

MANY ARE HOMELESS

Storm in Texas and Oklahoma Creates Awful Havoc.

POPULATION IS DUMFOUNDED

Loss of Life Believed to Be High— Thousands of Head of Live- stock Killed.

Dallas, Tex., May 26.—Seven thousand persons are practically without shelter now as a result of the violent storm which broke over Northern Texas and Oklahoma Sunday night. Today alone fully 2,000 people were driven from their homes by the rising of the Trinity river. Houses, barns and everything in the path of the terrible flood is swept down and carried away. Trinity river is a raging, surging torrent and nothing apparently stands before it. Big factories far removed from the river proper are flooded, bridges have been swept away like kindling wood. Livestock by the thousands have perished and fear is now entertained that a most famine will follow in the wake of the storm's fury.

So far no arrangements of a character calculated to relieve the intense suffering of the inhabitants have been attempted. It is really too soon to give any real estimate of the dead. With the abatement of the rising waters steps will be taken at once to help those in dire distress. As usual in such cases, the poor of the various cities and towns in the path of the elements are suffering the worst.

The present storm is by far the most violent of the present year, and for that matter perhaps the fiercest storm that has visited Northern Texas in several years. It was exceptionally severe at Fort Worth, Dallas, Wichita Falls, Denton and Abilene.

The property loss will run extremely high, but so far not even a conservative estimate can be placed on the whole. At Fort Worth alone it is figured out that the storm will cause close onto \$10,000,000 damage. When suburban points are finally heard from the loss will run much higher in that vicinity.

Reports from Mineral Wells state that Wade Owens and Ernest Stetler were drowned there. Persons are also reported drowned near Wichita Falls and Childress. At Denton an unknown man lost his life in attempting to save some household effects.

All over the storm-swept district railroads and crops have suffered heavily. Railroad traffic is practically at a standstill, as at most points bridges have been torn from their foundations by the surging flood water. As quickly as possible the railroad people will repair the damage done. In any event, it will be many days before anything like schedule time can be maintained on any of the roads.

ANARCHY IN PERSIA.

State Apparently Helpless to Cope With Situation.

Berlin, May 26.—Advises received here are to the effect that anarchy prevails throughout Persia. As an example of the Shah's helplessness to cope with the situation a libel action is cited which has been brought against the Persian newspaper Musowad, as an article stating that parts of Persian territory are in the control of brigands and revolutionists, and concluding with the following:

"The governors are tyrannical, the administration is corrupt and inefficient, the taxes are in arrears, the exchequer is empty, the soldiers' wages are unpaid and the army is helpless. What is the Shah going to do in these melancholy circumstances? He devotes himself to orgies night after night until daybreak."

The newspaper proceeds to give proof of its allegations and concludes by demanding the dethronement of the Shah and the establishment of a republic.

The Shah brought a libel action, but withdrew it when the editor offered to prove the charges in detail. Following this, the walls of Teheran were covered with placards calling upon the people to assassinate the monarch.

Funerals Services for Governor.

Reno, Nev., May 26.—In response to a call issued by Acting Governor D. S. Dickerson and Mayor Kernan, all business was suspended here yesterday on account of the funeral of Governor John Sparks. The funeral services were held at the Elks' home, where the funeral procession formed. All the bells in the city tolled. The body was escorted by the governor's staff and a body of police. Besides the governor's friends, members of the secret orders to which he belonged and state and city officials, many marched on foot.

Deadly Gas for Burglars.

Stuttgart, May 26.—A chemical firm in the small town of Aalen has perfected and patented an invention that threatens burglars with instant death after they succeed in opening a safe vault door, either by skeleton key or with the aid of compressed air, nitrogen and other burglars' paraphernalia. The moment an outsider opens the door, or bores through it, poisonous gases are released, destroying the invader and leaving him dead on the floor.

Meat Inspectors Confer.

Chicago, May 26.—More than 100 meat inspectors were present yesterday at the opening of a conference which considered the enforcement of the new meat inspection law. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson here presiding, the deliberations of the conference, which is expected to continue for three days.

FAVORS BIG FLEET.

Great Lesson Taught by Cruise, Says Admiral Evans.

Washington, May 25.—Admiral Evans, in an interview with W. S. Merriweather, told of the results of the cruise of the Pacific and its benefits and the future policy and prospects of the American navy.

"What, in your opinion," he was asked, "is the most vital question affecting the navy today?"

"The shortage of officers and men, particularly officers," Admiral Evans replied. "We have not a battleship in commission today with a sufficient number of officers properly to look out for her battery. Those we have are excellent, but they are so overworked that they are giving way under the strain. Men can be trained for duties on shipboard, as has just been shown in the cruise of the Atlantic fleet to the Pacific, but not so with officers."

"In case of a sudden outbreak of hostilities, we would find ourselves seriously handicapped from this cause."

The Admiral was then asked what was the chief lesson to be drawn from the cruise of the battleship fleet.

"There are two," he replied. "First, the absolute necessity for two fleets, one on the Atlantic and one on the Pacific; second, that we took the fleet to sea with one-third of the men untrained and arrived at the Pacific entrance to the Straits of Magellan and Magdalena Bay absolutely in condition to go into an engagement."

"What should be our future naval strength, and how distributed?"

"Forty-eight battleships with the necessary cruisers, torpedo boats, submarines and auxiliaries. They should be distributed—24 on the Pacific and 24 on the Atlantic."

FIRE ON OLD VESSEL.

Sensational Naval Experiment Will be Tried by Navy.

Washington, May 25.—The most sensational naval experiment ever attempted by this country will take place today in Chesapeake Bay, when the monitor Florida will be submitted to bombardment by big guns and torpedoes to demonstrate the effect of modern projectiles upon the internal fittings and the structure of the fighting craft of the American navy.

The Florida is so constructed and fitted internally in such a way as to have practically the same strength of resistance as the latest type of American battleship.

At first it was proposed to put live shells in the turret of the monitor, but this plan has been abandoned because it is believed the death of the animals would prove little as to the probability of loss of human life under similar circumstances. The plan to test the ability of the modern ship of war to withstand the heavy firing of the latest big guns has attracted much attention in official circles and it is looked upon as a matter of great importance by foreign officials at the embassies here.

PACIFIC MAIL IS PASSIVE.

Would Not be Benefited by Proposed Subsidy Clause.

San Francisco, May 25.—The progress of the postoffice appropriation bill, now in its last stages before Congress, is being watched with much interest in this city, especially with regard to the ocean mail subsidy amendment, agreed to by the conferees, but rejected by the House, which has asked for another conference on the measure. The proposed increased contribution to steamship lines directly affects the companies running vessels from this port to China, Japan, Australia and the Philippines.

When asked what would be the result should the subsidy amendment be retained in the bill, F. S. Samuels, manager of the Oceanic Steamship Company, said:

"Whether we will resume running vessels to Australia and carry the mails cannot be determined for a time. Australia and New Zealand have made other contracts for carrying the mails, since we discontinued, and we do not know at present whether we could get that business again."

Adolph J. Frey, assistant to the vice-president and general manager of the Pacific Mail Company, the Japanese and China line, said there was little prospect of the Pacific Mail availing itself of any increased allowance, chiefly because of the difficulty of securing crews composed largely of Americans as the law would require, at a rate of wages permitting of any profit.

Germans Angry at Frenchmen.

Berlin, May 25.—Denouncing Paris clubs as mere gambling resorts and clubmen as card sharps and blacklegs, the German court and press are declaring today that it is easy enough to see why Teuton members are unwelcome—they have something better to do with their time than to spend it at a gaming table. But for the comment by members of the Cercle de l'Union that Germans are regardless of French club custom, the black-balling of Ambassadorial Attache Hortsmann might have been permitted to pass as a personal matter.

Sparks' Secretary Dead.

Carson, Nev., May 25.—W. R. Davis, private secretary to the late Governor Sparks, died at his home in this city Saturday of stomach trouble. Davis was better known as "Riley" Davis. He served as secretary to Governor Sparks since he first took office. He was a resident of Dayton, Nev., where he held a number of important positions. Through the death of the late Governor and his secretary, business in the state and federal buildings is at a standstill.

Franz Josef in Serious Condition.

Vienna, May 25.—Emperor Franz Josef has caught a fresh cold and general audiences have been suspended. The court physicians say they do not consider his majesty's condition alarming, but there is much uneasiness concerning him, owing to his age and continued ill health.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Tuesday, May 26.

Washington, May 26.—The two floor leaders of the house again today occupied the center of the stage and performed their usual feat of charging each other with responsibility for the evil conditions at present existing in that body. It came about through an order presented by Mr. Payne, of New York, granting five days' leave after adjournment in which to print in the Congressional Record the remarks that might have been, but were not made upon the floor. He took occasion to arraign the democrats for their filibuster and said that republicans had no apology to make for their course.

The democratic leader, Williams, accused the majority of doing nothing in the present session and opposed the order because it gave members no opportunity to reply to statements which he felt in advance would call for an answer. The order was adopted.

Following this debate business proceeded at a rapid pace.

The conference on the military academy appropriation bill was agreed to. Its consideration was marked by a vigorous speech by Mr. Slayden, of Texas, against the senate permitting the education of four Filipinos at West Point. The bills were passed as follows:

Refunding stamp taxes on foreign bills of exchange and certain duties on anthracite coal illegally collected; providing for the opening and settlement of portions of the Cheyenne and Standing Rock Indian reservations; promoting the safety of the employees on railroads by requiring the equipment of locomotives with ash cans that can be dumped without requiring an employe to crawl under the locomotive; promoting the safe transportation of explosives.

Washington, May 26.—The omnibus house bill, embracing seven separate measures affecting the navigation laws, was considered and passed by the senate today, but not without resistance. Senator Newlands tried to amend by inserting his bill creating the Inland Waterways Commission. He was met with prompt opposition by Mr. Nelson.

Monday, May 25.

Washington, May 25.—An effort to annihilate time by dilatory tactics without making progress on any legislation except that involved in conference reports was the chief occupation of the senate today under the leadership of Aldrich. The attempt was so successful that the net result in the way of accomplishment of the day's session was the adoption of the conference report on the sundry civil appropriation bill.

Washington, May 25.—Working under heavy pressure with a single eye to adjournment at the earliest possible moment, the house today disposed of a great amount of business. Several conference reports were agreed to and the following bills passed:

Amending the navigation laws; removing the discriminations against native officers of the Porto Rican regiment of infantry; authorizing the sale of unallotted land of the Spokane Indian reservation; encouraging the development of coal deposits in Alaska; and prescribing penalties against the sale of clothing and government property by soldiers. The omnibus bill relating to disposition of the public land was sent back to conference.

Saturday, May 23.

Washington, May 23.—Following a precedent the United States Senate killed off the attempt of the Western Senators to open the way to a constitutional amendment providing for the election of Senators by popular vote. The question came up on a resolution, offered by Owen, of Oklahoma, and after an unusually spirited debate, the resolution was referred to a committee, where it will be smothered to death.

Fulton, of Oregon, was paired in favor of the resolution; Bourne was absent. Ankeny and Piles, of Washington, both favored the passage of the resolution, as did Borah, of Idaho, but Heyburn was opposed to it.

Washington, May 23.—The House again today wrestled with the subject of mail subsidies to steamship companies and once more recorded itself against the proposition by the vote of 145 to 154. The debate ran well into the night.

Having been overwhelmingly defeated yesterday the conferees on the postoffice appropriation bill today came into the House with a new report, agreeing with the Senate on everything except the subsidy provision and that relating to the system for weighing the mails. The portion of the report on which there was no disagreement was adopted unanimously and under an agreement to extend the time of debate on the subsidy question.

Friday, May 22.

Washington, May 22.—The omnibus claims bill was considered by the Senate today until displaced by the resolution to extend the period during which no penalty will be enforced for violation of the commodities clause of the Hepburn bill. Aldrich inquired of Fulton of Oregon how much of the total appropriation carried by the claims bill was for Southern war claims, and was told:

Insists on Subsidy Clause.

Washington, May 27.—A partial agreement of the conferees on the postoffice appropriation bill has been laid before the senate by Mr. Penrose and was agreed to. The sections applying to ocean mail subsidy and the weighing of the mails were not agreed to by the conferees. The senate ordered that this amendment be insisted upon and continuing Senators Penrose, Burrows and Clay as conferees.

that two-thirds were of that character and one-half of those for damages to choice property.

Aldrich suggested that the time ought soon to come to stop allowance of this kind of claims arising 42 years after the war, when the government could not secure witnesses who knew anything about them, except those who are relied upon by the claimants to prove their losses.

Fulton said he would offer an amendment that would do just what was desired.

Washington, May 22.—The senate amendment to the postoffice appropriation bill extending the ocean mail subsidies to steamers plying on the Pacific Ocean to the Orient and Australia and on the Pacific and Atlantic to South American ports was the subject of warm debate in the house and finally caused the rejection of the conference report by a vote of 145 to 156. There is little prospect that the house conferees will yield to the senate.

Thursday, May 21.

Washington, May 21.—The proceedings of the senate today, as is usual toward the close of a session, covered a multitude of subjects, including a probable final announcement on the currency question. Announcing that the conferees of the senate and house on the currency bill would be unable to agree, congress is to adjourn at an early day. Aldrich reported from the committee on finance a joint resolution creating a national monetary commission, to be composed of nine senators and nine representatives, to investigate all matters concerning the banking and currency system of the country, and the resolution was passed without debate.

The senate passed a bill appropriating \$100,000 to enable the secretary of agriculture to co-operate with states for the conservation of forests. It also provides for a commission of five members of the senate and five from the house to study the whole question of the necessity, desirability and legality of the purchase of forest land by the United States and to report to the next congress.

The senate today passed the general deficiency and military academy appropriation bills, the last of the great appropriation bills.

Washington, May 21.—The house spent another busy day today. After a protracted debate, the conference report on the District of Columbia traction bill, permitting the laying of street car tracks to the Union station, was adopted with the provision for universal transfers eliminated; the conference report on the agricultural appropriation bill was agreed to; the senate amendments which increased by \$1,000,000 the public building bill appropriation were disagreed to, and a conference asked, and bills were passed as follows:

Establishing in the interior department a bureau of mines and providing for the co-operation of states for the conservation of the forests and waters of the White and Southern Appalachian mountains, and the appointment of a national forest commissioner.

Troops Will Stay in Cuba.

Washington, May 25.—In several conferences between President Roosevelt, Secretary Taft and General Bell, it has been decided not to withdraw troops from Cuba at the present time. This decision was agreed to by the conferees, and the advice of Governor Magoon, who deemed it inadvisable to reduce our force in Cuba prior to the re-establishment of the Cuban republic next fall, when the entire force will return.

Continues Land Fraud Cases.

Washington, May 28.—Arguments supporting the motion of the defense in the Hyde-Benson land fraud case to quash the indictments against the defendants were resumed Tuesday. Assistant Attorney-General Pugh, opposing the motion, charged that the operations of Hyde and Benson were fraudulent and that Jost Schneider, one of the defendants, knew they were illegal.

Spends Over a Billion.

Washington, May 26.—Although the figures on the total appropriations for the present session of Congress are incomplete, from careful estimates the indications are that they will exceed \$1,000,000,000. This is \$100,000,000 in excess of any previous session. The largest increases over previous years are found in the postoffice, pension, naval and army appropriation bills.

Bills Signed by President.

Washington, May 26.—President Roosevelt has signed the bills providing for the participation of this country in the exposition to be held in Tokio in 1912; the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill; a bill making Monterey and Port Harford, Cal., sub-ports of entry, and a bill authorizing the extension of the street railways of this city to the Union Station.

Publicity Bill Referred.

Washington, May 26.—The campaign publicity bill, with the Crumpacker amendment, restricting representation, which was passed by the House Friday, was laid before the Senate Saturday. Without discussion the bill was referred to the committee on privileges and elections, where it will remain until the last session of Congress.

Annul Grant Lands.

Washington, May 28.—B. D. Townsend, special attorney in the department of justice, started Monday for Portland, Or., to start legal proceedings on behalf of the government to take from the Southern Pacific railroad about 3,000,000 acres of land in Western Oregon, said to be worth between \$30,000,000 and \$50,000,000. Townsend will try to secure a decree which will annul the grant and restore the lands to the public domain.

JURY FAILS TO AGREE.

Ruef Again Escapes, but New Trial Will Be Pressed.

San Francisco, May 22.—Unable to agree, after being out almost 44 hours, the jury in the case of Abraham Ruef, charged with offering a bribe to former Supervisor Jennings J. Phillips, was discharged at 5 o'clock last evening by Judge Maurice T. Dooling. Thirteen ballots were taken, and the jury stood 6 to 6 from the outset. At no stage was there a chance for an agreement, the credibility of the witnesses being the main point upon which the jurors divided.

The failure of the jury to convict will not alter the attitude of the prosecution as there are numerous indictments pending against Ruef, on one of which he will be placed on trial as soon as the state can make its arrangements to that end. In view of this fact the board of supervisors today appropriated \$70,000 for the continuance of the graft prosecutions.

Resuming their deliberations yesterday morning, the jury was called into court at 11:45 o'clock by Judge Dooling, but asked the court for more time. The request was granted and they retired.

When 4 o'clock arrived the bailiff ordered the courtroom cleared, as Judge Dooling had decided to send for the jury in a short time, and there was a desire to avoid any demonstration on the part of the spectators. As a result attorneys directly interested and the members of the press were about the only ones in attendance when the jurors filed in and took their places in the box.

Foreman Penny arose, and in response to the question of Judge Dooling said it was impossible for the jury to agree. Each juror was then questioned by Judge Dooling, and all agreed that they could not arrive at a verdict. Judge Dooling then formally discharged the jury.

BUILD TO PACIFIC.

Edwin Gould Makes Announcement for Western Pacific.

Los Angeles, May 22.—Edwin Gould, pathfinder for the "ocean to ocean" railroad ambition of his brother, George, announced that the Gould lines will not only reach San Francisco, but they will enter Los Angeles and the ports of the Pacific Northwest, through Portland. Mr. Gould arrived today from Texas in his private car "Dixie."

Gould is a director of the Western Pacific, and makes the positive announcement that the ocean to ocean Gould line will be consummated with the early completion of the Western Pacific into San Francisco, and that the lines of the Goulds will also be extended to Portland in the near future.

Further, Mr. Gould declares that the Pacific Coast will be the scene of the most extensive railroad operations ever known.

For many months it has been rumored that the Gould interests have been securing options on rights of way along the coast from the north shore of San Francisco bay to Eureka. The Northwestern railroad, which ends at Willets, Mendocino county, is supposed to be the property of the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe jointly, but lately it has been reported that part of the right of way between Willets and Eureka has been found to overlap other claims, and litigation was threatened.

WRECK IN BELGIUM.

Sixty Killed and Hundred Injured in Collision of Trains.

Antwerp, May 22.—In one of the worst railroad disasters that ever occurred in this country a great number of passengers, the number being estimated as high as 60, were killed today, and at least 100 seriously injured in a collision between two passenger trains. The trains were running at a high rate of speed when the crash occurred. They came together with great force, throwing the cars from the tracks and piling them up in heaps of ruins. Great difficulty was experienced in releasing the imprisoned passengers. Twenty-two bodies have been recovered, and search for more is being made in the ruins.

The collision occurred at Conchie, six miles southeast of Antwerp. One train was bound for Brussels and the other was going to Lierre. Three coaches of the latter train were crushed into kindling wood. The accident, which is thought to have been due to mistaken signals, took place on a crossing.

Conspirator May Hang.

Deer Lodge, Mont., May 23.—William Hays, a convict in the state prison here, was today found guilty of first-degree murder in killing Guard John A. Robinson in the course of the sensational prison break in March. George Rock pleaded guilty two weeks ago and was sentenced to hang June 15. Hays' defense proved he had not laid a hand on Robinson, but he was found guilty of conspiracy. The jury recommended hanging. Two others are charged and are yet to be tried. These are C. B. Young and Orell Stevens.

COMPROMISE ON FAIR

Congressional Committees Agree on Seattle Appropriation.

SPEND \$650,000 FOR EXHIBITS

Washington Delegation Highly Elated at Result—Useless Expenses Are Stricken Out.

Washington, May 23.—The conference committee on the sundry civil bill yesterday agreed to give \$650,000 to the Seattle exposition. Fifty thousand dollars will be cut off from the expenses of the government board, which is reduced to three members, and uninteresting features of the government exhibit are eliminated. There was no cut in the appropriation for buildings or the Alaska, Philippine or Hawaii exhibits. The conference report will be agreed to today. The compromise is highly satisfactory to the Washington delegation.

GOVERNOR SPARKS DEAD.

Nevada Executive Killed by Oveawork at Extra Session.

Reno, Nev., May 23.—"I don't fear death. I have done my best. I am tired and am ready to go. Good-bye." Surrounded by his wife, three sons and a daughter, Governor John Sparks, conscious to the last, sank to death at 8:30 yesterday morning, after uttering the above words.

The illness which culminated in the governor's death was directly due to overwork and nervous strain attendant upon the extra session of Nevada's legislature late last fall.

Mr. Sparks was born in Mississippi, August 30, 1843, and came to this state in 1868, engaging in stockraising. He owned large cattle ranches in Nevada and Texas, as well as a large cotton plantation in Texas. He was elected chief executive in 1902 and again in 1906 by large majorities.

Lieutenant-Governor D. S. Dickerson is now governor of Nevada. He came to Nevada eight years ago and went to work in a mine at Cherry Tree.

EXTRA SESSION CALLED.

Philippine Assembly Needs a Month More to Finish Work.

Manila, May 23.—The statutory time for the adjournment of the Philippine assembly having arrived with the work of that body incomplete, Governor-General Smith has called a month's extra session. Prior to the adjournment of the regular session, the radicals attempted to present a resolution favoring immediate independence, but were headed off by the conservatives under the leadership of President Osmena. It is believed that the attempt to present the resolution will be renewed during the extra session.

The Philippine commission has rejected the assembly bill providing for the teaching of the various Filipino dialects in the public schools, and has substituted a bill creating an institute for the study of these dialects.

Manuel Quescon, a member of the assembly, has been appointed delegate to the navigation congress, to be held at St. Petersburg. He will sail tomorrow, accompanied by his secretary, Theodore Rogers.

Sues to Recover Graft.

San Francisco, May 23.—Joseph A. Sullivan, a retired capitalist, who owns a block of stock in the United Railways Investment Company, today began a suit in equity in the superior court to recover the \$200,000 Patrick Calhoun, president of the United Railroads, is alleged to have paid, through Tiresy L. Ford, general counsel for that corporation, to Abe Ruef for the purpose of influencing the supervisors to grant the company a trolley franchise. Interest on the above-named amount and costs are also demanded by the plaintiff. The complaint alleges that the suit is brought in the interest of all the stockholders of the corporation.

Big Power Project.

San Francisco, May 23.—A deal which will ultimately revolutionize the price of electricity throughout the state of California, will soon be consummated in the investment of an additional \$25,000,000 in the \$12,000,000 powerhouse that is nearing completion on the north fork of the American river. The plant will be ready for operation in October, but in the meantime eastern capitalists are making arrangements to advance the enormous amount of capital.

Eight Perished in Fire.

Chicago, May 23.—Although eight men are believed to have perished in the fire that destroyed the Wintermeyer box factory yesterday, only two bodies had been recovered at midnight, when the search was abandoned until tomorrow.

Favors Opium Conference.

Tokio, May 23.—The Japanese government has signified its intention of joining America in the latter's efforts to secure the calling of an international opium conference.