

OCEANS OF MELTED SNOW A MENACE

PROTRACTED RAINS CAUSE MUCH ALARM

RAILROAD MAY AGAIN BE BOTTLED UP TIGHTLY.

CITY MENACED BY FLOOD WATER CERTAIN TO ENSUE

Rains Develop From Near-Blizzard and Situation Will Be Critical Here Tomorrow If Rains Continue—Telegraph Wires Down Near Portland—Trains Running Slowly.

Incessant rains, developing suddenly out of a near-blizzard and near-mercury weather last night, are today menacing not only O.-W. traffic but may prove unexpectedly serious to city property. From a railroad standpoint results are entirely problematical—slides and washouts may even as early as tomorrow effectively bottle up traffic as tightly as the snowdrifts did early in the week. On the other hand it is possible that the rain may cease in time to avert serious consequences. In La Grande streets will not only be impassable by tomorrow morning if the rain continues another 24 hours, but in the course of another 24 hours floods are bound to ensue that will flood cellars and business basements. The snow-packed storm sewers will be of little avail to carry off the enormous quantity of melted snow as the ground is frozen beneath the mantle and there can be no escape save the surface of the streets. In most instances. In the very heart of the city, the storm sewers are opened up today, yet the unprecedented quantity of snow will go quickly, once a touch of warm wind is added to the work already accomplished by the snow rain. Drafts are saturated and beneath the snowy surface, even after less than 12 hours of rain, small lakes are accumulating. By the time flood waters from the mountains strike the rivers and the city streets, menacing floods can be the only consequence. Hoping that rains will cease before

TEDDY'S TRUST POLICY LIKED

NOT ABOLITION BUT REGULATION, SAYS ANDREW.

Steel Magnate Compares Policies of Taft and Roosevelt.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—Before Andrew Carnegie resumed the stand before the committee today, Howard Bridge, author of "The Inside History of the Carnegie Steel company," was called to the stand, and identified portions of his book and also quoted sections of it, bearing on papers and documents of the Carnegie company. Carnegie, when called, admitted the law must be involved to prevent excessive prices on steel commodities. He said: "You cannot trust human nature. Anyone is justified in doing everything possible under the law. It is certain sooner or later that offenses against natural competition will force the making of a real law to govern such conditions." He then compared Taft's and Roosevelt's ideas on the trusts. He said that Taft's idea was that corporations should be dissolved and Roosevelt's that they should be recognized and carefully governed. He said he heartily agreed with Roosevelt's idea.

Shuster Leaves Persia. Teheran, Jan. 12.—Removed as treasurer-general of Persia, W. Morgan Shuster and his family are enroute to London today.

STREAMS RISING RAPIDLY.

Meacham creek raised three feet this forenoon with almost magic-like swiftness indicating that the effects of the rain in the mountains are already showing themselves. The Grande Ronde river at Perry is heavily mantled with snow but this afternoon the rain is no longer being absorbed by the snow and another five or six hours of rain will start the flood which cannot, under the circumstances, be anything but of the most severe character. Bridges all along the river will be in extreme danger should the pending flood start. Judging from the nature of the snow this afternoon the entire mountain and river bottom snow will go out at once when sufficiently melted. Among the O.-W. officials here today is Jack O'Neill, traveling freight and passenger agent. Mr. O'Neill is gloomy at the prospects for traffic. One message was received from Portland this morning by local officials via Salt Lake and word received here says that it is raining from Pocatella to Portland. The United Press got a Portland file to La Grande today via Spokane. A telephone message from the head of Beaver creek, says it is raining hard there.

slides are caused and washouts result, the overland passenger trains are being run on a slow schedule today. This morning's No. 10 and No. 6 arrived after 1 o'clock after being held up by slides near Bonneville. No. 17 is marked up for 5:45 tonight. It is delayed by eastern troubles. Crews are held in readiness to act in case of need from washouts and watchmen are being stationed at the points where slides or washouts would most logically occur. Summarized, the railroad situation is a matter of luck—traffic may continue and at the same time, may at any time be bottled up. The rain is general in Eastern Oregon but conditions in Portland are hard to ascertain as both Western Union and railroad wires are down somewhere west. United Press service has been received spasmodically via Spokane this afternoon but the service has been extremely disjointed all over the Pacific northwest.

BRIGANDS SKIN REBELS ALIVE

HORRIBLE ATROCITIES COMMITTED IN CHINA.

Children Cremated and Adults Are Slaughtered Unmercifully.

Tsin Tsin, Jan. 12.—Skinning rebel officers and soldiers alive, butchering other Chinese and committing indescribable atrocities against all enemies, the imperialists at Lanchow today are reported to have started another massacre. They are using the excuse that the rebels are guilty of treason. Children Cremated. St. Petersburg, Jan. 12.—Cremating Manchurian school children and massacring adults, looting and burning, the imperialists mutineers today are waging terror at Huldja, in Chinese Turkistan. All foreigners have fled to the consulates which are guarded.

Bacon and Taft Friendly. Paris, Jan. 12.—Ambassador Bacon today ridiculed the report of his resignation being due to his refusal to support Taft for re-nomination. He said: "My resignation is in no way influenced by the presidential election. My relations with President Taft are cordial."

New York, Jan. 12.—Col. Roosevelt said: "It is too absurd for comment," when he was told concerning the report in connection with Bacon's resignation.

NEBRASKA IN THROES OF A COLD SNAP

MONTANA STOCK SUFFERS FROM PROTRACTED COLD

COLD FAMINE ADDS TO SUFFERING IN CHICAGO

Butte, Helena, Havre, Sheridan and Other Mountain Cities Suffering in Firm Grip of Terrible Cold Snap—Lincoln, Neb., Has Worst Storm in the History of the State.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 12.—Twenty-six below was registered here today. This part of the state is experiencing the most severe weather ever known.

Chicago, Jan. 12.—With the mercury registering nine below and colder weather predicted, Chicago expects a great deal of severe weather. The price of coal has been boosted a dollar a ton and the poor are suffering intensely. At Des Moines it was 20 below and a coal famine threatens. It is record breaking cold in Iowa.

Montana Stock Suffers.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 12.—With the temperature in Helena, Sheridan, Wyoming, and Havre, Montana, varying from 15 to 30 below zero, stock men in Southeastern Montana fear a heavy cattle loss unless warmer weather comes soon. At Butte and Missoula trains are badly delayed by slides and broken rails.

AVIATORS AS DEPUTIES.

Two Flying Machine Artists Deputized to Arrest Bandit.

Los Angeles, Jan. 12.—Phillip Parmelee and Clifford Turpin, aviators, today were sworn in as the first aero deputy sheriffs in the history of the country. They left in their flying machine for a bandit who was engaged in a pitched battle with two officers near Burbank Wednesday.

MINERS DECIDE ISSUE BY VOTE

ENGLISH MINERS CASTING DECIDING VOTES.

Threatened Strike May Be Averted but It Is Doubtful.

London, Jan. 12.—The balloting by the Miners' Federation of Great Britain to determine whether or not the organization shall stand firm in its present dispute with the mine owners concluded today. The votes of the members, numbering between 600,000 and 700,000, will be forwarded to the general secretary and the result of the election will be made known at the national conference which is to assemble in Birmingham next Thursday.

Though hopes are still expressed that the threatened strike may be averted, there is no denying the fact that the outlook is causing much uneasiness. Two months remain to the peacemakers, as the present agreement between the miners and operators will not terminate until the end of February. The question of a minimum wage is the bone of contention. The miners appear to be determined in their demand that such a clause shall be incorporated in the next agreement. The great majority of the mine owners, on the other hand, are strongly opposed to it, and they argue that the granting of the men's demands would lead at once to the closing of many collieries which are at present being worked on a small margin of profit.

JOHN F. SHAFROTH.

Governor of Colorado Active in Booming His State.



Coast Lumber Shippers Meet. Seattle, Wash., Jan. 12.—The Pacific Coast Shippers' association held its annual meeting in this city today with an attendance of prominent lumbermen from Oregon, Washington, California and British Columbia.

SOCIALISTS POLL HEAVY VOTE IN GERMANY'S ELECTION TODAY

Berlin, Jan. 12.—Heaving voting is the rule and Socialists are polling a big vote in the election of a new reichstag today, which will rule for the next five years in Germany. This is a struggle between the reactionaries and standpatters on one side and constitutional and radical democrats on the other.

The socialists estimated they will elect at least 70 members. The government is holding troops in readiness in case of trouble. So far things are quiet. The guard around the kaiser's palace is doubled.

Germany has about 17 or 18 political parties, but only 11 of them have been represented in parliament. The great and most important parties in the reichstag are the Conservative, the Center or clerical party, the National-Liberal, the Rreisinnige or radical party and the Social Democrats. In the 12th session of the reichstag recently dissolved, the Center had 105 seats; the Conservatives had 60; the National-Liberals 48; the Radicals 25 and the Social Democrats 52. The minor parties had together 87 seats.

The number of seats held by the various parties does not give a correct idea of the real strength of the parties. At the last national election in 1907 the Conservatives polled 2,050,000 votes; the Center, 2,145,000; the National-Liberals 1,716,000; the Radicals 1,311,000 and the Socialists 2,259,000 votes. This apparent incongruity is due to the unequal distribution of the election districts which makes it possible for the province of East Prussia, for instance, with 409,945 voters, to have 17 representatives in the reichstag, while Berlin, with 493,457 voters, has only six seats.

Generally speaking today's election is being fought out between the combination of the Conservative and the Center parties on the one side and the Liberals, Radicals and Socialists on the other. There is no firm and positive alliance between the parties standing together in the fight but there is good reason to believe that the socialists will gain considerably by the support and co-operation of the liberal and radical elements among the voters.

The issues of the campaign which will reach its culmination in today's election are essentially of an economic nature. The enormously high cost of living and the refusal of the government to reduce the tariff on meat and other food products, which would mitigate the condition of the poorer classes now on the verge of starvation, is undoubtedly the most potent factor to influence today's election. Other reasons, however, are the general feeling that Germany, owing to the incapability of the Imperial cabinet, has lost prestige during the controversy with France concerning Morocco; the bitterness caused by the prolonged

ITALIANS SINK TURKISH SHIPS

SEVEN VESSELS ARE DESTROYED IN ONE-HOUR FIGHT

LARGE NUMBER OF TURKS PERISH WITH SINKING SHIPS

Italians Escape Without Harm While Turks Suffer Heavily—Ships Carrying Contraband Goods Were Chased for a Week but End Short When Undertaken by Italians.

Rome, Jan. 12.—Seven Turkish gunboats were sunk off Konfuda in a battle with the Italian battleships and destroyers, according to advices received here today. There are no details.

The Turkish boats, which carried contraband goods for troops in the province of Iteiman, Arabia, were sighted after a week's hunt. The engagement lasted an hour.

It is believed many Turks perished but a large number took to the life boats. No Italians were injured.

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trovery over the financial legislation of 1909; the universal complaint that Chancellor von BethmannHollweg had re-established the yoke of the Catholic Center upon the Lutheran majority, and many other minor grievances perhaps insignificant in themselves, but of sufficient weight with the voters to influence them at the polls. The fact that at the recent by-elections at Dueseldorf and Sonstanz the Socialists were successful seems to indicate the tendency of popular feeling in Germany and to foreshadow the defeat of the government parties at the polls today.

Gas Famine Near.

New York, Jan. 12.—A gas famine is faced here as a result of a general strike of the employees of the Consolidated Gas company, probably effective tonight.

TROOPS ON WAY TO NORTH CHINA

TRANSPORT LEAVES MANILA TODAY.

Yankee Soldiers Will Guard the Peking Road.

Manila, Jan. 12.—With a battalion of the 15th infantry and other details including 500 American troops in all the United States transport Logan left this afternoon enroute to Chin Wang Tao in Northern China. The troops, it is said, will be employed in guarding the section of the Peking railroad from Tang Shang to Lanchow from an attack by either the Manchus or the rebels.

Two Boats Collide in Fog.

Tacoma, Jan. 12.—A wireless says the barkentine E. G. Griggs and the schooner A. F. Coates collided last night in the straits in a dense fog. The Coates struck a glancing blow with considerable damage and is being towed to harbor. There were no casualties.

Japs Smuggled to Hawaii.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 12.—Declaration that 32,000 trained Japanese soldiers have been smuggled into Hawaii since the Russian-Japanese war was made here this afternoon by Major General Carter, assistant chief of staff of the United States army. He declared the United States is realizing the danger of the Orientals seizing the island in case of war and had taken steps to send 13,000 troops to Hawaii.

JOHN MITCHELL FINALLY BOOKED

LABOR UNIONS WILL UTE TO ENTER-TAIN HIM

CHAUTAUQUA BOARD ORGANIZES FOR ENSUING YEARS WORK

Press Club Convention of a National Order, will Be Held at Chautauqua Grounds During the Assembly—Many Big Features Shaping Themselves for Edification of All.

Labor will have undisputed innings on July Fourth, next, when John Mitchell, the man whom seers designate as the Moses destined to lead labor out of its present wilderness, will come to La Grande and be the principal speaker at a monster labor day celebration. Further details pertaining to Mitchell's coming were put up for collaboration at the organization meeting of Chautauqua directors last evening. The meeting got under way by the election of William Miller as president; Dr. J. D. Gillilan, D. D., vice president; Dr. W. D. McMillan, secretary, and City Recorder C. M. Humphreys, treasurer. Appointment of a committee that will call a council intended to be composed of representatives from every labor brotherhood and union in Union county was enacted and at some future date, sufficiently near to insure the widest publicity to Mitchell's coming, the council will meet to devise plans for fitting entertainment of the distinguished labor leader. His address will probably be rendered during the late forenoon of July Fourth. Brotherhoods and labor unions throughout the city and county are anticipating a rare treat when Mr. Mitchell comes and have promised the chautauqua board that every piece of assistance within their power will be lent the chautauqua management.

Press Convention Discussed

Co-operation between the executive committee of the Outlook Press club which will entertain the national convention of that organization next summer, and the chautauqua, has resulted in the gates of the grounds being thrown open to the delegates for convention purposes, and one of the stellar features of the chautauqua week will be the convention and its related affairs.

Farmers' Orders Invited.

In addition to paving the definite way for the coming of John Mitchell, the chautauqua board last night appointed a committee to get into communication and touch with the Farmers' union and the various granges of the county in an effort to have a splendid farmers' day during the assembly. The unions and grangers already have signified their intentions of taking complete charge of an entire day. All the subjects have wide interests attached from the respective organizations or bodies and their cohorts but the coming of Mitchell will be the signal for a grand rally of everyone regardless of caste or labor opinions.

Prominent Elks Probable.

In view of the fact that the 1912 convention of Elks will be held in Portland about the time the assembly here is closed, it is planned to get several of the overland passenger trains carrying Elks Portlandward, to stop here, and permit the eastern antlered herd to visit the assembly on some day to be designated as Elks' day. The Elks convention is also utilized in the way of obtaining a larger representation at the Press club convention for extremely low rates will prevail prior to and after the Elks gathering.

TOMMY SHEEHAN WANTED.

Offer to Manage Victoria, B. C., Club Awails Beaver Captain.

Portland, Jan. 12.—The whereabouts of Tommy Sheehan, captain of the Beavers, is anxiously asked by Walter McCredie, owner of the club. Sheehan dropped out of sight two months ago while he was at his home in San Francisco. He has an offer to manage the Victoria club at a greatly increased salary.