

# THE PEOPLE BLAMED FOR TROLLEY WRECK

## Newark Rector Preaches on the Cause of Lawless Conditions.

### Day of Mourning and Memorial Service Observed—Italian Sand Employee at Fatal Crossing Arrested.

*Special to The New York Times.*

NEWARK, Feb. 22.—In accordance with the proclamation of Mayor Doremus, the entire city to-day mourned its dead in last Thursday's grade crossing disaster. Promptly at 2 o'clock the church bells began tolling for over ten minutes, while the Sunday school services in nearly every church were changed to a meeting of prayer.

The Rev. E. A. Wasson, rector of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, in his sermon this morning, which was devoted entirely to the wreck, said:

"The will of God is not shown in the death of these children, for God did not take these children out of the world. They were thrown out of it by those responsible for the crime, and for the further reason that it did not please, but displeased Him.

"I shall not blame the motorman or the conductor. The former is in the hospital between life and death. The latter is in jail. Believe me, he is the only one that will ever go to jail in connection with this calamity, unless the motorman recovers sufficiently to stand confinement. If, on the other hand, the motorman should die, it will be in order to find him the guilty one, as he, being dead, cannot defend himself, and there is precious little chance that his employer, the trolley company, will defend him.

"How very convenient it has been proved in innumerable situations that dead men tell no tales."

In conclusion, after denouncing the complaisance of city officials and governing bodies in the city, county, and State for permitting conditions to exist that resulted in the calamity, and which he said still existed to threaten the lives and happiness of the people, Dr. Wesson said:

"The people are responsible for it all. They are not one whit better than the politician or the capitalist. The latter are but the symptoms. The disease itself is in the people. For the lawlessness, blood shedding, and robbery and oppression the people themselves are the ultimate cause.

"In this last tragedy it is the people who have shed the blood of their own children. It is proper for them to prosecute the guilty officials of corporations, but they ought to appoint a day of humiliation for themselves and prostrate themselves in the dust and smite their breasts and cry, 'By my fault! By my own fault! By my own most grievous fault!'"

Four victims of the wreck, Miss Rosebud Kohn, Miss Alma Ethel Loehberg, Miss Ella Werpupp, and Evan J. Eastwood, were buried to-day. The funeral of Miss Jennie Estell McClelland, daughter of Thomas McClelland, who died of her injuries in the City Hospital Friday, will be held from the family home, 315 South Orange Avenue, to-morrow afternoon.

Of the injured, Miss Edith M. Fox of 114 Bank Street still lies in a comatose state, suffering from two fractured ribs, one of which penetrated the left lung, and a severe injury to her head. Motorman Patrick Brady has not recovered consciousness at the City Hospital, and there is practically no hope for his recovery. Oscar Barcliffe, engineer of the express train, is suffering in St. Michael's Hospital with a fractured skull, and Miss Margaret Cummerford is thought to be dying in the City Hospital.

Antonio Genezesio, an Italian, of 12 Cutler Street, whose duty it was to salt and sand the rails of trolley tracks at the Clifton Avenue crossing, was arrested last night and locked up in the county jail. He will be a witness before the Coroner's jury Friday. The Italian, according to General Manager David Young, has been in the employ of the traction company for several years, and has given satisfaction previously.

Another witness who has been summoned by Coroner Hellman is Charles J. Schultz, a printer, of 234 Orange Street, who was one of the witnesses to the accident, and examined the wreck. He claims to have found a portion of the sandbox of the car and there was no evidence of sand having been in it, or was there any sand upon the tracks.

Over \$125,000 worth of claims against the trolley company have been placed in the hands of attorneys already.

Mayor Edward Kenny of East Newark is preparing a bill which will be presented to the State Legislature making it a State offense to carry passengers on the front platform of trolley cars.