

## EXPLOSION ON WARSHIP COSTS LIFE OF SAILOR

Naval Authorities Reticent Regarding Fatal Boiler Tube Accident on Maryland

Cruiser Reaches Mare Island, Bringing Victims of the Disaster

### Recent Boiler Accidents On American Warships

December 15, 1904—Explosion of tubes in fireroom of battleship Massachusetts. Three men killed.

July 21, 1905—Boiler explosion on gunboat Bennington at San Diego. Sixty-five men killed and 35 injured.

February 10, 1908—Boiler tubes burst on cruiser St. Louis, lying off Sausalito in San Francisco bay. Four men injured.

June 5, 1908—Steampipe burst in fireroom of cruiser Tennessee during speed trial off San Pedro. Seven men killed and four others injured.

July 6, 1908—Steampipe burst on monitor Nevada off New London, Conn. Three injured, one seriously.

July 18, 1908—Boiler explosion on battleship Kearsarge at Honolulu. Five injured.

June 29, 1909—Explosion of two boiler tubes on torpedo boat Hull near Alcatraz island in San Francisco bay. One killed and four injured.

September 3, 1909—Explosion of two boiler tubes on cruiser Colorado between San Francisco and Honolulu. Two men killed.

November 5, 1909—Explosion of boiler tube on new battleship North Dakota during endurance test off New Hampshire coast. Four seriously injured and 12 slightly.

February 14, 1910—Explosion of boiler tube on torpedo boat destroyer Hopkins at San Francisco heads. No one injured.

April 2, 1910—Explosion of boiler tubes on cruiser Maryland between Santa Barbara and Monterey. One man killed and one injured.

April 3, 1910—Explosion of two boiler tubes on the cruiser Colorado on trip from Santa Barbara to Bremerton. No one injured.

With the arrival yesterday at Mare Island of the cruisers Maryland and West Virginia and the flagship California of the Pacific fleet came confirmation of the report of an explosion on the Maryland last Saturday, which resulted in the death of one man and the serious injury of another.

William Amberson, a coal passer, was the man whose burns caused death to occur Wednesday afternoon, just before the three cruisers left Santa Cruz for Mare Island. H. L. Heide, a second class fireman, was badly scalded in the accident last Saturday, but is expected to recover.

Statements made at Mare Island yesterday and confirmed by dispatches from the navy department at Washington attribute the fatal accident to the bursting of four boiler tubes in one of the forward boilers of the Maryland while the cruiser squadron was steaming northward from Santa Barbara.

### TWO MEN INJURED

Amberson and Heide were the only men in the fireroom of the vessel at the time of the explosion who were scalded by the escaping steam, and their injuries were due to the fact that they were working directly in front of a boiler door which blew off. At the time of the accident the ships were running at high speed.

Heide was the hero of the occasion. Although scalded by the first rush of steam and suffering terrible agony, he heroically dragged Amberson, who was more seriously injured, out of the fireroom and into a passageway, where he was forced to drop his burden. Heide made one more effort, however, rushing back into the passageway, which was by that time filled with escaping steam, and again picking up the helpless coal passer. He was struggling to carry his companion out of danger when others arrived and carried both men to safety.

Although Amberson's injuries were serious, it was not thought at first that his condition was critical. He improved slightly for the first day or two, but died suddenly Wednesday while the ships were at mine planting practice off Capita, near Santa Cruz. A coffin was ordered at Santa Cruz and his body was placed in it during the run northward Wednesday afternoon.

### NATIVE OF COLORADO

Amberson was a native of Salida, Colo. His mother lives at Kansas City, and his body was taken ashore at Vallejo yesterday and will be shipped to Kansas City today for burial. Heide was reported yesterday to be improving rapidly. He was able to sit up, but was not removed from the Maryland and may not be sent to the Mare Island hospital as was at first intended. He had badly scalded about the face and arms, but it is thought that his chances of recovery are excellent.

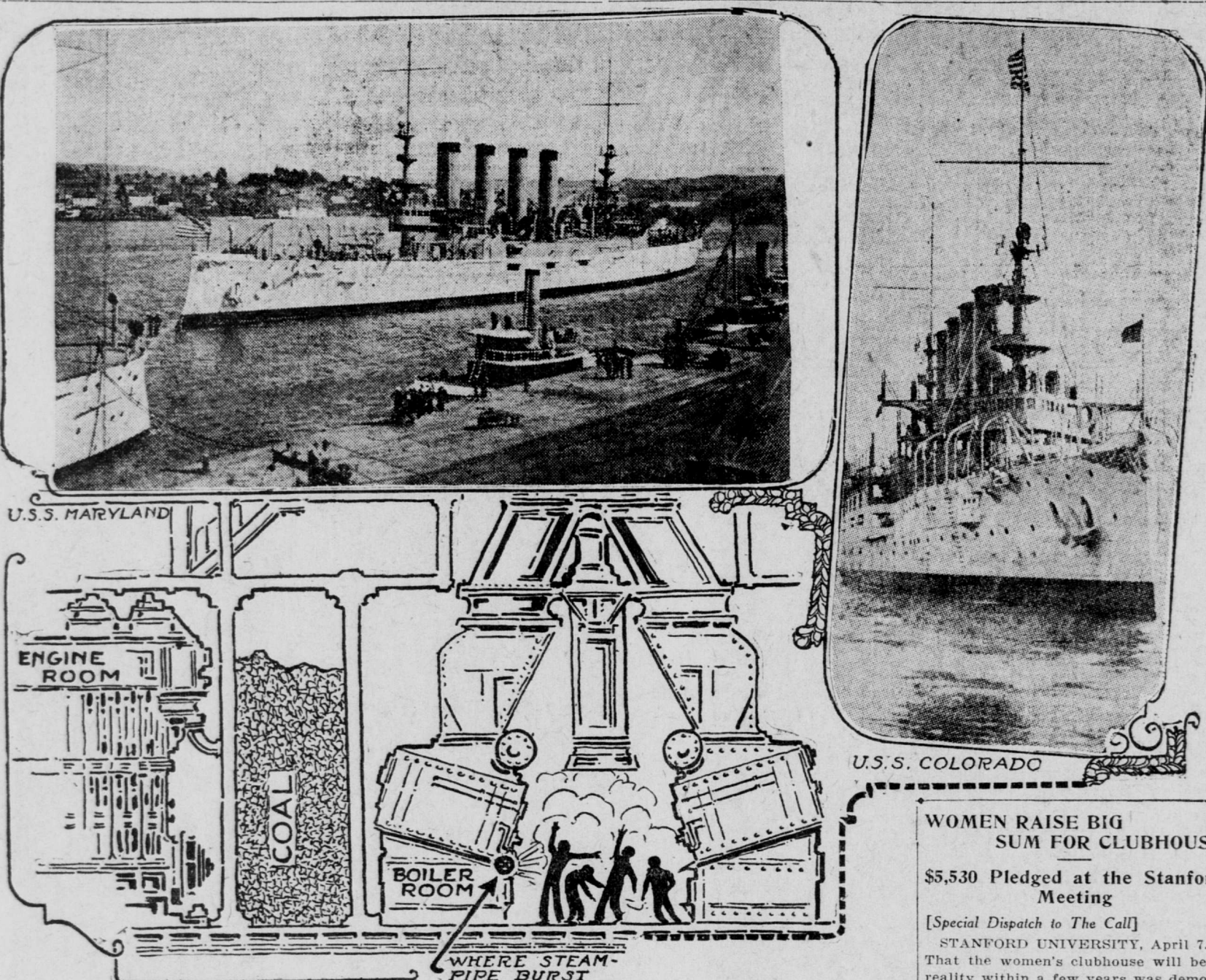
While the navy officers at Mare Island and absolutely refused yesterday to discuss any phase of this latest fatal accident of the long series that has befallen the vessels of the Pacific fleet, it was learned through Washington that the explosion on the Maryland was not the only accident that marred the run northward from Santa Barbara. A similar though less serious blowout of boiler tubes occurred on the Colorado, which accompanied the other vessels northward from Santa Barbara, but continued on to Bremerton without putting in at Santa Cruz or San Francisco.

### EXPLOSION ON COLORADO

The explosion on the Colorado took place on the day following the Maryland explosion. The lower tubes in one of the Colorado's boilers burst, but, fortunately, no one was injured. The Colorado reached Bremerton last night and it is understood that it will be laid

## Injured Sailor Drags His Unconscious Mate From Cruiser's Steamfilled Fireroom

The cruisers Maryland and Colorado, which have both had boiler tube explosions, and a sketch of the fireroom of the Maryland, in which a sailor was fatally injured in the accident that occurred while near Santa Barbara.



up indefinitely for a general overhauling.

These two accidents, coming so close on the heels of the series of explosions that recently has worked havoc with the Pacific fleet and resulting in many deaths, bear out the statements published several times in The Call within the last few weeks to the effect that the war vessels now on this coast are, with but few exceptions, unfit for service and in serious need of extensive overhauling and repairing.

Despite the vigorous denials of the navy department and from navy officials on the Pacific coast that have followed every suggestion that many of the vessels of the Pacific fleet were unseaworthy, action taken yesterday by the navy department amounts to a verification of all these charges. All three of the cruisers which arrived in San Francisco bay Wednesday night are to be laid up at Mare Island for four months to undergo extensive overhauling, while the same action probably will be taken with regard to the Colorado at Bremerton.

Admiral Harber's flagship, the California, together with the West Virginia, passed up the channel to Mare Island on the tide at 10 o'clock yesterday morning and were tied up to the seawall. The Maryland, which was some distance behind them, was forced to anchor off the Mare Island channel light-house, but will take the high tide to the navy yard this morning and will be given a berth similar to that occupied by the other cruisers.

A force of 700 additional men, consisting chiefly of skilled mechanics, has been ordered to work immediately upon the three cruisers and the orders issued yesterday call for a thorough overhauling of each vessel. The new force is to be worked 24 hours a day, in three eight hour shifts, and it is stated that four months will be devoted to the task.

### FIRE BUG IS BLAMED FOR SANTA ROSA BLAZES

Department Gets Average of One Call Each Night

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SANTA ROSA, April 7.—Incendiarism is running rampant in this city, and the fire department is getting an average of one alarm each night. The individual who is believed to be responsible for the incendiary blaze last night came near being captured by Leo Patten. Patten noticed the blaze at the barn of James A. Rowan before the fire alarm had been sounded, and when near the scene saw a man acting in a suspicious manner. His calls to the man to halt resulted in the stranger taking to his heels. He was more fleet of foot than Patten, and managed to make his escape.

### MUST STAND TRIAL ON CHARGE OF MURDER

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SANTA ROSA, April 7.—Mary Thomas, charged with the murder of her babe, must stand trial for the offense on April 26. Her petition for a writ of habeas corpus was dismissed this afternoon. Mary Thomas gave birth to a child a few weeks after her marriage to Willard Thomas, and between them they murdered the babe on the night of its birth, and Thomas wrapped the body in burlap and threw it into Santa Rosa creek, where it was later found. Both the man and woman are charged with the murder.

### HEALTH BOARD APPEALS VACCINATION DECISION

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SANTA CRUZ, April 7.—Attorney J. E. Gardner for the state board of health today filed a notice of appeal from the decision of Judge Lucas F. Smith, in which the latter held the compulsory vaccination law unconstitutional. Judge Smith refused to grant the state board a writ of mandamus, excluding from the public schools of Watsonville all pupils not vaccinated.

RECEIVERS FOR BEEF PACKERS—Kansas City, Mo., April 7.—Receivers were appointed today for the American dressed beef provision company and the Interstate Ice and cold storage company, both of which concerns are controlled by the same men. The stockholders have disagreed over the management of the concern.

### PROMINENT ATTORNEY SUED BY GROCERS

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

REDWOOD CITY, April 7.—William Rix, a prominent attorney and clubman of San Francisco and resident of San Mateo, was made the defendant in a suit for a grocery bill in the superior court at Redwood City today.

Levy Brothers, who conduct a department store in San Mateo, are the plaintiffs in the action. They allege that Rix has become indebted to them to the amount of \$655.96, which he refuses to pay.

The bill is alleged to have been incurred between April, 1905, and March 10, 1909, for groceries, drygoods and hardware supplied to the household of the attorney. Ray P. Safford of San Francisco is the attorney for the plaintiffs.

### SAN MATEO LODGE OF ELKS INSTALLS OFFICERS

Elaborate Banquet Follows the Ceremonies

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SAN MATEO, April 7.—San Mateo lodge No. 1112, B. E. O. E., held its annual installation of officers and banquet in the Elks' building last night.

The following officers were installed: L. H. Newbert, exalted ruler; Hall C. Ross, leading knight; J. P. Duffy, loyal knight; E. F. Oswald, lecturing knight; G. H. Campbell, secretary; J. J. O'Brien, secretary; J. S. Hunter, tyler; W. E. Lawrence, trustee; R. P. Chilcott, chaplain; F. W. Metzgar, inner guard; and C. A. Lawton, esquire.

### RAILROAD OFFICIALS TAKE SHORT TRIP

Visit Properties of the Northwestern Pacific

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

SANTA ROSA, April 7.—On a special train over the Northwestern Pacific railroad Thursday morning a party of prominent railroad officials made a trip to Monte Rio. From that point the return trip to Sausalito was made over the North Shore road.

The party included President Ripley of the Santa Fe railroad, President W. C. Payson of the Northwestern Pacific, and Superintendent William J. Hunter of the Northwestern Pacific. With President Lovett of the Southern Pacific, President Ripley intends making a trip next week over the main line of the Northwestern Pacific.

MARINES RETURNING HOME—Washington, April 7.—The United States ship Prairie has sailed from Philadelphia for Colon to bring home 650 marines who have been on the isthmus for nearly a year and a half. Another batch of 250 marines will be taken aboard the Buffalo at Panama in a short time and will also return to this country.



The ability to discern quality, includes the capacity to appreciate it.

**Knox Hats** have established a record for universal appreciation.

Paul T. Carroll

## SCHOOLS TO HOLD WILD FLOWER DAY

OAKLAND, April 7.—Wild flower day, an annual festival of the local schools, will be held at the free public library building, Fourteenth and Grove streets, Saturday, April 9, from 9 o'clock in the forenoon till 3 o'clock in the evening.

The teachers' committee in charge consists of the Misses Bradley, Storrie, Gelinas, Donnelly, Marshall, Sullivan, Ariett, Lenfest, Beckwith, Mullen, Wythe, Lissom, Newsom, Hubbard, Tyrrel, McClellan, Leach, Farrell, McKee, Maguire, Graham, Sellander and Mrs. Coady.

### SALOON THIEF GIVEN THREE YEAR SENTENCE

[Special Dispatch to The Call]

UKIAH, April 7.—Ray Bennett, who robbed J. M. Kidd's saloon at Hopland last Saturday of \$7.50 and several bottles of whisky, was sentenced today to serve three years in San Quentin. Bennett released three days from the local jail after serving a 90 day sentence.

UKIAH, April 7.—The first step toward what is thought will probably make Ukiah a dry town was taken last night at the meeting of the board of trustees, when that body was asked if they would permit a straw vote to be taken to determine whether or not the saloons should be closed on Sundays. This means that it will be only a short time until the proposition of closing the saloons altogether will be brought before the people.

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UKIAH, April 7.—Seventy-five of Ukiah's leading businessmen shouldered picks and shovels and left this morning for Hopland, where they will start work on the road between that city and Cloverdale. The work is under the supervision of the Ukiah auto and good roads club, and every two weeks a crowd will be taken from this city to the scene of the trouble, and the work kept up until the highways are made passable for automobiles.

Sign boards will be placed along the road, telling the number of miles to Ukiah. When the club asked for help fully 200 men signed, but owing to lack of tools only 75 were taken.

The crowd that went today was composed of bankers, merchants, county officials, ministers and, in fact, men in all walks of life.

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## McCLEARY TELLS OF RECEIPT OF CHECKS

Testifies Before Ship Subsidy Committee Relative to Expenses Paid

Merchant Marine League Stood Cost of Speech Making Trips Over Country

WASHINGTON, April 7.—Testifying he had received in checks from \$600 to \$1,000 from the Merchant marine league of the United States to cover expenses in speech making trips and that he had never received a dollar in cash, former Representative James T. McCleary of Minnesota, once second assistant postmaster general, occupied the witness stand at today's session of the house ship subsidy investigating committee.

Besides the special committee there was an array of individuals interested in the legislation, including Chairman Green of the house merchant marine committee, Representative Humphrey of Washington, the framer of the ship subsidy bill reported from the merchant marine committee; Representative Steenerson of Minnesota, who demanded the investigation; Representative Kuster of Wisconsin, John A. Penton, secretary of the league, and Representative Nye of Minnesota, who may appear as Steenerson's counsel.

McCleary was given permission to correct the record of his previous testimony, saying that instead of the amounts he had received from the league "not equaling expenses" he wished to say that they did not materially exceed his expenses.

Garrett of Tennessee (democrat) for the committee questioned him closely as to this.

He said he had no knowledge of any other body similar to the Merchant marine league spending money in that way, nor of any other individuals who had spoken for the league in the same way he had, though he had no doubt others were speaking for the same purpose, the question being "live one that ought to be agitated."

"Where have you spoken?" asked Representative Garrett.

"At Hutchinson, Kan.; Chicago, before the State manufacturers' association; Indianapolis, before the Manufacturers' association; Cincinnati, before the board of trade; Cleveland, two or three times, sometimes to deliver public addresses and sometimes to hold conferences with the executive committee of the organization; Ashtabula, O.; New Orleans, Birmingham, twice in New York city and at Dallas, Tex."

"Do you own stock in any shipping concern?" Garrett asked.

"I am sorry to say I do not. I have no interest other than any American has. I never received a dollar knowingly from anybody having any such interest."

Penton will testify at tomorrow's session of the committee.

### PROMINENT UKIAH MEN WORKING ON ROAD

Big Party Leaves to Repair the Hopland Highway

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