

WASTED BY FLOOD

Vast Area in Mississippi Valley Under Water.

MANY PLANTATIONS RUINED

Renewed Rain Storms Swell the Raging River and Convert Valleys into Huge Lakes—Leaves Hold Good by Constant Work.

NATCHEZ, Miss., March 14.—There were a few rays of sunshine today, but they were preceded and followed by light showers that only aggravated the situation and intensified the feeling of gloom which pervades this section.

The reports from nearly all sections of the territory tributary to Natchez are of a more discouraging nature. The river end of Jefferson County for a distance of 30 miles and extending inland more than nine miles is covered with water, but, despite this, the Natchez gauge rose 25 and is now 25 feet above the danger line. Gloomy reports come from the back part of Concordia Parish, opposite this (Adams) County, where the cultivated lands along the Little and Black Rivers are being flooded by water out of the Red and Quatchie Rivers, and hundreds of acres of unpicked cotton are being submerged. Black River from South Bend is running over its banks.

Officials of the Natchez, Red River & Texas Railroad announce today that they must close the levee near Black River Station, La., and move their terminal back several hundred yards, from which point they will transfer freight by boat to Jonesville and Trinity.

Sycamore levee can stand about 2 1/2 feet more, but the water is backing in from the river at a heavy rate. It is expected that some of the levees will not be high enough to stand the rise that is coming. All the lowlands from Vicksburg to Bayou Sara are under water, and some of the finest plantations around the delta are flooded.

Even if the levees should hold, the damage already incurred will amount to many millions of dollars.

WILL PASS ITS HIGHEST.

River Up to Mark of 1897 and Still Rising.

MEMPHIS, March 14.—The stage of the river at 6 o'clock is 72.3 feet, a stage equal to the maximum of the flood of 1897, when such widespread damage was done throughout the delta. The rise since 6 o'clock this morning has been half a foot. The maximum of the present rise is expected to reach here about Wednesday, and officials of the Weather Bureau say they anticipate about 30 feet.

All levees in this vicinity are reported to be holding. There is grave apprehension, however, for the safety of the country beyond the levees. One of the greatest causes of fear is anxiety that the levees may be cut by some person who would be benefited thereby.

CLOUDBURST AT NEW ORLEANS.

Levees Are Holding, but City Suffers Deluge of Rain.

NEW ORLEANS, March 14.—Though New Orleans experienced the most terrific rainfall in many years, the river tonight is at the same stage as in the early morning. In fact, there is a slight subsidence of six years ago. During the record of the work of mending weak spots in the levee along both sides of the river continued, and hundreds of sand sacks were placed in position, but the unusual precipitation, amounting almost to a cloudburst, suspended operations for a time. All the embankments resisted the double strain, however, and tonight discloses no material change in conditions. No break in the river had been reported when darkness fell.

The engineering authorities continue optimistic, but it will not be surprising if nothing develops about the city before the

HOME IN TRIUMPH

Chamberlain Returns From South Africa.

RECEIVES A JOYOUS WELCOME

Southampton Cheers, Blows Whistles and Waves Bunting for Him—South Africa Loyal, but Firm Policy Needed to Keep It So.

LONDON, March 14.—"Southampton welcomes home Britain's empire statesman," in huge letters surrounded and inter-

twined with Union Jacks and Stars and Stripes, was the motto that first greeted the Chamberlain family on their arrival at Southampton today from South Africa. The travelers had a magnificent greeting. The quays were elaborately decorated, the ships were cheering and the blowing of whistles and sirens greeted the liner Norman as she passed up Southampton water with Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain, accompanied by Lord Selborne, First Lord of the Admiralty, standing on the promenade deck.

As soon as the steamer was warped to her dock Mr. Chamberlain's family went on board the Norman. They were shortly followed by the Mayor and members of the corporation of Southampton, who welcomed the travelers. The Mayor's daughter then handed a bouquet to Mrs. Chamberlain and a procession was formed, with the Mayor and Mrs. Chamberlain leading, and Mr. Chamberlain and the Mayor's daughter coming after them and walking through cheering crowds to the reception hall. Mr. Chamberlain was bronzed, but he looked very happy and appeared to be in good health. He showed evident pleasure at the heartiness of the welcome. The party then entered carriages and drove through the thronged and decorated streets to Harley Hall, the scene of so many previous functions connected with the South African War.

There an address of welcome was presented to Mr. Chamberlain, who, in the course of his reply, warned the country not to overestimate the results he had actually achieved. He was hopeful and even confident that the Dutch of South Africa would hereafter loyally take their place as members of the empire to which they now belong, but it could not be expected that the long record of vacillation and weakness which led to the war would be wiped out in the twinkling of an eye.

Subsequently Mr. Chamberlain and his party took a train to London, where a large crowd awaited their arrival. Premier Balfour and practically the whole Cabinet were present at Waterloo railway station to meet Mr. Chamberlain. The greetings which he received were everywhere most cordial.

Mrs. Chamberlain came in for a full share of the welcome. Special cars were given for her and in the greeting of the deputation from Birmingham, which went out to meet the Norman in the Solent, she was especially mentioned. Referring to the course of his reply to the Birmingham delegation, Mr. Chamberlain said:

"I thank you very much for including, as indeed you should, the name of my wife. It is, indeed, true that her companionship has been of the greatest help to me. In fact, I hardly know how I could have gotten through with the task I undertook but for her co-operation."

GERMAN DEBATE LOTTERY.

Large Source of Revenue for Prussia and Other States.

BERLIN, March 14.—The Prussian Diet was engaged in a solemn debate this week over the addition of another class to the state lottery, proposed by Finance Minister von Rheinbaben, who explained the intricacies and mathematical proportions involved in Prussia's great gambling institution that yields the state something like \$2,000,000 a year. All the speakers opposed lotteries in principle, but only one advocated the abolition of the state lottery.

Lotteries have a definite place in the financial systems of most of the German states, and the Finance Minister observed if Prussia abandoned her lottery the Prussians would spend just as much money on the lotteries of other states. It is estimated that the various states take in \$2,500,000 in this way. Abundant literature is circulated, affirming that it is not only morally proper for a man to invest in a lottery, but that it is his duty not to omit any chance to provide for his family.

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NOT FOR C. E. S. WOOD

Governor Would Not Appoint Him Senator.

JAS. H. RALEY WOULD GET TOGA

Senator Mitchell's Serious Illness Arouses Speculation—How the Politicians Regard Appointments of Daly and Dresser.

Oregon politicians are very much interested in the state of Senator Mitchell's health. Many suspect that the Senator is

needed to elect, it would be forthcoming. In due time the vote came for Corvallis, last night. Then he added: "You can depend on that."

Mr. Daly had been questioned about what he would do when he took the office of Surveyor-General of Oregon, for which he has been nominated by the President on recommendation of the Oregon delegation at Washington.

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INQUEST ON BURDICK

Effort to Solve Buffalo Murder Mystery.

SUICIDE WAS SUGGESTED

Dr. Marcy Offered That Explanation, but It Was Scouted—Mrs. Hull Makes Cool Witness and Foils Efforts to Break Her Down.

BUFFALO, March 14.—Four witnesses were examined today at the opening of the inquest into the death of Edwin L. Burdick. They were Dr. Howland, expert medical examiner, who was one of the first three to see the body of Burdick on the morning after the murder; Detective Holmquist, one of the headquarters men, who visited the house on the same morning as the murder; Maria Hull, Burdick's mother-in-law; and Margie Murray, cook in the Burdick household, the two women who discovered Burdick lying dead in his den. The other witnesses, whose names had been mentioned during the investigation, including Mrs. Burdick, Mrs. Paine, Katie Koenig, a maid in Burdick's home, and Mrs. Romance, Mrs. Arthur R. Penwell's maid, were in the courtroom, but they were not called upon to testify. The Burdick family was well represented by counsel. Attorney Coatsworth conducted the examination.

The most interesting witness of the day was Mrs. Hull. She is a little woman with a nervous but resolute face, blue eyes and gray hair. She was dressed in black and wore a long mourning veil fastened well back from her forehead. Although she is 64 years old, she stood two hours, severe examination by Mr. Coatsworth with remarkable coolness. Her answers were given in a calm tone, excepting now and then when her voice took on a peculiar ring. She took smelling salts occasionally, but never became confused.

Attempt to Set Up Suicide Theory.

Dr. Howland, assistant medical examiner, was the first witness. He handed to Judge Murphy the report of the medical examination on the death of Burdick, which stated the cause of the death.

"Under the law we are compelled to hold this inquest," said Judge Murphy. "We charge no one with this crime. The purpose of this investigation is to lay this crime, if possible, at the door of some one."

Dr. Howland was examined by District Attorney Coatsworth. He said he had been summoned to the Burdick home by telephone on the morning of February 27. Dr. W. H. Marcy met him at the door and told him "that something had been going on there, and that Mr. Burdick was dead."

"I am not sure," continued Dr. Howland, "but I think he had been shot. I am certain whether it was murder or suicide. He asked me to make it out as a case of suicide if possible, as there had been a good deal of gossip in the neighborhood respecting the relations existing between Mr. and Mrs. Burdick."

The witness said he then examined the body, and told Dr. Marcy that it was impossible to entertain the suicide theory for a minute. Asked as to what further conversation he had with Dr. Marcy, the witness said Dr. Marcy told him of the proceedings in the Burdick family.

Dr. Howland repeated the conversation he had with Mrs. Hull as to the finding of the body of Burdick, the finding of a window open, the fact that there were no tracks in the snow outside the window, and the finding of the open drawer.

Another thing, the witness said Dr. Marcy told him was that he found the window curtains in the den drawn, being unable to raise them, and that he found them down. He also told him that a quilt had been wrapped three times about the head of the murdered man, said Dr. Howland, and that he had found a pool of blood on the floor.

Mr. Coatsworth brought out the fact that Burdick's body had been moved by the murderer after the crime had been committed. The witness saw no weapon in the room.

Was Killed on the Couch.

"What was your conclusion as to whether Burdick was killed in the den?" "I think he was."

"Do you think he was killed on the couch?" "I think he was on the couch."

"When he was killed, was he lying on the couch in the position in which you found the body?"

"Judging from the location of the wounds, he must have been lying in some other position at the time he was struck."

Dr. Howland stated that he found a tuft of hair on the couch. He was of the opinion that it was longer than Burdick's hair.

Dr. Howland stated that from the condition of the body he was of the opinion that Burdick was killed about 2 o'clock. This is regarded as important, as it would tend to nullify the statements made to the District Attorney by Officers Meyer and Holt, regarding the "Jenny woman." In reply to another question, an affirmative answer to which would have shown that a woman had been in the room, the doctor gave a negative reply.

Detective Holmquist described the scenes in the den, and related the conversation he had with one of the maids. The witness also had a talk with Dr. Marcy. The doctor, he said, gave him the impression that he wanted the matter kept secret.

Mrs. Hull, mother of Mrs. Burdick, was the next witness. She said that her daughter was at Atlantic City on the night of the murder. Mrs. Burdick was last home on December 3, of last year, and left on that date for Niagara Falls, from where she went to New York. After the murder the witness telegraphed her daughter as follows:

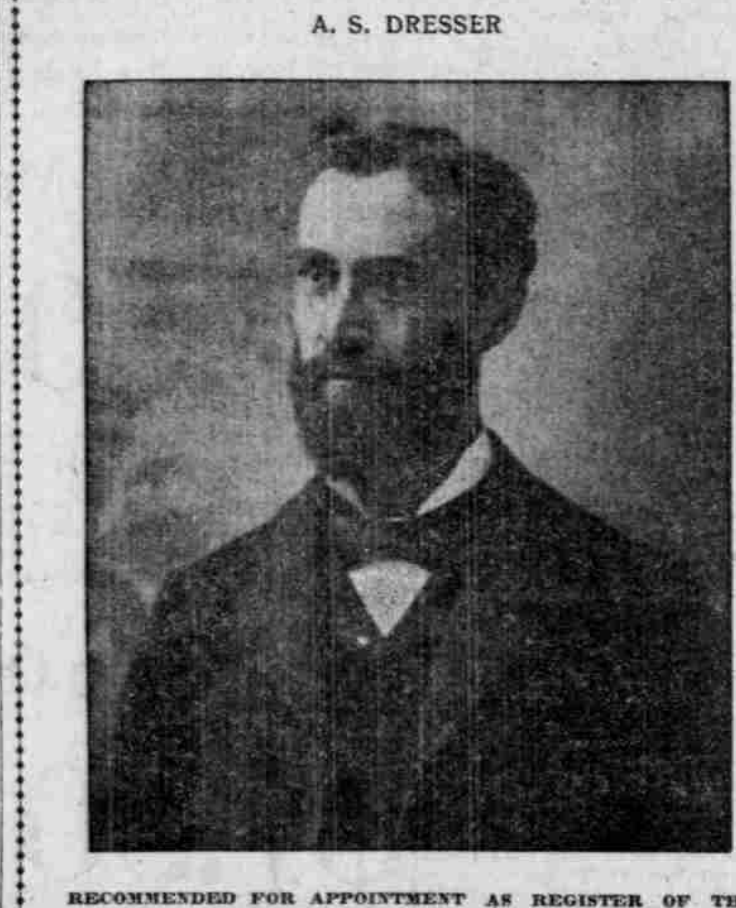
"Come home, Mr. Burdick is dead."

Mother-in-Law's Story.

Mrs. Hull said that Burdick came into the dining-room on Thursday evening (the night of the murder). He had a bottle in his hand. She did not know what it contained, nor did she see it again. She thought it strange that it had disappeared. Burdick and his daughter, Marion, were in her room about 7:30. They talked about the message from Mrs. Burdick. She did not see Burdick again that night, but heard him talking with his eldest daughter, whom he flattered early. She did not leave her room again that night after putting the children to bed about 9:30. She got up the next morning at her usual hour, 7:30, without being called. The Murray girl called to her that the front door was open, and that the kitchen window was open, and that she had called to Mr. Burdick and got no answer.

When she went to the den, she said she opened the door a little way and called, "Ed, Ed, Ed." She saw something on the couch. It was dark there. She saw the Murray girl in the hall and said: "Margie, I fear that something happened. I do not dare go in there. Do you? What shall we do?"

(Continued on Page 11.)



A. S. DRESSER

RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT AS REGISTER OF THE OREGON CITY LAND OFFICE.



BISHOP MORELAND, OF SACRAMENTO, WHO PLAYS TENNIS.

Charges have been preferred against the Right Rev. William H. Moreland, missionary bishop of Sacramento, and he must undergo an official investigation in San Francisco April 22 to determine whether he must submit to trial by a bench of seven Episcopal bishops.

The charges include falsification of records, failure to reside in his district, and misapplication of funds given to his district by the Woman's Auxiliary. He is said to have administered baptism in a private house in Vallejo without the necessity of so doing, and the rites of confirmation and communion to persons in open schism. He is also charged with conduct unbecoming to a bishop in failing to heed the Holy Scriptures, to have caused revolts in the church, to have made reckless and misleading statements, to have denied receiving a fee which was paid him, and, last but not least, to have been guilty of playing tennis.

Not giving out information of his true condition. If the Senator is mortally sick, not even his closest friends know it. In his letters to his political friends he has said that he has no "organic trouble" and that he will be abroad again in a few days. But there is no denying that the Senator has been a very sick man.

Gossips have been speculating about the succession to the Senatorship, should the appointment of a new Senator fall to Governor Chamberlain. It is known beyond any doubt that the Governor would not appoint C. E. S. Wood, who was nominated according to the days law, in the Democratic convention last year. The Governor is reported to have said to one of his close political brethren, who asked whether Mr. Wood might be honored with the Senator's toga: