uninjured.

It was believed the shell was one that Gen. Ulysses S. Grant threw at Vicksburg in the Civil War siege more than 74 years ago.

DESIGNING MALES?

Female Feline Willed $10,000 Locked Up For Safe Keeping

NEW ORLEANS, La.—(INS)—Lawyers delving into legal precedents today were relieved Saturday to learn that the cat that was willed $10,000 has been locked up in an institution for safe keeping.

The female feline was willed $10,000 by Mrs. Linnie Beneke to provide for its care. But the will made no provisions for caring for any possible increase in the cat's family, and it had been widely reported that the wealthy cat had taken up with a common alley cat and that the romance had reached a serious stage. These reports had made the legal minds interested in the case quite disturbed.

So while lawyers prepare to argue the merits of the will, the $10,000 cat is being kept in seclusion.

FIVE DIE IN CRASH

THE HAUGE, Netherlands—(Jr)—Five persons were killed Saturday in the second crash of Dutch naval planes in the East Indies within three days. The accident happened near the Island of Banda. It was said there no further details were available here.

MINE GIVES UP VICTIMS' BODIES

33 Men Lose Lives As Blast Of Undetermined Origin Rips Mulga Shaft

Continued From Page 1

More than 150 other men were at work in other levels of the mine when the blast occurred. They felt the force of the blast and saw smoke rising to their levels.

They made their way to safety. Last many returned to the mine when the rescue parties were organized.

Meanwhile, wives, mothers and daughters gathered in silent groups at the shaft head, waiting for word from the depths of the mine whether or their loved ones were dead or alive.

As the first of the bodies emerged from the mine they were quickly placed in ambulances and taken to morgues in Bessemer for identification. The little groups of relatives would not accept as final the word their kinsmen had perished until identified by lamp number.

Officials of the mine said another half hour would have seen all victims safely out of the mine, as the shift went off duty at midnight.

The blast is the third that has rocked this mine. On April 21, 1910, 27 men were killed in an explosion which made rescue difficult. At that time rescue parties were checked in and out of the mine and it was necessary to send in to rescue 14 of the rescuers.

Cause of Friday night's explosion was undetermined. Official inquiry will begin Monday. In the meantime, experts expressed the belief the blast was caused by ignition of methane gas by sparks from a cutting machine. The "after damp" chemical and physical product of the blast is composed of deadly carbon monoxide gas, carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide and dust.

Ambulances from Birmingham and Bessemer quickly sped to the stricken mine while physicians and surgeons were summoned.

Fox, the sole survivor, crawled more than 100 yards from where he was injured. Isaac Drummond, one of the rescuers, said. He was found near the entrance of Section 12, some distance from where the explosion occurred in Section 11.

Within a short time after the explosion, W. B. Hillhouse, state mine inspector, and Frank Cash, district mine engineer for the Federal Bureau of Mines, were on hand to aid in directing rescue work and to begin the official investigation.

The Bureau of Mines ordered an independent investigation.

Daniel Harrington, chief of the health and safety branch, said in Washington as soon as the news was started, probably Sunday or Monday, by District Engineer Cash and Clifford E. Saxon, senior safety inspector.

Gov. Graves ordered Inspector Hillhouse to "spare no effort in getting all the facts."

Hillhouse, the governor said, will submit an official report on the explosion Sunday or Monday.

The Mulga mine is one of the few "shaft" mines in the Birmingham district. A shaft mine differs from a "slope" mine in that the entrance to the mine is through a vertical elevator shaft rather than an inclined passage.

From the shaft at Mulga, the tunnels run for miles at different levels. The explosion was four and a half miles from the shaft, four and a half miles of blackness, dripping walls and jagged rock.

H. A. Berg, president of the Woodward Iron Company, Saturday said "loss of life is the terrible part of this disaster. Our first experience with this reveals but little damage to the mine." He said he believed operations could be resumed next week after minor repairs were completed. He added, however, the complete examination of the mine might reveal more serious damage than was at first apparent.

Fire Marshal Sam Williams, of Birmingham, who went to the mine center in directing rescue work, said Mulga was known among miners as one of the "hottest" mines in Jefferson County.

He explained that a "hot" mine is one in which coal gas collects rapidly. Both of the previous explosions at Mulga Mine occurred prior to the time Woodward Iron Company took over operation.

Although the force of the blast reached miles in the Pratt City and Fairfield districts, first word of the tragedy came to Birmingham in a phone call to police headquarters here for ambulances.

ITALY AGREES TO BRITISH-FRENCH PROPOSAL IN WAR

Continued From Page 1

In offering cooperation, Count Grandi, however, specified that withdrawal of troops be "in equal quantities from both sides."

This, he said, was to be regarded as "a substantial beginning of the application" of the British plan for evacuation of foreign volunteers from Spain.

The British and French spokesmen again pressed all members to urge speedy action on their governments.

The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday, Oct. 19.

Eden warned Friday night that Britain was determined to protect her vital Mediterranean interests. Mussolini's newspaper, Il Popolo d'Italia, referring to President

Wheeler To Pass On Montgomery And Bailes Case

Whether any "disciplinary action" will be taken by Judge Wheeler against Solicitor Bailes and Mont Montgomery, defense attorney, who, he said, defied his orders in recommending 30 years' imprisonment for each of two admitted robbers, will be decided by the jurist Monday.

Judge Wheeler declared he had issued a statement criticizing Bailes and Montgomery. The jurist said his decision on whether he would cite the solicitor and attorney for contempt was delayed because a lawyer Wheeler asked to confer with him regarding the matter was ill with cold.

A jury in Judge McElroy's court carried out recommendations by Bailes, representing the state, and Montgomery and Fayette Rogers, attorney for Johnnie Palmer and Roy Chance, respectively, that the pair be sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment each in three robbery cases. Judge Wheeler previously had refused to permit such a recommendation to be submitted to a jury in the cases of Palmer, and declared the attorneys should not have made their recommendations in another court in the cases had been "properly before me."

Roosevelt's arraignment of aggressor nations as his "Chicago sermonette," pointed Saturday to United States arms shipments which it said reached Spain through Russia.

The paper reproduced the president's more striking condemnatory remarks in an article entitled "American Flowerets," then referred to his assertion that the peace, liberty and security of 90 per cent of the world population was menaced by the other 10 per cent.

In Shanghai Japanese authorities claimed the Chinese were using poison gas and displayed a shell which they claimed had contained phosgene gas. The Chinese denied they had used gas.

Reports from North China said the Chinese were making spirited defense against the Japanese marching southward toward Taian, capital of Shantung Province.

A Chinese spokesman declared renewed attacks by the Japanese army today to smash Chinese lines at Tazang, 70 miles north of Shanghai, were repulsed.

Chinese troops, he said, machine gunned a Japanese force attempting a flanking movement to cut off Chinese forces in the Chapei sector on the northern edge of the Shanghai international settlement.

He said two battalions of Japanese trying to cross a creek were caught in water up to their waists. The Chinese fire killed and wounded several hundred Japanese, he added, many of the wounded drowned.

PAPRIKA FOR ACCENT
NEW YORK—(AP)—Paprika, pimiento and nut are smart accent shades this Fall. Some New York dressmakers use them as chic accessory colors for black.

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