TORNADO KILLS 23 IN SOUTHWEST

Destruction Spread Through Kansas and Oklahoma.

Eight Dead at Big Heart, and Every Building Razed—Schoolhouses Fall on Children.

Kansas City, Mo., April 13.—Twenty-three persons are reported dead, with at least 100 injured, two towns practically swept away, scores of buildings demolished and thousands of dollars' worth of property damaged as the result of a tornado that raged in Kansas and Oklahoma today.

The tornado was accompanied by rain, hail and lightning. Many buildings were struck by lightning and burned.

Western Missouri was visited by a rain and hail storm, but this section was not in the main path of the storm.

Telegraph and telephone wires were rendered useless in the worst stricken sections and it is probable that the complete report of the death roll and the property damage will prove much greater than they now appear.

The tornado levied its greatest toll of dead at Big Heart, Okla., where eight persons were killed, ten injured and almost every building in the town wrecked.

Whiting, Kan., was practically wiped off the map, 60 buildings being blown down, 30 persons hurt and Mrs. David Stone killed.

At Powhattan, Kan., a woman and child were killed.

A high school building was wrecked at Eskridge, Kan., a number of houses damaged and from 15 to 20 persons injured.

At Hiawatha, Kan., a schoolhouse was blown down, an 8-year-old boy named Pelton killed and several buildings struck by lightning.

Several persons are known to have been hurt at Netawaka, Kan. A child was killed at Manville, Kan.

The Kansas end of the tornado started near Whiting and swept in a southeasterly direction for a distance of more than 50 miles.

In Kansas City the storm did little damage. A few horses were killed by lightning and some buildings struck. The rain lasted about an hour and was heavy. Hail accompanied the storm.

Two more deaths were reported from near Hiawatha late tonight. Geraldine Meisenheimer, 10 years old, and a small child of Otis Mellott are the victims.

The Meisenheimer girl souht refuge with three companions in a country schoolhouse and the building was wrecked soon afterward. The dead girl's companions were injured. It is not known how the Mellott child met its death.

Forty persons seriously injured were taken to Tulsa in stock cars tonight. The Midland Valley railroad officials report four dead and over 100 injured. Many of the injured, it is believed, will die and many more are dangerously hurt.

REPARATIONS COMPLETE FOR PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

Washington—Initial steps to bring about peace in Mexico have been taken here. Dr. Vasquez Gomez, head of the confidential agency of the revolutionists in the United States, announced to the Associated Press that he had completed special arrangements for expeditious telegraphic communication between the camp of Madero in Chihuahua and Washington. Assurances have been given by the authorities concerned that the messages will have right of way over the Mexican telegraph lines. Dr. Gomez' message was addressed to Francisco I. Madero in care of a friend in Chihuahua city.

The agent there of Dr. Gomez has been accorded permission to pass through all lines to execute his mission.

Famous Gun Roars Again.

Agua Prieta, Mex.—Interesting information has been received here relating to the movements of the "Blue Whistler" cannon, which is en route from Juarez to Ojinaga, where General Jose Sanchez is preparing to attack the besieged Federal forces of General Orduque. This cannon is one of 12 captured by the Federal forces from the rebels at Valverde, N. M., during the American civil war. Recently the cannon was stolen and taken across the line and turned over to the rebels, who placed it in hiding.

Sumter's Flag is Found.

Lowell, Mass.—The flag which flew over Fort Sumter, when it was fired on 50 years ago, is thought to be in the possession of Miss Eliza Cowley, of this city. Miss Cowley says that while in Charleston during the war, her brother Charles, now dead, was presented with the flag and that it has always remained in the Cowley family. Her brother, Miss Cowley says, maintained that the flag was the one which Major Anderson displayed.

Hillman Gives Big Bond.

Seattle—Clarence Payton Hillman, the millionaire real estate dealer convicted of using the mails to defraud and sentenced to serve two and a half years in the Federal prison at McNeill Island and pay a fine of $5,200, filed bonds amounting to $215,000 to gain his liberty pending an appeal.

PATTON TO HELP MANKIND.

"Special Service" to Be Wheat King's Guiding Star.

Chicago—"Special Service" is to be the guiding star of James a Patten in the distribution of his fortune for the benefit of humanity during his lifetime.

Mr. Patten has declared that "a man should dispose of great wealth for the benefit of the community," that "social service is the one great thing in life," and so he has set about the disbursement of his wealth and has given to the most appealing charities no less than $2,000,000 within the last six months.

Half a million dollars was donated to the cause of medical research in the "white plague." Another large contribution was for the protection and education of that neglected class called by William L. Bodine "the children of the pathetic estate."

A public park has been provided for in Evanston; substantial aid has been extended to the Young Men's Christian association for enlargement of the scope of that institution in dealing with the young men of this and succeeding generations; generous assistance has been afforded to the cause of education in the Northwestern University and a large sum given to the Evanston hospital, besides the responses to the almost innumerable appeals that have come to him from the widows, the orphans, the poor and the distressed.

Mr. Patten's intense interest in the tuberculosis investigation dates from the death of his brother from that disease.

WOMAN MAYOR INSTALLED.

She Says One of Sex Will Be Chief of Police—Ban on Pool Halls.

Hunnewell, Kan.—The first meeting of the city council of Hunnewell under the new suffragist administration was held Tuesday evening, Mrs. Ella Wilson taking her seat as mayor.

After the old council had disposed of unfinished business, the new members organized and the mayoress proceeded to deliver an informal inaugural address.

She pointed out conditions in Hunnewell that needed rectifying and explained the hope that her associates in the council would co-operate with her in seeking to improve the standard of morals by reforming certain abuses.

Mrs. Wilson's remarks were understood to be directed especially toward the pool halls, which Mrs. Wilson believes exert a corrupting influence upon young men. She wants to put the institutions out of business with a high license tax.

Mrs. Wilson said she would appoint Mrs. Rosa Osborne, defeated candidate for police judge, to the office of chief of police. Mrs. Osborne, it is understood, has agreed to accept that office, provided she is given an assistant.

The councilmen have not shown much warmth toward some of Mrs. Wilson's plans.

One councilman went so far as to say that the council would not support Mrs. Wilson's appointments and that there would be no license for the pool halls.

BARS UP IN ASIA MINOR.

Russia Opposes American Railroad Interests in Country.

St. Petersburg—That Russia is opposed to American railway projects in Asia Minor is for the first time officially acknowledged in an interview which the editor of the Novoe Vremya has had with the acting minister of foreign affairs, M. Neratoff.

The minister said Russia regarded the recent acquisition of a railroad outlet at Alexandretta by Germany with indifference, as Alexandretta is outside the direct sphere of Russian interests.

On being asked why Russia, according to reports, had intervened and insisted that Turkey reject the American railroad project of securing an outlet at Mersina, the minister replied that the American proposals introduced into Asia Minor an entirely new element, which not only considerably complicated the railroad problem, but affected the general political situation in which Russia was interested.

Balloon Flight Failure.

St. Louis—With only three sacks of ballast remaining out of 47 they carried when they left San Antonio, Tex., Lieutenant H. E. Honeywell and J. W. Tolland, of St. Louis, landed 15 miles south of Little Rock, Ark., and gave up their attempt to lower the Lahm balloon cup record. This is the third attempt within a year to lift the cup by starting from San Antonio. Clifford Harmon tried it in the spring of 1910 and landed in Arkansas. February last William Assman, of St. Louis, started, but landed in Missouri.

Navy Gunners Marvels.

San Diego, Cal. — According to a current repot which is generally credited, the battleship South Dakota, while engaged with the California and Maryland in target practice off this port, recently made a record with six-inch guns that has hardly a parallel. Firing at five different targets at a distance of 10,000 yards, the South Dakota, according to the report, made a record of 34 hits out of 35 shots with her six-inch guns.

Bibles Conceal Crime.

Chicago — After the arrest of Andrew Buktus, on a charge of counterfeiting, Uited States secret service men found a counterfeiting plant for raising $2 bills to $20, hidden under a pile of bibles in Buktus' room. When arrested Buktus said he was a bible salesman. In a case under the bibles was found a set of dies and tools, together with several altered bills.

BRIEF REPORT OF THE DAILY WORK OF NATION'S LAWMAKERS

Washington, April 14.—The Canadian reciprocity bill introduced in the house yesterday was reported favorably to the house today by the new ways and means committee. The committee also passed favorably on the free list tariff measure, but will not report until tomorrow.

The Canadian reciprocity treaty bill was taken up first by the committee, and, after a brief discussion, McCall, its sponsor in the 61st congress, moved that it be approved. This was done without division.

The free list bill, however, was not unanimously approved, the vote on it in the committee having been a strictly party vote, the Democrats favoring it and the Republicans being solidly against it. The Republican members, with Sereno Payne as spokesman, declared that the proposed bill was hasty and ill-advised, that the measure had not been referred to the tariff board and that Chairman Underwood and his Democratic colleagues on the committee had not sufficient data to show what effect the changes would have.

When the house met, Underwood submitted the report of the committee. The reciprocity bill will be called up tomorrow for discussion.

Opposition to the reciprocity bill from the same Republicans who opposed it in the last session developed quickly. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, asked the privilege of filing a minority report.

The clause in the bill providing that the president continue negotiations with Canada to insure further reciprocal relations will not in any way jeopardize the bill itself, in the opinion of political leaders of both parties.

Underwood, of the ways and means committee, McCall and President Taft himself, conferred as to the added clause before it was proposed to incorporate it in the Underwood bill. Secretary Knox was also consulted.

It is reported on good authority that the ways and means committee will offer a bill putting all woolen importations on the free list.

Senator Cummins today gave notice of a motion amending the senate rules so as to require amendments to tariff bills to be germane to the schedule affected. A rule of similar import has been adopted by the house.

Washington, Apri 14.—The house of representatives, by a vote of 296 to 16, late today passed the Rucker resolution proposing a constitutional amendment for the direct election of United States senators.

This is the first of the Democratic programme measures passed by the house. It went through without modification and with a speed that brought protests from the Republicans.

The resolution, as the house approved it, is in the form in which the Borah resolution was reported out of the senate judiciary committee in the closing days of the last congress. Republican opposition to the Rucker resolution in the house was based on the fact that it did not contain the changes afterwards made in the fight in the senate, which assured to congress continued control over elections in the several states.

After six hours of debate, in which many demands were made for this change in the resolution, all but 15 Republicans voted for the resolution. The majority of them had stated during the debate that they would support the resolution because convinced the public wanted such a constitutional amendment submitted to the country as quickly as possible.

Those who opposed the resolution on the final vote were:

Republicans — Cannon, Mann, Illinois; Danforth, Malby, New York; Dodds, Fordney, McMorran, Michigan; Harris, Lawrence, McCall, Wilder, Massachuesstes; Hinds, Maine.; Sulloway, New Hampshire; Utter, Rhode Island.

Democrats—McDermott, Illinois.

Ex-Speaker Cannon, Mann, the Republican leader, and others of the Republicans who voted against the measure, declared that its form was such as to threaten the Federal government with the loss of control over senatorial elections in the states, given to safeguard the integrity of these elections. They insisted, as did other Republicans who ultimatey voted for the resolution, that the direct election amendment should be offered without any language that might be dangerous to the future congressional supervision of senatorial elections.

The Republican insurgents, led by Lenroot and Cooper, of Wisconsin, forced a record on the final passage of the resolution. The house voted overwhelmingly in favor of the measure, when Speaker Clark called for the viva voce vote, but the insurgents demanded a roll call in order to put the house on record.

Tariff Board Cannot Help.

Washinton, April 14.—Revision of the wool schedule of the Payne-Aldrich tariff law, accomplished as forming part of the program for the Democratic house of representatives, will have to be undertaken without the assistance of the tariff board. It was announced today after the first full meeting of the house committee on ways and means that the tariff board is not yet in a position to furnish information on the wool schedule.

Kenyon to Wait Awhile.

Washington—W. S. Kenyon, Attorney General Wickersham's assistant, and senator elect from Iowa, will not qualify as a senator until the important anti-trust prosecutions, which he is now conducting, can be arranged without injury to the work.

Washington, April 12.—Farmers are to be won over by the Democrats to reciprocity with Canada and incidentally to the Democratic party by the placing of a number of articles which they consume on the free list.

The first two measures to be offered in the house this session were introduced today by Chairman Underwood, of the ways and means committee. They are the Canadian reciprocity bill and the free list bill. The former bill is identical with that passed at the last session except for a clause authorizing the president to continue negotiations for reciprocity on Canadian articles not covered by the pending agreement. The free list bill comprises about 100 articles.

When the Canadian reciprocity bill is called up Friday by Underwood there will be no effort to limit debate unless the minority demands an unreasonable time. It is the opinion of majority leaders that the minority should conclude whatever arguments there will be against the bill within two days.

Probably not more than four days' debate will be given and it will be passed by a large majority in the house and be sent to the senate within a week. No amendments will be offered from the Democratic side.

The free list bill, to be called up after the passage of the reciprocity bill, is also a caucus measure and cannot be amendmed by the party in charge. Under the new rule no general tariff amendments can be offered by the minority because each amendment must be germane to some particuar item in the bill. Considerable debate is expected, but the Democratic leaders expect both measures will be ready for the senate within two weeks.

The articles designated for the free list would make a difference as compared with the present duties and revenue of less than $1,500,000. They are:

Plows, harrows, headers, harvesters, reapers, agricultural drills and planters, mowers, horse rakes, cultivators, threshing machines, cotton gins, farm wagons, farm carts and all other agricultural implements, including repair parts.

Bagging for cotton, gunny cloth and fabrics suitable for baling cotton; burlap and bags for sacking agricultural products, hoop band iron or steel for baling cotton; wire for baling hay, straw or other agricultural products, grain leather, buff, split, rough or sole leather, bend or belting, leather, boots and shoes, harness, saddles and saddlery.

Barbed wire fence, wire rods, wire strands or wire rope, wire woven or manufactured for wire fencing.

Meats of all kinds, fresh, salted, pickled, dried, smoked, dressed or undressed prepared or preserved in any manner; bacon, hams, shoulders, lard, lard compounds and lard substitutes; sausage, buckwheat flour, corn meal, wheat and rye flour, bran, middlings and other offals of grain, oat meal and rolled oats and all prepared cereal foods; biscuits, bread, wafers and similar articles not sweetened; timber hewn, sided or squared; round timber used for spars or building wharves; shingles, laths, fence posts, sawed boards, planks, deals and other lumber, rough or dressed, except ebony, mahogany, rosewood and all other cabinet woods.

Sewing machines and salt complete the free list.

Washington, April 11.—It required more than two hours in the house of representatives to elect its new committees. It was the first time in its history that committees had been elected.

Ex-Speaker Cannon taunted the Democrats with having approved as the Republican representatives on the various commitees practically the same men whom he, as speaker, had put on these committees in the last house. The Republicans charged the Democrats with gross unfairness in cutting down the minority membership on the most important committees.

Underwood, the Democratic leader, replied that the Democrats had based the proportionate representation in committees strictly upon the Democratic majority in the house itself.

"This is moreover," he said, "the first time a minority leader had been permitted to name his committees and has had them adopted by the majority without dotting an 'i' or crossing a 't.'" This statement was cheered loudly by the Democrats.

Treaty Work Progresses.

Washington—James Bryce, British ambassador, Secretary of State Knox and Chandler Anderson, counsellor of the State department, held another long conference in regard to the proposed arbitration treaty. Progress is being made in the negotiation of the convention, and the administration is still confident that the document will be completed in ample time for submission to the present session, for ratification.

Northwesterners Disappointed.

Washington—Northwestern insurgents, with the exception of French, of Idaho, did not fare well in committee assignments and none but French is pleased with the committees given him. Lafferty, who made a strong fight to get on public lands, was placed on irrgation and on mileage. While irrigation is a fairly good committee for Western members, mileage has only perfunctory duties to perform.

FARM AND ORCHARD

Notes and Instructions from Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations of Oregon and Washington, Specially Suitable to Pacific Coast Conditions

SEEDTIME AND HARVEST.

H. V. Scudder, Agronomist, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.

With such wonderful weather for the earliest plowing and seeding as only Oregon can offer—every sower of seeds is already looking forward with the highest expectations to a most prosperous harvest.

But just a moment, friend! You remember well the scriptural warning "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." No probecy ever uttered, perhaps, has received so universal acceptance from humanity in all the ages as this, possibly because it is founded upon a most primal literal truth.

From remote times man has been first of all a sower of seed and every recurring harvest in its dearth or in its plenitude has driven home the unalterable truth of this maxim. Yet the farmer of today, who of all men should give most heed to the literal accuracy of this text and its direct application to his industry—seems often more heedless of this first step toward a bountiful harvest than were his forebears ages ago.

For failure because of carelessness in the quality of the seed used, there seems little excuse nowadays. If "scientific agriculture" has done aught it has first of all increased the farmer's opportunity to secure crops of the highest quality, and repeatedly it has emphasized the need of so doing. Everywhere the state experiment stations and the federal agricultural authorities have eagerly extended the helping hand to aid the farmer in procuring good seed, and year after year has the wisdom of these efforts been amply demonstrated.

The farmer of Oregon seems less progressive in this matter than those of any other section of the country. Out of all of the samples of seed received and tested at the cooperative seed testing laboratory at Corvallis last year only twenty per cent were sent in by Oregon farmers. Yet the need for most careful examination of seeds before purchase or sowing is constantly being demonstrated by the results of the work done in this seed testing laboratory. This need is evident especially in the grasses, clovers and alfalfa. For example, in the tests of alfalfa seed alone since January 1st of this year forty-two per cent of all samples examined by the seed experts contained dodder, and in sixty-one per cent of this infected alfalfa, the dodder was the most dangerous species known to agriculture. One sample of alfalfa seed examined and reported only last week contained 15.1 per cent dodder. Yet 1 per cent of dodder is sufficient to destroy the alfalfa crop. Alfalfa seed having 1 per cent of dodder would contain about 4,000 dodder seeds in every pound of alfalfa and seeded at the rate of 16 pounds of alfalfa per acre 400 dodder seeds would be sown on every square rod of the seed bed; enough under ordinary conditions to so thoroughly infest the crop with the parasite as to destroy the alfalfa in a single season.

Alfalfa is one of the most important crops in the state and in the Northwest. Dodder is a parasitic weed, the seed of which when sown with the alfalfa germinates in the ground. After germination the slender tendrils of the dodder vine reaches out, fasten upon and coil about the alfalfa stalk. The soil roots of the dodder then die and the pest thereafter obtains its sustenance directly from the grownig tissues of the alfalfa plant, sapping it of life in a few weeks. Having destroyed the alfalfa plant the dodder vine blossoms and seeds most prolifically, the seed scattering upon the ground, quickly germinating and attacking new alfalfa plants, thus rapidly spreading and ultimately destroying the crop, there being practically no remedy where the dodder once gets started.

The only means of preventing infection from this dangerous pest, the seed of which so closely resembles alfalfa seed as not to be easily detected except by experts, and which cannot be separated from the alfalfa seed by any cleaning device now known—is by the refusal of the buyer to purchase or sow alfalfa seed containing even a minute precentage of dodder seed. Free of charge, the seed expert at the cooperative seed testing laboratory at Corvallis will examine and immediately report upon any sample of alfalfa or other seed sent in by any farmer or seedman in Oregon or the Northwest. If free use were made of this laboratory there is little question that dodder in the alfalfa fields of the northwest, and in the seed harvested therefrom, would be on the decrease instead of increase as it is now.

Nor is it in dangerous impurities that inferior seed is constantly being discovered. Using alfalfa as a further illustration, germination tests of all the samples received at the laboratory since January 1st of this year showed the following:

20 per cent of samples germinated		90-100	per cent
29	"	80-90	"
25	"	70-80	"
14	"	60-70	"
10	"	50-60	"

Yet good alfalfa seed should germinate ninety-five per cent or over. That good seed can be secured, however, is shown by the fact that 20 per cent of the samples tested had a satisfactory germinating power — were good, live seed. The farmer must search for such, however.

Using alfalfa as an illustration of what is even more common in the grasses and similar seed, it appears perfectly evident, that both in purity and viability, the bulk of the seed now being sown by farmers in the Northwest is decidedly inferior, and with absolute certainty this prophesies the harvest.

The grass seed samples tested show even greater need of minute examination before purchase of seed. So far this year only two samples of Red Top have been received that were up to standard in purity. Two-thirds of all the Orchard Grass samples examined were below the standard of purity that it is possible to obtain. The best sample of Kentucky blue grass examined contained 61 per cent of pure seed, while the standard of purity for this species is 80 per cent. The standard of germination for Red clover is 95 per cent, yet the average germination of the samples so far examined by the laboratory this year is 73 per cent. To illustrate how dangerous it may be to sow seed containing a small percentage of impurities, the exact analysis of a sample of what was sold for a mixture of timothy and alsike is given as follows:

Timothy, 66 per cent; alsike clover, 14 per cent, other cultivated grass seeds, 5 per cent; trash, 9 per cent; foreign seeds, 6 per cent.

Although the amount of foreign seeds is only 6 per cent, and may possibly be considered of no consequence, yet a list of the weed seed contained in this 6 per cent of foreign seeds follows:

Plantain, Cinquefoil, Black-seeded plantain, mouse-ear chickweed, sorrel, pepper grass, evening primrose, witch grass, shepherd's purse, small crab grass, night-flowering catchfly, sedge, slender spike rush, lamb's quarters, amaranth, brown-eyed Susan, woolly panicum, crab grass, May weed, dodder, syperus, small-seeded false flax, hedge mustard, nerved manna grass, green foxtail, white vervain, curled dock, sporobolus sp., three-seeded mercury, forked catchfly, sleepy catchfly, yellow wood sorrel, sinuate-leaved evening primrose, Canada thistle, horsemint, lyespus sp., rush. Total weeds seeds per pound of sample, 13,500.

Although the farmer received only eighty-five cents' worth of good seed for every dollar he paid out, yet, when the weed seeds he has sown on his farm are considered, it is not hard to realize how enormously unprofitable his seeding will prove at harvest time. It is this seeding of the land to worthless plants and noxious weeds that is causing the farmers of the Northwest the loss of thousands of dollars annually from the inferior crop produced and the labor wasted. Nor can the dishonesty of the seedsmen in the Northwest be considered the cause of this enormous annual waste. The seedsmen of this region are, for the most part, trying to do their best, but if the farmer accepts and pays for inferior seed as readily as for the best, little encouragement is given to the honest seedsman to search out seed of high quality and refuse to sell anything else.

Only by insisting upon pure, viable seed will the farmer secure, and finally force the seedsman to carry nothing else. Farmer and seedsman alike have at their immediate service, free of all cost, the co-operative seed testing laboratory at Corvallis, which has but the one purpose, that of aiding both dealer and grower in securing and sowing high-quality seed.

Hence, my friend, look well to your seeding, so that in the golden harvest time your present expectations may not be discounted. Begin at the beginning. Use naught but seed of quality, pure and of high vitality, and as logically as effect follows cause, so certainly will come to you at harvest the opportunity to reap in profit that which you have sown with precaution.

Tale of a Bird.

A little four-year-old boy living in a country town disturbed and took some eggs from under a sitting hen belonging to a neighbor. The neighbor complained to the boy's mother, who later called her boy to her and began to reprove him, when he broke in with the question: "Who told you?"

The mother said: "A little bird told me. Now, tell me, how many eggs did you take?"

The little boy, stammering, said: "Well! Well! Why didn't the bird tell you the whole of it?"

NOTES OF THE SHEEPFOLD.

The greatest profit is realized by doing things right.

Sheep are nature's dependable aids in restoring and increasing soil fertility.

Sheep will thrive neither with wet feet or with damp, soggy fleeces.

The lamb that cashes in the most money for its owner is not a product of poverty.

Circumvent the large feed bills by producing better roughage and grain on your own farms.

To allow feeders to eat all the corn they can stow away after reaching the farm is disastrous.

A little flock well tended on the small farm well tilled will rarely disappoint the good shepherd.

Throwing a Fit.

"What is the athlete in that piece of statuary doing?"

"Throwing the discus."

"What sort of a fit was that?"