

150 LOSE LIVES AS EXPLOSION RUINS PLANT

More Than 300 Are Injured in Terrible Tragedy at Rio de Janeiro.

By Times Special
RIO DE JANEIRO, May 1.—Laborers of Rio de Janeiro abandoned plans for a May day celebration and joined in mourning today with a cluster of weary men and women attempting to identify victims of the explosion which wrecked the Netheroy chemical plant Thursday.

The explosion was one of the worst disasters in many years in Brazil. The death toll is estimated unofficially at 150, but officials said the force of the blast and the fire destruction made it impossible to make an accurate count. More than 300 persons were injured, many of them seriously.

Three score crude wooden coffins were moved to the scene of the disaster in the early morning to receive the bodies of victims which so far have been taken from the debris of the plant, located across the bay, in a fashionable suburban district.

The exact cause of the explosion has not been established, but the government started investigation of reports that it was due to the explosion of a torpedo.

Fragments of bodies were found as far as a quarter of a mile from the plant. Other persons were killed by falling wreckage, by fire and by being thrown into the water of the bay. Many of the victims can not be identified.

Fire fighting apparatus was sent to the scene and finally brought the flames under control.

The scene was almost indescribable as frantic groups began arriving in search of members of relatives. One woman went insane at the sight of the battered body of the son of Admiral Heck, minister of marine, who stood at his post all day directing the rescue work. The minister's son was extricated from the debris, still alive. His father's eyes filled with tears momentarily when informed that the boy was not dead.

DENIES HOOVER PART IN CODES' REVISION

Trade Chief Answers Charge That White House Sponsored Move.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, Va., May 1.—Federal Trade Commissioner W. E. Humphrey, in a speech here today, vigorously denied that White House pressure was responsible for recent wholesale revision of trade agreements sponsored by the federal body.

Humphrey said that President Hoover was in no way responsible for the commission's new attitude toward the industrial business codes, and that the attorney-general had not taken up the matter with the commission.

The commission recently voided hundreds of trade rules adopted by various industries, and was subsequently attacked on the ground that it was crippling the nation's business in a period of depression.

103 CASES OF ARSON PROBED THIS YEAR

Ten Confessions Obtained in First Three Months, Says Hogston.

One hundred and three arson cases were investigated during the first three months of 1931, it was announced today by Alfred E. Hogston, state fire marshal.

Of these, ten confessions were obtained, sixteen arrests made and charges filed in fourteen cases and six taken to the grand jury. Twelve cases were tried in court and nine convictions were obtained.

Thirty-five per cent more fires were investigated than during the same period last year, Hogston declared.

NYE FLAYS MONOPOLIES

Tells Maryland Grocers He Will Sponsor Further Legislation.

By Times Special
BALTIMORE, May 1.—Legislation providing a further curb on monopolies is to be sponsored in the next congress by Senator Nye (Rep., N. D.), he said here Thursday night.

Addressing the Maryland Retail Grocers Association, he said the growth of trusts and monopolies in recent years has been so great as to threaten individual liberty and centralize economic control in the hands of a few. Monopolies, outgrowth of mergers, he asserted, now control production of most goods and are seeking as well to absorb the independent retailer by means of chain stores.

CONFESSES SLAYING 2

San Francisco Man Admits Wife and Child Chloforming.

By United Press
SAN FRANCISCO, May 1.—Joseph Busuttil, a native of Malta, was held today on two charges of murder after police said he confessed killing his divorced wife and their 9-year-old daughter with chloform.

He was going to commit suicide "to the police, " but this way will be easier," he said.

Suspicion pointed to Busuttil after the discovery of his wife's body, when it was learned that she had divorced him March 24. Police arrested him at his room just around the corner from Mrs. Busuttil's apartment.

MADEIRA REBELS QUIET

Loyalist Army Lands on Island Without Meeting Resistance.

By United Press
LISBON, Portugal, May 1.—The government announced today that loyalist troops had landed at Pico Cruz on the rebellious island of Madeira after the cruiser *Vasco de Gama* had laid down a "protective bombardment." The rebels did not resist, the announcement said.

The landing at Pico Cruz, near the port of Funchal, was believed to have made complete suppression of the rebellion a certainty within a short time.

Blue Ribbon Smiles



DRAWS CHARTS TO BRAND CRAIN AS INEFFICIENT

Fifteen of Educator's Maps Show Downtrend of N. Y. Convictions.

By United Press
NEW YORK, May 1.—One of the severest indictments made so far against Thomas C. Crain as New York district attorney was in the records of the Seabury investigating committee today.

Professor Raymond Moley of Columbia university testified before the inquiry that the district attorney's office under Crain had suffered almost a complete breakdown. He said the office had set a new low record for convictions for major crimes, notably murder, during the last twenty-five years.

Professor Moley produced fifteen charts which compared Crain's accomplishments with those of William Travers Jerome, twenty-five years ago, and every administration since then. He was in charge of a staff of investigators which made a thorough investigation of the office under the direction of the Seabury committee.

One of the charts listed 273 homicides in New York county last year, resulting in 143 indictments and only 55 convictions. Only eight of these convictions were for varying degrees of murder as charged, and only two were for first degree murder. Of those convicted, forty-seven pleaded guilty to lesser crimes and were sentenced accordingly.

The professor said that Jerome, with twice the population and less than half the amount of money allotted Crain, had obtained 16 per cent of convictions, while Crain had secured a little better than 4 per cent.

The United States is credited Nevada, with a total land area of 70,185,440 acres, has only about 5.8 per cent of it in farms.

SMILES? Of course. These four youngsters have been acclaimed in perfect health, and Thursday afternoon were awarded blue ribbons by the Indianapolis Free Kindergarten Society.

These children and 585 of their playmates at twenty-eight local playgrounds have a head-start in the observance of Child Health week, Friday to May 8, because of their perfect health.

Margaret and Charles passed their physical tests at Holliday kindergarten, while Marjorie attends Fall Creek kindergarten, and Orville, with his flare of painting landscapes, Irvington.

RETIRED ACTOR DIES

Jack Randall, 77, Was in Publishing Business.

Funeral services for Jack Randall, 77, retired actor and trade journalist, will be held in Flanner & Buchanan undertaking parlors at 2:30 Saturday. Burial will be in Crown Hill cemetery. Mr. Randall died of heart disease at his home, 3204 Bellefontaine street, Thursday.

Mr. Randall came to Indianapolis fifteen years ago, five years after he retired from the stage. He was associated with his brother, T. A. Randall, in management of the Clayworkers' Journal, Indianapolis trade journal.

Survivors are a son, Paul A. Randall, of Indianapolis; three half brothers, the Rev. Clark C. Randall of Silver Lake, Wis.; Len Randall of Greeley, Ia., and Warren Randall of Bellefontaine, O., and a half sister, Mrs. Howard Head of Leonard, Miss. Mrs. J. Randall died some time ago.

WAITERS END STRIKE DISPUTE WITH HOTEL

Cleveland Controversy Began When Union Workers Refused Contracts.

By United Press

CLEVELAND, O., May 1.—A ten-month strike between union workers and the Hollenden, large downtown hotel, was over today as sixty waiters, waitresses and cooks prepared to return to their former positions.

The strike ended abruptly Thursday night, when union officials announced that the long dispute had been settled. Pickets were called from their "beats" soon after the announcement.

Controversy between the union and six hotels, members of the Cleveland Hotel Association, started July 13, 1930, when union workers refused to sign individual contracts after seventeen years of collective bargaining. Action of the Hollenden does not affect the other five hotels, which still ban union workers.

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