

WORK OF TORNADO

PASSENGER STEAMER SWAMPED ON A VIRGINIA RIVER

Eighteen Persons are Known to Have Lost Their Lives—Accident Occurred in the Evening When All Were Below and They Had No Time to Seek Safety Before Vessel Sank.

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 19.—A tornado struck the passenger steamer Olive, which plies between Franklin, Va., and Edenton, N. C., at 9:30 last night and sent her to the bottom of the Clowen river, off Woodley's pier, between Mount Pleasant and Oliver's wharf. Eighteen persons are known to have been drowned, and others who were rescued are in a serious condition.

The storm, when it struck the Olive, caused her to go over on her beam ends, and when she righted it was only to sink on account of the water she had taken. A majority of the passengers and crew were below at the time, and had no opportunity to reach the pilot house of the vessel. This point was the only portion left above water, and in it, standing waist deep from the time of the accident until 6 o'clock in the morning, Captain George Withy and five others were rescued.

According to the statement of Captain Withy there are 18 known to have been lost on the sinking steamer, and a lifeboat loaded with part of the crew and passengers, which left the steamer in hope of reaching a vessel whose lights could be seen in the distance, were rescued after enduring severe hardships all night.

The Olive was a small screw steamer, owned by J. A. Pretow, of Franklin, Va., and plying between North Carolina and Virginia for several years. She left Franklin last evening for Edenton, and had almost reached her destination when the tornado struck her. She was built in 1869, and was of 287 tons gross, 120.9 feet long, 20.4 feet beam and 27 feet depth of hold.

PLANS OF ATLANTIC SQUADRON.

Present Gun Practice May Be Followed by a Cruise to Europe.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Upon the result of three months' hard work at the target practice about to be undertaken will depend the summer plans of the North Atlantic squadron. The fleet is working out an elaborate and progressive set of exercises and drills devised by the general board, the purpose being to familiarize the officers with naval movements on a larger scale than has ever before been attempted in the United States navy. The fleet has worked through the program step by step, and the three months' program now in execution will determine whether or not the gun work of the ships has been so far perfected as to warrant the beginning of the next phase, namely, a long-distance cruise in fleet formation. If this work should be undertaken next summer, of which Secretary Moody is by no means certain, the North Atlantic squadron will make directly for the Azores, and if the combined movement is successful up to that point the ships may go on as far as Lisbon, but it is not intended that they shall visit Northern Europe under any conditions.

CAST AWAY IN WILDERNESS.

Terrible Sufferings of Shipwrecked Prospector on Vancouver Island.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 19.—A story of shipwreck, privation and exposure was brought from the Vancouver island coast by the steamer Queen City today. Two prospectors, Pete Anderson and J. A. Ferguson, were wrecked in a sloop off Cape Cook, and, losing all their food, they endeavored to get to the nearest Indian village, 60 miles away. They built a raft to cross Nespartz inlet, but a storm a rose, the raft was broken and the two men were washed ashore after suffering great hardships on the logs, more dead than alive.

Then they walked 60 miles around the beach, the impenetrable bush offering no trails, and had no food for six days until reaching an abandoned Indian hut they found a small supply which kept them alive until they reached an Indian village on Klash inlet, 60 miles from where their vessel was lost, after suffering terrible privations and with just strength enough to crawl into camp.

Hotel Burns at Midnight.

Port Huron, Mich., Feb. 19.—The St. Clair hotel, one of the largest hotels in this city, was destroyed by fire at an early hour this morning. A man named Worthy, employed at the hotel as a yardman, is missing, and is believed to have been burned to death. Milton Campbell, a fireman, was fatally crushed under the walls. All the guests made their escape, many of them rushing out in their night clothing when they awoke. Loss \$100,000.

Government Gains Time.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The government has formally accepted the offer of the Panama canal company to sell to the United States the canal property and all the company's rights therein for \$40,000,000, subject to the ratification of the pending treaty with Colombia. The effect of this acceptance was to extend the life of the option held by the government beyond March 4 next and until the treaty now before the senate has been ratified by both countries.

NEW PHILIPPINE CURRENCY BILL.

Measure Passed by Senate Provides for Coinage of Silver Pesos.

Washington, Feb. 19.—The Philippine currency bill, passed by the senate today, prescribes that the unit of value in the Philippines shall be the gold peso, of 12.9 grains of gold, nine-tenths fine, said gold peso to become the unit of value when the government shall have coined and made ready for circulation not less than 5,000,000 of the silver pesos provided for in the bill. The gold coins of the United States, at the rate of one dollar for two pesos, shall be legal tender in the islands.

The bill also provides for an additional coinage of 75,000,000 silver coins of the denomination of one peso, which shall be legal tender except where provided by contract. Coins of the denomination of 50 centavos, 20 centavos and 10 centavos also are provided for, all such coinage to be under the authority of the government of the Philippine islands, in such amounts as it may determine, with the approval of the secretary of war.

The bill also provides for the issue of certificates of indebtedness to maintain the parity of the silver and gold pesos, such certificates at any time to be limited to 20,000,000 pesos. The Mexican dollar and the Spanish coins heretofore used shall be received for public dues at a rate to be fixed from time to time by the civil governor of the islands, preference, however, being given to the Philippine coins and certificates.

The option is given for the coinage of the silver pesos either in Manila or any mint in the United States, which coin shall bear inscriptions or devices expressing the sovereignty of the United States. The act making any form of money legal tender after December 31, 1903, is repealed.

The Patterson amendment, providing for an international conference to fix a commercial exchange, was adopted by the senate.

Chairman Cooper, of the house committee on insular affairs, says that as soon as the bill is received from the senate from the house it will be sent to conference.

JAMES R. GARFIELD PROMOTED.

Son of Dead President is Appointed Commissioner of Corporations.

Washington, Feb. 19.—It was announced today at the white house that President Roosevelt would appoint James R. Garfield, of Ohio, commissioner of corporations under the act creating the new department of commerce. Mr. Garfield is a son of the late President Garfield, and is at present a member of the civil service commission.

Mr. Garfield is an Ohican by birth and residence. For some time the president has had him under consideration in connection with the position of commissioner of corporations, which is regarded as second only to that of the secretary in importance in the new department. The law provides that the commissioner shall have the power to make, under the power of the secretary, "diligent investigation into the organization, conduct, and management of the business of any corporation, joint stock company or corporate combination engaged in commerce among the several states and with foreign nations, excepting common carriers, subject to 'an act to regulate commerce,' approved February 4, 1887, and to gather such information and data as will enable the president to make recommendations for legislation for the regulation of such commerce, and to report such data to the president from time to time as he shall require."

It also will be the duty of the commissioner of corporations to gather, compile and publish useful information concerning corporations doing business in the United States and engaged in interstate or foreign commerce, including corporations engaged in insurance.

GIVE COAST BIDDERS A CHANCE.

Cushman Wants 4 Per Cent Differential on Contracts for Warships.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Representative Cushman called on Secretary Moody today to secure departmental recommendation for the incorporation in the naval appropriation bill of a provision allowing Pacific coast bidders on naval vessels authorized under the pending measure a differential of 4 per cent over bidders on the Atlantic coast.

Such a stipulation was incorporated in the bill last year, and in Cushman's opinion is necessary to place Pacific coast firms on an equitable footing. Furthermore he says such a differential would tend to hold down bids on the Atlantic coast.

Would Annex Isle of Pines.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Representative Richardson, of Tennessee, today introduced a resolution asking the president why that portion of the Platt amendment regarding the Isle of Pines had not been enforced. He also introduced a concurrent resolution declaring that it is the sense of congress that the Isle of Pines is territory belonging to the United States, and that no sovereignty can be lawfully exercised there except by the United States.

Mine Sale at Thunder Mountain.

Weiser, Idaho, Feb. 19.—An important transfer of Thunder mountain mining property has been made in this city. D. J. Brown, who is better known as Thunder Mountain Brown, has sold to D. McKenzie, representing Eastern capitalists, four mining claims on Profile creek. The claims are in the best portion of the district. The price paid has not been made public, but it was a cash deal, and it is stated by those claiming to know that the price paid was a good round one.

THE LEGISLATURE

WHAT THE LAWMAKERS OF OREGON ARE DOING AT SALEM.

Bills of importance That are Being Introduced and Acted Upon in Both Houses—Measures Signed by the Governor—Progress of the Ballotting for United States Senator.

Tuesday.

The vote—Fulton 33, Geer 25, Wood 15, Williams, 6; scattering 6, paired 5. The senate—To create office of state examiner of public records, passed. To authorize Indian war veterans to bring suit against the state upon their claims, passed. To repeal law exempting public officers from garnishment proceedings, passed. The senate adopted a resolution to adjourn Friday, February 20, at 12 o'clock P. M.

The House—To provide for flat salary, passed. To change name of Reform school to Industrial school, passed. To fix boundary of Willamette at Portland, passed.

Monday.

The vote—Fulton 33, Geer 15, Wood 14, Williams 17, scattering 3, absent and paired 9. The senate—A joint resolution was adopted calling upon congress to order a constitutional convention for the purpose of framing an amendment for the election of United States senators by direct vote. To fix salary of superintendent of public instruction at \$3,000, passed. To regulate employment of females, passed.

The House—To pay Indian war veterans, indefinitely postponed. The greater part of the day was taken up in introducing new bills.

Appropriations already provided for amount to \$2,386,866.82.

Governor Chamberlain vetoed the bill classing bicycles with horses in the statute defining larceny; also the one to prohibit stock running at large in Marion county.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 76c; blue stem, 88c; valley, 78 1/2c.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.

Flour—Best grade, \$4.30@4.85; Graham, \$3.45@3.85.

Millet—Bran, \$18.19 per ton; middlings, \$23 @ 24; shorts, \$19@20, chop, \$18.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15 @ 1.20; gray, \$1.12 1/2 @ 1.15 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$8@9; cheat, \$9@10 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60@75c per sack; ordinary, 40@50c per cental, growers' prices; Merced sweets, \$2 @ 2.25 per cental.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 12 1/2c; young, 11@12c; hens, 12 1/2c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, \$7@7.50 per dozen; geese, \$7@8.50.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 16 1/2c @ 17c; Young America, 17 1/2 @ 18 1/2c; factory prices, 1@1 1/4c less.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@32 1/2c per pound; extras, 30c; dairy, 20 @ 22 1/2c; store, 15@18c.

Eggs—23@25 per dozen.

Hops—Choice, 22@27c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14 1/2c; mohair, 26@28c.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3@3 1/2c per pound; steers, 4@4 1/2c; dressed, 7 1/2c.

Veal—7 1/2 @ 8 1/2c.

Mutton—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7 1/2c.

Lamb—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7 1/2c.

Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2c per pound; dressed, 7@7 1/2c.

Irrigation in Wyoming.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Feb. 19.—The Cheyenne land office today received instructions from the general land office to withdraw from entry, except under irrigation act, a strip of land in Northern Larimer county, varying in width from 12 to 30 miles and extending entirely across the county from east to west. This tract comprises 750,000 acres of the richest agricultural land in the county, and will be under the Devil's Gate reservoir, perhaps the first to be constructed under the national irrigation law.

Feather in Uncle Sam's Cap.

Berlin, Feb. 18.—The newspapers generally have little to say about the Venezuelan settlement. Those which reflect the government's views affirm that Germany must come out of the affair measurably well, inasmuch as she obtains at the end of the negotiations all she asked for at the beginning. Certain papers say that the only power which has come out of the affair with heightened prestige is the United States and that none of the European powers was strengthened in its position by the outcome of the affair.

Firemen Save Many Lives.

Chicago, Feb. 19.—Quick work by the firemen saved the lives of a number of persons who lived in the five story brick building at 1 to 3 North Clark street, early this morning, when a fire broke out on the third floor of the structure. Clayton Bush, proprietor of the beer and concert hall on the first floor, and his wife and children were carried from the burning building and cared for by the police. Other persons living in the building were overcome by smoke and carried out by the firemen and policemen. Loss, \$75,000.

A man isn't really great until the newspapers begin to print jokes he has originated, which are so dreary they couldn't draw a laugh from a man with money in his pocket.

CONFERENCE ON LAWS FOR WEST.

Game Preserves and Land Commission Considered by President.

Washington, Feb. 18.—President Roosevelt tonight held a conference with Representative Jones, of Washington, Mondell, of Wyoming, and Lacey, of Iowa, at which the bill authorizing the president to set apart within forest reservations areas to be known as game preserves, within which game, fish and birds shall not be killed, was briefly discussed. Both Jones and Mondell objected to the bill, asserting that it would render state game laws inoperative within such reserves, while Lacey contended to the contrary. The president, while deeply interested in the proposed legislation, was inclined to admit the claim of the two opposing members, and it is believed no further effort will be made this session to pass the bill. The president also discussed with these members pending resolutions providing for the appointment of a public lands commission of five persons, to investigate and report upon the workings of the timber and stone, desert land and homestead commutation laws and to make recommendations for needed changes in these laws, together with legislation looking to the disposal of timber on unreserved public lands and providing an adequate means of regulating grazing on the public domain.

The president and members agreed that such a commission properly conducted would gather much valuable information, which would be useful in guiding congress in future land legislation. The resolutions provide for five commissioners at \$400 per month. This legislation will be urged and probably adopted before adjournment.

MORE TRUST LEGISLATION.

Senate Committee May Favor More Drastic Action on Question.

Washington, Feb. 18.—There is possibly some embarrassment ahead for those senators who have arranged that there shall be no more trust legislation at this session than is contained in the Elkins act and Nelson amendment. Here is the judiciary committee of the senate pondering away on a measure, and it may report the Littlefield bill, so as to make it more drastic than as it passed the house. Should the committee report it, it would mean that the skillfully arranged program of the senate leaders might be upset. Men who know something about the feeling against trusts in their states will not be willing to sidetrack legislation like the Littlefield bill that passed the house unanimously.

More than this, the reports that have been so generally circulated that the Littlefield bill was only a "bluff," have caused comment throughout the country of a character to disturb senators who are closely identified with big corporations.

The imputation of bad faith on the part of the president may also have some effect. Because the president urged the Elkins bill and the Nelson amendment, it has been asserted that he was aparty to a program of "mild" trust legislation. As a matter of fact, the policy of the president has been to get all he could when he could. He found the Nelson amendment could be passed, and he accepted both. By threats and methods scarcely in keeping with his office, he might have forced more drastic legislation, but as the two propositions offered were assured, he gladly accepted them. If more can be obtained he will be pleased, but if not, he, as chief executive, will see what an enforcement of the new legislation will bring about, and when the next congress assembles he can urge such additions as are found necessary.

CAN'T RESCUE FISHERMEN.

Ice Still Blocks the Way of Revenue Cutter Gone to Their Relief.

St. Johns, N. F., Feb. 18.—The United States revenue cutter Seminole, which is on her way to the Bay of Islands to cut out a number of icebound American fishing schooners, is still unable to enter the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the conditions are most uncompromising. The Canadian naval schooner Stanley and Minto are already frozen up there, which is an indication of the probable fate of the Seminole should she be caught in the ice.

Captain Delaney, the master of the Newfoundland steamer Bruce, and the most experienced ice navigator in this region, believes that the Seminole will be unable to venture toward the Bay of Islands until the prolonged easterly winds drive the floes well off the shore.

All Exploded at Once.

Fostoria, O., Feb. 18.—Eight persons were killed and four injured by an explosion in the Peter & Fox magazine can factory this afternoon. The magazine contained a large supply of high explosives, used in the manufacture of caps for magazine canes. It will never be known how it happened that some of the explosives let go. There was a terrific report that shook the whole town, and in a moment the whole factory was in flames.

Immigration Under New Head.

New York, Feb. 17.—Commissioner William Williams, of the bureau of immigration, who has just returned from Washington, where he appeared before the senate committee to argue for certain clauses which he wants inserted in the new immigration law, says that it is virtually settled that the immigration department would be under the control of the department of commerce.

CONTINENT WHITE

BLIZZARD COVERS ENTIRE EAST AND MIDDLE WEST.

From Lakes to Gulf and From Nevada to Atlantic Coast Fierce, Snow-Laden Wind Sweeps, and Worse is Predicted—Even the Sunny South Suffers From Storm.

Chicago, Feb. 18.—The whole country from the Atlantic to the western slope of the Rocky mountains is suffering from the coldest weather known in February for years. The snow storm which swept over the Rocky Mountain states has traveled east and south until it covers the whole region as far as New York on the east and the Gulf states on the south.

Beginning in Wyoming and Utah, where extreme cold and deep snow have caused great loss of livestock on the range, the storm extended gradually until Kansas is under a foot of snow and has a temperature below zero. Oklahoma has had snow to take the place of rain, and Texas has snow a foot deep. In the far Northwest, near the boundary of North Dakota and Canada, Williston is the coldest place in the United States, with the temperature 42 degrees below zero, and the thermometer registers from 20 to 30 below all through the Middle West.

The snow reached New York last night, when four inches had fallen, following close upon a sleet storm which had almost stopped traffic. The weather bureau predicts gales, snow and extreme cold for the whole Atlantic coast. The same conditions prevail all along the lakes.

The South is just escaping from floods due to heavy rain, which extend from Louisville southeast to Georgia, only to fall into the grip of the bitterest storm of the winter. Trains and telegraph lines are demoralized all through the West, and in many cities street cars run only with great difficulty.

NO CHANGE IN LAND LAWS.

Repeal of Timber, Desert and Commutation Acts Hopeless.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The senate committee on public lands today ordered a favorable report on the bill to repeal the timber and stone act, desert land act and commutation feature of homestead law. Amendments to omit repeal of commutation law and sell timber land on the basis of appraised value were debated. Senators opposed to the bill say there is no prospect of its passage at this session.

The action of the committee is not significant, for there is no possibility of the bill passing the house, even though it might be railroaded through the senate. Even this is improbable, because it is legislation that would provoke debate, and such debate is likely to prove fatal this late in the session.

An attempt was made in committee to amend the bill to provide for the sale of timber lands in tracts of 160 acres to each settler, the price to be governed by the appraised value of the timber thereon, but this substitute was voted down. The committee also rejected a proposition to omit the commutation clause from the acts to be repealed.

The report today was made largely for effect, and not with any intention of passing the bill, for the senate committee is fully advised that a majority of the public lands committee of the house will not for a minute consider the bill at this session.

CORTELYOU PROMOTED.

President Has Appointed Him Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The president today sent to the senate and the senate confirmed the nomination of George B. Cortelyou to be secretary of commerce and labor under the act creating the new department. The nomination was referred to the senate after the senate went into executive session and the vote was polled on the floor. Senator Depew reported the nomination with a favorable recommendation. He asked for immediate action and, as there was no opposition, Mr. Cortelyou was confirmed.

Few in American public life today are more widely or more favorably known than Secretary George B. Cortelyou. For years he occupied a prominent place in the interest of the people and the exemplary manner in which he has met every emergency that has arisen before him has won for him the cordial esteem not only of those with whom he has been intimately associated, personally and officially, but also of the body of the American public to whom he is known merely by reputation.

Idaho to Give \$35,000.

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 18.—A bill has been introduced in the house by the appropriation committee appropriating \$35,000 for the Lewis and Clark exposition in Portland and the St. Louis exposition. Five thousand of this is to be used for gathering exhibits for the St. Louis fair. The remainder is to be equally divided between the two expositions. A commission of five is to be appointed by the governor for both expositions to serve without pay.

General Miles Returns.

New York, Feb. 18.—Lieutenant General Miles, commanding the United States army, his wife and party arrived here today on the steamship Lucania. The general, who has been abroad five months, has in that time been around the world. One of the features of the trip across the Atlantic for the general was the sending of a Marconigram to King Edward VII on February 9.

M. DE BLOWITZ

For Years the Paris Correspondent of the London Times.

M. de Blowitz—Henry George Stephane Adolph Oppé—who has been for thirty years the correspondent at Paris of the London Times, and resigned recently to leave his task to his son, died in Paris from apoplexy.

M. de Blowitz's family name was Oppé. He added to it "of Blowitz" because he was born at Blowitz, near Pilsen, Austria, Dec. 28, 1832. His mother was of French descent. He traveled in Europe and obtained from M. de Falloux, French Minister of Public Education, a place as German teacher at the Lycee of Tours.

There he studied foreign politics and wrote essays for the newspapers. He taught German at Limoges, Poitiers and Marseilles. He attracted by his newspaper work the attention of Thiers, the historian, who defended him against prosecution for an attack on Ferdinand de Lesseps about his lavishness at Suez. When France was defeated by the German states Blowitz caused himself to be naturalized a Frenchman.

He said, "I want to naturalize myself defeated." He went to Versailles to obtain from Thiers an interview in July, 1871, while Paris was fortified against the French government at Versailles. That interview, telegraphed to the London Times, obtained for Blowitz the post of its correspondent. It was difficult and he made in it bitter enemies. But he was in the confidence of diplomats, statesmen, rulers.

He sent the Berlin treaty, before it was signed, to the London Times. He interviewed the Pope, Count de Chambord, Gambetta, Bismarck, Alfonso XII, the Sultan, Count de Paris, the King of Roumania. He wrote four books on political affairs. He was an officer of the Legion of Honor and of the Institute of France.

The London Times printed a six-column memoir of M. de Blowitz, who, it is said, created during his life a new position in international life in Europe, which he filled brilliantly for nearly thirty years, and which with his disappearance will probably also disappear.

REMAINS OF A WONDERFUL DEER.

This wonderful little deer, whose height at the shoulder was five and a half inches, it has recently been discovered, lived in New York State long before the recollection of living man, and probably played in the same woods that the giant mastodon strode through.

Whether he was the representative of a pigmy race, long extinct, or was a single dwarf, it is impossible to determine, but as he grew to maturity the former is more likely. The foot and leg shown in the illustration were found in a newly plowed field near Troy, Kensselaer county.

The epiphyses, or ends of the bones, are firmly united by osseous tissue to the shaft, showing that the leg belonged to an adult deer and not to an immature product.

This little fellow could have been placed without discomfort in a capacious pocket and would have found a determined chipmunk a formidable foe.

She Knew the Method.

The country editor had turned the personal column over to his daughter temporarily, while politics claimed his attention.

The daughter had studied country editorial methods to some advantage, and the following items appeared:

"Tom Jones called last evening with a two-pound box of candy. Call again, Tom."

"Harry Mason was around with his trotter and sidebar buggy last week. Don't forget the number, Harry."

"George Brown's billboard is said to be good for two seats for anything that comes. We always like to see George on show nights."

"Miss Mary Martin, the milliner, has a magnificent display of the latest styles in her show window. How much is this good for, Mary?"

For the Benefit of the Blind.

One of the interesting features of the Library of Congress is the department for the blind, where books and special accommodations are furnished. At frequent intervals readings, recitations and music are given by prominent society folk for the benefit of the blind who visit the library. Prominent men and women take pleasure in setting aside a portion of their time to read to the afflicted or to entertain them, and it is considered quite an honor to receive an invitation from the librarian.

Two Brands of Familiarity.

"Your face seems very familiar to me," remarked the man with the red necktie as he slapped the stranger on the back.

"Indeed," replied the stranger. "Now, it's your manner that seems familiar to me."—Philadelphia Record.

