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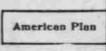
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### MAYTAKEITINTOCONGRESS President's Action in Protecting Col-

ored Postmistress in Mississippi. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washagain fired because the President has determined to uphold the rights of a negro postmistress in Mississippi. It is said that several Southern members will introduce resolutions, and some Southern Senators may decide to make the President's actions the text of denunciatory speeches. It scarcely seems possible that the President's good fuck will extend that far, as nothing would be more beneficial to him than to have the "race question" raised by Southern Congressmen over his action in the Indianola case. Efforts to get the colored men to leave the Republican party in the South have received encouragement from many Republicans of prominence and are favored by influential Republican papers. While the President has emphatically supported the colored men. there was some indication that the negroes were getting restless. Just at this jumping from windows. juncture comes the Miselssippi case, and the prompt action of the President has already caused murmurings among the Southerners. It is expected that men who have kept themselves in office for years on the "race question" will quickly take up the gauntlet and, no matter if it does have a disastrous effect upon the Democratic party, will seize this opportunity to make themselves solid with the white en of the South, who can will be stam-

peded by the cry of "negro domination." | kiang

# FATAL DENVER FIRE.

One Man Dead, and a Dozen Seriously Hurt.

DENVER, Colo., Jan. 4 -- A fire in OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Wash-ington, Jan. 4.—The Southern heart is streets resulted in the death of one man and the injury of a dozen or more, severa of them seriously. The fire occurred about 2:30 o'clock this morning, and is thought to have been caused by the explosion of a gasoline stove. The property

John Ott, itinerant tinker, aged 45.

Fatally injured:
Nacine A. Schmaley, aged 25, saloon-keeper and proprietor of the lodging-house; terribly burned. Seriously injured: Charles Halk, Glendon, Wyo.

William Hardy, baker. Burt Keefe, cook. Perris Thomas, bartender Frank Brown, laborer. Con O'Mara, laborer, George Herbert, laborer Ed O'Malley, laborer.

Lizzie Hall All of these were burned and bruised, latter injuries being received from

Grocery Fire in Chicago CHICAGO, Jan. t.-Fire tonight in the warehouse of Franklin MacVeagh & Co. grocers, at Sixteenth street and Newbury avenue, caused a loss of \$150,000

Chinese Troubles Spreading. SHANGHAI, Jan 4.—The disturbances in the interior of China are spreading. Five thousand troops have been sent to suppress the disorders in the Province of Che-

Puget Sound Country Is Awash.

# **WORST FLOOD IN 25 YEARS**

Miles of Railroad Washed Out or Under Mud.

NO TRAINS FROM THE EAST

Mountains Will Be Impassable Until Tuesday-Road Between Portland and Seattle Opened Late Lost Night.

SEATTLE, Jan 4-White River overflowed its banks near O'Brien Station, four miles below Seattle, at 3 o'clock this morning. The people of the town, not fenring disaster, had retired last night, but were awakened by the water, in many cases erceping into their beds. Orillia, a town on the White River, two miles people were warned and many of them left their homes and secured places of surrounded their homes. At O'Brien, howimprisoned in their houses with eight and 10 feet of water about them.

A relief train was ordered from Seattle, and on arriving with boats, the rescuing party found several families the woman and children of which were huddled on chairs and tables in order to keep from the water that was more than two feet deep on the floora. All persons were taken to places of safety. No lives are reported lost, but much household belongings, fences and some buildings have been ruined or lost. Tonight the floods are subsiding and no further danger is feared. Not since 1869 have there been such floods in the White River Valley. The present ne was caused by the recent nine days' rain and the chinook winds, which melted the heavy snows in the Cascade Moun-

tains, discharging the waters into the tributaries of the White River. Announcement was made by the Great Northern this afternoon that the Madison bridge would be repaired Monday evening and the first break in the traffic blockade rould be made during the night by the arrival of an overland train. Four days' mail will be on it.

There is no telling when the Northern Pacific main line will be open, but probably not for several days. Tonight the Portland division was cleared and the first train from the south in two days. came in. All the coast lines from Seattle north, with the exception of the Wimtom line, have been cleared, and this later will not be in operation until some

Large forces of men are at work on the line between Seattle and Tacoma. The announcement is made tonight that it will be opened at noon tomorrow in a temporary way.

The waters are falling, and it is thought temperature in the mountains is reported falling, and this will have a tendency to stop the flow of water from the moun-

The Seattle-Tacoma Interurban line will probably not be in operation for several weeks, so great is the damage. The cost of the flood to the Great Northern for the past 10 days has been about \$3000 in labor alone. The Northern Pacific is expending about \$5000 a day for inbor.

## NO TRAINS AT TACOMA.

Auburn Cut-Off Under Water-Green River on Rampage.

TACOMA, Jan. 4.-There was nothing loing on the Northern Pacific today, not train leaving the city, and the railroad officials are unable to make any definite statement as to the future. The chinook still prevails, and water is pouring down the Cascades in torrents. At Martin, on the east side of the tunnel, there is a washout of nearly 200 feet, while several places between the tunnel and Ellensburg are under water, or the tracks are covered deep in mud.

To sum up the difficulties, the Northern Pacific, is now struggling with, there are five washouts on the main line between Castle Rock and Kelso. There are innumerable slides all the way from Cosmo polis to the terminus on the Gray's Harbor branch. The Auburn cut-off is under water for one mile. Nearly a mile of track is gone in one place on Green River. Five or six other minor washouts are reported between Lester and Palmer. The big washout at Martin is followed by a succession of washouts and landslides all the way to Eliensburg. The South Bend branch is under water and covered with slides from Willapa to the terminus.

The company has two passenger trains tied up at Maywood, and is taking the best care possible of the passengers. There are slides on one side and washouts on the other, and arrangements are being made to get more supplies to the trains as needed. There is no way to get the passengers out at present, owing to washing out of all road bridges in that section. Not a county road can be traveled for a single mile in any direction. One passenger train is bound up at Lester, where the passengers are also being cared for by the railroad. No communication is possible either way until

the water shall have abated. The Great Northern is in a like predicament with the Northern Pacific. The first effects of the chinook were again to

ern Pacific, but before they could be dis-patched East, the Northern Pacific was blocked as stated. An official who returned last night from Eagle Gorge, in the Cascade Mountains, says:

"Friday morning the warm winds began to blow, and by night the water was pouring over every cut, and extra trackwalkers were put on to look for slides. Water was soon pouring over the track in 1000 places, for as yet it had not cleared a way for itself through the culverts. Yesterday at daylight the wash of water was bringing down earth and debris, and It was quickly seen to be futile to try and keep the track clear. Culverts refused to commodate the extra flow. Green River rose yesterday, and the track was soon awash in many places.

"Just what is the extent of the damage s hard to stay, for we could not travel the track nor ford the streams which were running over it since yesterday at noon. There is much snow to melt, if the weather continues warm, and the men on repairs are unable to do much for the pres-A boarding-train for the workers was being established just above Palmer Men were being hired at all small towns along the line as we came along and quotas were being shipped to the front as rapidly as engines could take them."

The Northern Pacific late tonight got a train through from Portland by transferring passengers and mails by steamer between Kelso and Castle Rock.

#### LITTLE BETTER AT CASTLE ROCK. Steamers Connect With Trains-Provisions Getting Scarce.

CASTLE ROCK, Wash., Jan. 4 .- (Special.)-The situation here is somewhat The flood improved. reached highest point at H P. M. Saturday, and has since receded about 20 inches. The rain has ceased. It is estimated that about 12,000 cords of shingle bolts have gone down the river. The above O'Brien, was also flooded, but the center span of the Toledo wagon bridge is gone and many smaller bridges also, but communication with the country districts safety before the rushing waters had is almost impossible, and full details cannot be learned. The Wright mill boom ever, little children, women and men were gave way today, letting out several hundred cords of bolts. All the piling recently driven for a bridge across the Cowlitz at this point is also gone.

The steamer Joseph Kellogg arrived at 9 o'clock this morning with the belated mail from the south and took the North ern Pacific passengers going south two hours later. A work train has arrived here and a large gang is at work clearing the track, which is covered with mud and stones two feet deep for a distance of about a mile and a half at intervals.

A train arrived with mails and passengers from the north at 3 o'clock this afternoon. The steamer Northwest had also arrived, Captain Dulude understanding that he would return at once with train passengers to Kelso, but the Northern Pacific officials did not seem to understand it so, and 200 travelers are delayed here, Supplies are getting scarce, and restaurants have raised prices Among the train passengers here is Fred S. Howe, mascot of company C. Ninth Infantry, who was so badly shot at Santiago, the Philippines and China.

The electric light plant is partially out lighted. The railroad may be opened Monday evening. Damages are roughly estimated at \$75,000.

All teachers but two are away on vacations, and cannot return, consequently schools cannot open Monday.

#### RAILROAD BRIDGES GONE. No Through Frains Since Friday Reach Everett.

EVERETT, Wash., Jan. 4.-Traffic con ditions on the Great Northern and Northern Pacific are worse than yesterday. Bridges No. 95, 97 and 99, on the Great Northern, near Madison, are out, owing to slides. No trains have come from the that the worst of the flood is over, The East since Friday, but the Great Northern expects to bring a train in Tuesday. The Stillaguamish River is covering the town of Silvans, and is higher than for 25 years. Plank and skid roads are washed out. The Great Northern Coast trains from that point come over the Northern Pacific tracks. The Snohomish River is still booming. Great Northern bridges at Sultan and Lowell are washed somewhat

### TRACK CLEARED FOR TRAINS. Delayed Northern Pacific Passenger

Arrives From Seattle. The Northern Pacific track between Portland and Tacoma was cleared and a delayed train arrived from Seattle about 10:40 o'clock. The track was reported 10:40 o clock. The track was reported clear along the route, and the usual Tacoma local was dispatched at 11:45 o'clock last night. All Eastern trains on the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern left over the O. R. & N. No passengers were taken for points west of Spokane, and no stops were made west of

One of the delayed trains on the Northern Pacific arrived yesterday afternoon, and among the passengers was Frank Ira White, a newspaper man of Denver, is making a tour of the West. Mr. White left Tacoma at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon, and was held up by a landslide at Castle Rock. There the passengers were transferred to a steamer, which had a difficult three backlets. cult time breaking its way through high-running Cowlitz River and logs which were floating down the stream. After a strenuous effort, the steamer made a landing, and all the passengers were taken down to Kelso, and then

brought by train to Portland. "The company and the people of Castle Rock took very good care of the passen-gers," said Mr. White. "We were all well treated, and, so far as I know, there was only a single unimppy man in the crowd. He was Stephen Katzer, or 'Steve,' as we called him from familiarity, and the cause of his unhappiness was that he was to he wedded here Saturday night, and h couldn't be on hand to attend the event. Sorrowful plight for a groom, isn't it? As a married man, I sympathize Steve, and I hope he will get along well."

The records for Saturday show that a license to wed had been issued to phen M. Katzer, aged 22, and Amelia Han-

Plague Reported Near Texas Border. LAREDO, Tex., Jan. 4.-A special from Hermosillo, Mex., says:

Two cases of bubonic plague have been reported in the little town of Ahome, not far from the Sonora border. The authorities of Sonora have notified those of the State of Sinaloa that a sanitary corporation has been established on the border and no one will be permitted to carry away the bridge at Meadows Creek. | enter the state from the south

Exciting Prospect for Legislature.

## HOUSES OF OPPOSITE FAITH

Democratic Senate Against Republican House.

#### EACH MAY UNSEAT OPPONENTS

Enough Republicans Will Stay Out of Caucus to Render Its Action Harmless-Teller vs. Wolcott-Important Circular Appears.

DENVER, Jan, 4-The Senatorial sitation in Colorado is becoming decidedly omplicated, and should present declared plans be carried out the contest over the selection of a successor to Senator Henry M. Teller, which will begin in earnest with the convening of the Legislature on Wednesday next, will be, to say the least, exciting, and, more than likely, spectacular. The solid support of the Democratic wing of the Legislature for Teller is still maintained, while the Republican strength is parcelled out among four candidates, of whom ex-Senator E. O. Wolcott is the nost conspicuous

At a meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee, the matter of the threat of the Republican majority in the House to unseat the entre Arapahoe Democratic delegation was discussed, and resolutions adopted to the effect that it is the "right and duty of the Senate to utilize the same constitutional right and authority and restore the equilibrium." The majority in the Senate being Democratic, should their threat to "meet revolution with revolution" be carried out, it would bring about a coadition render ing a selection of a Senator impossible With a solid Democratic Senate it is

claimed a deadlock could be maintained to the end. It had been practically agreed that on next Tuesday night a caucus of the Republican members of the House would be held to select a Speaker, but it develops that several members have refused to be bound by the actions of the leaders, claiming that they were nominated and elected on an anti-Wolcott pledge, and they fear that a caucus selection of a Speaker would be made to spear as a Wolcott victory and would probably be really such. For this reason they will, it is said, remain away Tuesof water and dwellings and streets are probably be really such. For this reason day night. They number 17, enough to defeat any action the caucus might agree

A sensation was created by a circular just issued from the headquarters of P. B. Stewart, of Colorado Springs, who is supposed to be the spokesman of the Administration at Washington. The circular charges that copies of letters sup. posed to have been received from Senator Lodge saying Wolcott was the choice of the Administration have been circulated among the members of the Legislature and denounces them as forgeries. circular declares that the wish of the Administration was that only a Republicar should be chosen Senator without regard to any particular candidate.

### SPOKANE DELEGATION SPLIT. Three Wilson Men Combine Against

Ankeny-Three Favorable. SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 4-(Special.)-State Senator Herman D. Crow and Rep. resentatives J. B. Lindsley and Walker A. Henry, all of Spokane, have entered into a hard and fast agreement to act in concert on the Senatorial question Their agreement provides that they shall vote for John L. Wilson for United States Senator, until such time as they shall unanimously agree to vote for some one else. It is agreed that when they leave Wilson they shall vote for a candidate that shall be satisfactory to all three.

The combination as formed is hostile to Levi Ankeny. Crow's opposition to Ankeny is well known, and Lindsley told Ankeny himself in Spokane a few weeks ago that he would not vote for him. One of the three would be sufficient to keep the combine from going to Ankeny, but as the matter stands, Crow and Lindsley are both of the same mind, and Henry is generally believed to be as stanchly against Ankeny as the other two. Senator Crow, when asked about the formation of the combine, said:

"I am not prepared to say that such a combine has been formed. It has been bruited about, however, that the Spokane delegation was disintegrating and sloughing off. I think before the Senatorial fight is over that it will be found that some men on the delegation will stand

The other three Republican members of the delegation are for Ankeny. The delegation is split wide open.

#### NO CHANGE IN IDAHO. Bornh and Standrod Popular Candidates for United States Senator.

BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 4 .- (Special.)-There was little change in the Senatorial situation today. Some of the members went to church in the morning, which thinned out the throng around headquarters for short time. F. S. Dietrich, one of the chief managers for Judge Stanrod, came in on the morning train and was warmly greeted by a crowd of friends. Dietrich is popular and diplomatic and his presence adds much to Judge Standrod's

The Borah forces were also greatly strengthened by the arrival of Judgeelect Lyttleton Price, who will be the chief manager of the Borah campaign,

#### and by the arrival of Dr. C. A. Hoover, chairman of the Republican county con vention of Bear Lake County. Hoover has a large acquaintance in the southeast and his presence will be felt. Only two members arrived during the day. They are Thomas Present and J.

Oregonian.

R. McNell, Republican Representatives from Onelda County. Other arrivals were Hon. Burton L. French, Congressman-elect; Hon. John L. Smith, former State Schater from Cassia County; C. A. Foresman, editor of the Lewiston Teller, and G. W. Fletcher, of Lewiston. Tomorrow the new state officials, headed by John T. Morrison as Governor will be inaugurated. They will be installed shortly before noon, and on Tuesday ine inaugural reception and ball will occur. The advent of the new Adm'aistration will mark a complete political revolution, the Republicans not having had control of any department of the state government for six years, hav-

tornado of 1896, The Legislature will assemble at noon tomorrow. It is overwhelmingly Republican in both branches and will select a Senator to succeed Henry Heitfeld. The contest is a three-cornered one between W. E. Borah, of Boise; John W. Heyburn, of Wallace, and Judge D. W. Stanred, of Pocatello. Senator George L. Shoup is in the field, but his following is small. The Senator is in poor health and it is found that members generally think he should not be selected. There is a very spirited contest in progress, Mr. Borah having a decided lend, but it is yet too early to predict what the outcome will be. His supporters claim, however, they have enough votes in sight to give him the caucus nomination. When the caucus will be held is not known. There are 30 Republican members. The Legislature will assemble at noon Republican members.

ing been swept from power by the Bryan

#### IDAHO CAUCUS NOMINATIONS.

Harmony Over Republican Sciections-Democrats Also in Field, BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 5 .- (Special.) - The Senate caucus did not complete its work until 2:3) A. M. For president pro tem. there were two candidates, Yost of Kootenaf and Brigham of Latah. After some discussion Yost withdrew in favor of

Brigham. The list of attaches follows: President pro tem., J. W. Brigham, of Latah; secretary, Colonel Allen Miner, of Idaho; assistant secretary, Alexander Roberts, of Ada; engrossing clerk, A. S. Abbott, of Cassia; assistant engressing clerk, M. Champlain, of Lincoln; assistant enrolling clerk, Ada B. Vanderbeck, of Bannock; journal clerk, Douglas Hix, of Fremont; Chaplain, E. E. Fife, of Ada; sergeant-at-arms, J. M. Morton, of Canyon; committee clerk, S. M. Winters, of Bear Lake; doorkeeper, M. Hooper, of Washington; janitor, O. Nellly, of Ada,

C. C. Moore, of Freemont, was chairman of the Republican House caucus, and Howard McBride, of Shoshone, socretary. The meeting was unanimous Following are the nomineer Speaker J. Frencher. The meeting was unanimous. Following are the nominees: Speaker, J. Frank Hunt, of Bannock: chaplain. Rev. I. F. Roach, of Ada: chief clerk, R. M. Mc-Cracken, of Bingham: first assistant, H. G. Fuller, of Fremont: journal clerk, Miss Lucretia Sebern, of Ada County: engrossing clerk, Thomes Durrant, of Oneida: first carolling clerk, L. S. Clark, of Lincoln: assistant, Miss Elsie Heuchkel, of Ada; enrolling clerk, Miss I. M. Sullivan, of Bannock: general committee clerk, J. F. Field, of Canyon; sergeantatarms, Simon Harris, of Owyhee; door.

W. Mitchell, of Idaho County, for Speak-er; M. S. Parker, of Canyon, for chief clerk; Senator Whitwell for president pro-tem, of the Senate, and W. V. Helfriehof Ada County, for secretary.

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## OMNIBUS STATEHOOD BILL

To Be Many Long Speeches in Opposition.

A FEW ARE IN FAVOR OF IT

Appropriation Bills Are Not Yet Ready for Presentation, and the House Will Kill Time Until Committees Get Reports In.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4-Many of the Senators who left Washington for the Christmas holidays are still absent, and the present indications are that when business is resumed at noon tomorrow there will not be a very full attendance, Before the week is far advanced, however, the Senate will again be in regular working order and there will be little cessation of work before March 4. The prediction is general that the remainder of the session will be exceedingly busy because of, the number of important questions which will be presented for consideration.

before final adjournment. During the present week and for some time to come the omnibus statehood bill will be the chief topic of discussion on the floor, but under the unanimous agreement by which the bill was made the unfinished business, it cannot be taken up any day before 2 o'clock. It is the purpose of the friends of the bill to press consideration and not to allow the bill to be sidetracked unless under very great pressure. The present purpose is to give way only for appropriation bills, but there are now no appropriation bills on the Senate calendar. It is the purpose of the Senatorial leaders, and especially of those who oppose the statehood bill, to press appropriation bills to the front as much as pos-

zible take up the Legislative, Executive and Judicial appropriation bill, and it will be reported to the Senate as soon as pos-sible. It is a bill which demands considerable investigation, and it is not probable that it will reach the Senate much before the middle of the month. When it is reported the committee will seek to secure

its immediate consideration.

According to the arrangement made behood bill will be resumed at 2 o'clock tomorrow, Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, being the first speaker on the list. He is committee on territories and in addition to his opposition to the admission of the Territories of New Mexico and Arizona, he is a stanch advo-cate for the admission of Oklahoms and Indian Territory as one state, which was reported by the majority of the commitas a substitute for the omnibus bill. He has carefully prepared a speech, and its delivery probably will require the greater part of two days. Senator Burnham will be heard next, and he will probably speak for two days or more. Other Republican Senators have agreed to speak in opposition to the bill, and it is now ex pected there will be no fewer than 15 anti-statehood speeches before consideration of the measure is concluded. Some ised, but the indications are somewhat against delivery of any of them during the present week, though it is positive that Senator Foraker, who is an earnest advocate of the omnibus bill, may be heard some time within the next few days. days. The time of the Senate each day before

o'clock will be earnestly contested for, among the measures seeking early atten tion being the militia bill, the immigra-tion bill, the eight-hour Government labor bill and the Philippine currency bill. Sen ator Proctor has given notice that he will call up the militia bill Monday morning as soon as the routine business is disposed of, and he will try to keep this bill to the front until action can be secured. Some features of the measure are sharply antagonized, so that it may provoke considerable debate, There also is a disposition to amend the

immigration bill. The supporters of this measure do not yet seem inclined to concede the changes demanded. Senator Lodge, as chairman of the com-nittee on the Philippines, has given notice that he will press the currency bill as rapidly as possible, and expresses con-fidence in its passage before the session grows much older.

Senator McComas will urge considera-ion of the eight-hour bill. The committee on foreign relations it is expected, will take up the Cuban treaty at its meeting this week, but it is doubtful whether it will be reported during the week. It has not been decided whether there will be any hearings on the treaty. Thus far no formal request for them has been made, and probably none will be sought until after the bect-sugar convention, which is to be held in the effective.

tion, which is to be held in this city dur

ing the week. Senator Culiom says he will ask the Senate to give the treaty its win as the senate to kee the treat has attention at as early a day as practicable after it shall be reported.

A large number of new bills and resolutions will be introduced at the beginning of the session tomorrow, among them a joint resolution by Senator Morgan directing the Executive Department to cease gotiations with the government of Colom-bia for the right of way for an isthmian canal, and to close agreements with Costa

Rica and Niceragua for the construction of a canal by the Niceragua route. On Tuesday, during the morning hour, Senator Hoar will address the Senate in support of his anti-trust bill. It is probable that his speech will give rise to me or less debate, but any discussion on this subject must cease after 2 o'clock, unless lous consent should be pro-

#### delay the statehood bill for a time, Mexican Smelter Strike.

LAREDO, Tex., Jan. 4.-At Monterey, Mexico, 250 of the employes of the large Guggenheim smeller have gone out on strike because of dissatisfaction with a new system of pay. About 600 others are