

AMERICAN CAR LEADS

FACES WORST OF DRIFTS

French Auto Towed Into Kendallville Spends Night in Repair Shop.

KENDALLVILLE, Ind., Feb. 20.—Determined to keep a good distance between his Thomas car (American) and the De Dion, his French rival, Montague Roberts left Kendallville on his race from New York to Paris at 6:40 this evening.

Before him are snow drifts from eight to ten feet in depth. The De Dion, which was towed into Kendallville at 1 o'clock this afternoon by a farmer's team, may not be able to leave until morning. The French car is housed in a feed barn, where it is undergoing repairs.

The journey across northern Indiana will be one to put to the severest test the durability of the cars. In the course to Chicago are the largest hills in northern Indiana. With no snow these hills would be a circumstance for the drivers to face. Snow is so deep as to bury many of the fences. There has been little travel and the roads are almost impassable.

Montague Roberts drove into this city at 8:35 this morning, having spent the entire night battling with snowdrifts that blockaded the seven miles of highway between Corunna and here.

He left Corunna at 7:30 last night and farmers along the route practically shoveled his way for him the entire distance to this city.

Roberts was greatly exhausted by his night's work and soon after reaching here retired to bed in a hotel. St. Chaffray, driver of the French car in the New York-Paris race, brought his car in here at 1:10 this afternoon in tow of a team of horses. He broke down two miles outside this city and could proceed no farther under his own power. A shaft of the car is broken. Montague Roberts says he may let the Frenchmen do some of the road breaking through the mountainous drifts the great blizzard has left clear across northern Indiana.

AWAILED AT SOUTH BEND.

Cars in New York-Paris Race Struggle

On the left is M. A. Ryan telling J. E. Bell just how they can defeat Fogarty for the Democratic county chairmanship and land Mr. Navin in the county. Mr. Bell has drawn himself to his full height, questioning the advisability

DYNAMITE BLAST KILLS

TEN TONS EXPLODE IN M

Frightful Catastrophe Shakes Earth Four Miles and Brings Death to Entire Force at Work in Powder Plant.

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 20.—With a force that shook the entire bay region like an earthquake, the packing house at the Hercules Powder Works at Philadelphia fourteen miles north of here, blew up at 4 o'clock this afternoon and in the explosion four white men and twenty-Chinamen were killed.

Ten tons of dynamite went up in a terrific blast, shattering the sheds to splinters. W. W. Stillwell, foreman of the packing house, was blown to death at his post of duty. Mankel Enos, Joe Grace and W. A. Rodriguez were the other white men killed.

The twenty-eight dead included a man who was at work in the packing house. Flames burst forth in the room following the explosion and threatened the gelatine house, where two-score of men were at work. A panic followed and many were cut by flying glass and crushed and trampled in the mad rush for doors.

The danger of an additional explosion prevented those who escaped injury from approaching too near the wreck, and it was not until late in the evening that the number of dead and injured was known.

Charles Birmingham Jr., superintendent of the plant, took charge of the mine following the explosion. An armed guard was placed around the powder works and no one was allowed to enter within the danger line. A fire-fighting brigade was organized and the flames were fought down and most of the plant not torn to tatters by the explosion was saved.

As far away as Berkeley and Oakland the shock of the explosion caused intense excitement. People rushed from their houses and places of business thinking another earthquake had come.

The Hercules plant is owned by Dupont & Nemours Powder Company and is used for the manufacture of black powder of high explosive power. The