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PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 26, 1908.

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HALF THOUSAND KILLED IN SOUTH

Tornadoes Cut Swath Across Country.

LOSS MOUNTS INTO MILLIONS

From Texas to Georgia Is Path of Destruction.

NO ROOF TO COVER PEOPLE

Utter Misery at Purvis, Which Once Boasted 2500 People—Lumber Is Reduced to Toothpicks.

habitants which this little town boasted yesterday morning, there were only 900 today, still there were not sufficient accommodations in the wrecked village for even the wounded. Negro mummies and little black children lay wounded and helpless under the broiling Southern sun. Some had broken bones, some were partly crushed and others had been wounded by sticks and splinters. These unfortunates were lousy if they had a blanket or a wrecked couch to rest upon.

There was not enough shelter in the town to protect them from the sun and many of the walls which remained standing had no roofs, and by a queer freak of the tornado many of the trees which had not been uprooted had been snapped off a few feet above the ground. The grove of pines was mutilated in such a manner that it appeared as if a gigantic scythe had swept through the grove about 25 feet above the ground.

Most of People Refugees.

The greater part of Purvis' population today were refugees in Hattiesburg and Lumberton, Miss., about 150 of them being badly injured. Of those who remained in town, many appeared distracted, and they told remarkable stories of the number of their fellow-townsmen who had been killed. Many hurried funerals were held today had a count of the visible dead revealed only 24, about half of them negroes. Many negroes were reported killed in the vicinity of Purvis.

Contents Today's Paper

Table listing various news items and their page numbers, including 'The Weather', 'Foreign', 'National', 'Politics', 'Sports', 'Commercial and Marine', and 'Relief Work a Fiasco'.

PILES' CRITICISM ANGERS ALDRICH

Senator's Ire Aroused About Warships.

SNAP JUDGMENT IS RESENTED

Four Battleships Voted Down, Then Reconsidered.

PRESIDENT NOT QUOTED

Washington Senator Accused of Attributing Remark to President That Executive Session Would Vote for Increased Navy.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—Another day spent by the Senate in considering the amendment to the naval appropriation bill, but a vote was not reached at the close of the discussion, which was participated in by a dozen Senators. Hale secured an agreement for a vote before adjournment on Monday.

A canvass of the Senate made during the day indicated that the four-ship program will be defeated and that the debate has changed several votes. Much of the discussion today was devoted to the improbability of war being forced upon the United States. Beveridge and Piles were sharply criticized by Aldrich, Perkins and McCumber for their statements of yesterday, and several heated colloquies occurred. Beveridge will reply on Monday.

Piles Objects to Snap Judgment.

When the naval bill came up the Piles' amendment for four battleships was the pending business. No one appearing to discuss the provision, a viva voce vote was taken which resulted in its defeat. Piles, who was in the chamber when the vote was taken, but soon returned, and when he was advised of what had occurred, said he had been called out and did not think it was fair to have his amendment voted down in that way.

Hale promptly disavowed any purpose to obtain party action and asked that by unanimous consent the vote be considered as not having been taken.

Cuberson moved an amendment requiring contractors constructing battleships to work their men but eight hours a day.

Aldrich Rebukes Opponents. Aldrich regretted that such statements as those of Beveridge and Piles made yesterday should have found utterance in the Senate.

"In my opinion," he said, "those Senators had no authority whatever to speak for the President of the United States, as, for instance, when the Senator from Indiana said if this amendment should be considered in executive session it would receive the unanimous vote of the Senate."

Aldrich plainly indicated that there were facts known to him, and perhaps to other people, that would "lead this Senate to an opposite conclusion, and that expression seems to me not to have been justified."

Beveridge Did Not Say It.

Beveridge protested that he was not quoted correctly and Hale interrupted to say Beveridge did say that if this matter could be discussed in executive session, there would be no doubt that four ships would be ordered.

Relief Work a Fiasco

Chelsea Fire Suffers Suffer From Too Much Red Tape.

petency on the part of those in charge of certain phases of the work. Endless red tape retards relief of the needy and worthy and at the same time affords opportunity to the unscrupulous impostors and refugees without any respect to obtain supplies and aid to which they are not entitled and do not need.

A lengthy card investigation system, coupled with careless work in handling cases, delivery of supplies, etc., is responsible for much of the trouble. More than 5000 people are now being supplied with food and household goods as rapidly as possible. The present system has become such an annoyance, however, that many private workers and powerful people have withdrawn from the relief company to carry on the work more expeditiously alone.

The fault lies with the association charities, who proceeded to "declare themselves" in on the relief work, and having been taken in, proceeded to in-



Colonel S. W. Roessler, United States Engineer, to Remain in Portland Till July.

stitute a "system" which has proven anything but a system. On the contrary, it has proven to be "chaos."

LINER SMASHES CRUISER

ST. PAUL RUNS DOWN BRITISH WARSHIP GLADIATOR.

Three Bodies Recovered From the Cruiser and Only Few More Lost. Snow Storm Causes Collision.

SOUTHAMPTON, April 25.—The American line steamer St. Paul, which left Southampton on her regular voyage bound for New York, this afternoon, in a dense snow storm rammed and destroyed the British second-class cruiser Gladiator off the Isle of Wight.

The first reports stated that from 30 to 20 of the Gladiator's crew had been drowned, but later intelligence reduces the number of casualties. The exact extent of the disaster, however, cannot be accurately known until tomorrow.

No one on the St. Paul was killed or injured, but the bodies of Steward Widger, Writer Cowdry and a Maltese steward, Debras, all attached to the cruiser, have been brought ashore; one officer, Lieutenant William G. Praves, who attempted to swim to land, is missing, and eight injured have been taken to the military hospital at Golden Hill for treatment. It is believed only a few others are unaccounted for.

The Gladiator was beached and her crew took to the boats. She is one of the class of vessels designed to serve as ram. She is 320 feet long, has a speed of 30 knots and carries a complement of 450 men.

EVANS TO TAKE COMMAND

Will Hoist Flag Again on Connecticut Next Thursday.

SANTA BARBARA, April 25.—Rear-Admiral Thomas, at present commanding the Atlantic battleship fleet, received a telegram tonight from Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans, at Paso Robles Hot Springs, saying that the latter would return to the fleet and again hoist his flag on the Connecticut as commander-in-chief when the ships reach Monterey, on Thursday evening, April 30.

Railroads Contribute \$2000. SEATTLE, April 25.—The reception of the fleet committee was notified today that the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific had each contributed \$1000 to the fund for entertaining the Atlantic battleship fleet when it arrives in Seattle, May 23. The notification of the donation came from President Louis W. Hill and President Howard Elliott.

ALL JUMP INTO TAFT BANDWAGON

Leaders of Anti-Taft Allies Surrender.

CANNON ALONE STANDS OUT

Roosevelt Sure of 700 Votes on First Ballot.

OTHERS MAY DROP OUT

Conferences With Allies Bring Them Into Line and Stamp Success on Roosevelt's Bold Game of Politics.

DELEGATES SO FAR ELECTED.

Taft Figures on Republican National Convention to Date.

Table showing Taft figures on Republican National Convention to date, listing states and their respective delegates.

JOHNSON HINTED WINNER

"JOKER" FOUND IN ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

WASHINGTON, April 25.—(Special.)—An all-star aggregation now fills the Taft bandwagon. Leaders in Congress who up to within a few days have held back, practically conceding the leadership of Taft, but unwilling to give personal allegiance to the cause, are tumbling over themselves to get front seats. They have been trying to do it as quietly as possible. Formal announcements may be looked to as the next thing in order.

Senate Leaders in Line. Aldrich and Hale, of the Senate, two of the most powerful politicians in that body, have allied themselves with the Taft forces. They have not proclaimed it as yet from the hilltops, but at this moment they are bending their energies to strengthen the Taft movement in every quarter. They have with them practically all the Senate leaders who previously were with the "allies," and Senators of power in states which earlier in the season were reckoned as anti-Taft if the Senatorial power could control. Senator John Kean, of New Jersey, has come into camp. Senator Crane was among the most recent to give up the fight, but has finally capitulated. Senator Knox, who is a candidate for the nomination himself, is declared to be the only one of prominence among his colleagues who still sees hope of defeating the Secretary of War. He still believes that there is a chance for himself in the contest.

Even Cannon Wavering. Every House leader, with one exception, it was declared in a quarter extremely well advised as to every turn

of the card in the Presidential game—a quarter of the very highest political authority, in fact—concedes Mr. Taft's nomination and is for Mr. Taft. The single exception is "Uncle Joe" Cannon, and he is declared to be wavering. The Taft forces expect to number him among their own very shortly.

No Other Name Presented.

During the coming week 11 state conventions will be held, and these, with the developments that quietly have been taking place in Washington during the last few days, are expected to work toward speedy unanimity in the choice of the Republican leader for the approaching campaign. President Roosevelt, as far-seeing as any politician in the Nation, now looks ahead. It may be said, to a clear 700 votes for Mr. Taft at the start. Statisticians who stick close to conservative figures call it 500 now in eight. In the Roosevelt opinion, 500 is good for 700, because it's a majority of the convention. In short, it now appears to many as a case of the presentation of only one name at Chicago, and that the name of William Howard Taft.

What Made Allies Give Up.

The developments leading to the capitulation of the field marshals and lieutenants of the "allies" have come through a series of conferences, some of them public enough to have received attention in previous newspaper reports, but most of them conducted with the greatest secrecy. Some of the conferences have been between Taft managers and leaders of the opposition. Something has been told of them already. Far more important, however, have been the conferences in which no original Taft men participated. They have done the real business, the last of them of which there is knowledge having been held within 26 hours, while possibly and probably exclusive gatherings to round up matters have been held today or are in progress tonight.

Roosevelt's Bold Game Wins.

In the opinion of eminently shrewd political observers, two things have operated to bring about the concentration of various forces in favor of Mr. Taft: First—Mr. Taft's popular lead as the favorite among the crowd candidates for the nomination throughout the country. Second—The belief that, if Mr. Taft should not be nominated there would be a stampede to Mr. Roosevelt which nothing would be able to stay. Mr. Roosevelt is given credit for having played one of the shrewdest, one of the boldest games of politics in developing the situation to a point where the outcome of the Chicago convention now is practically assured that he ever been played in American political history.

JOHNSON HINTED WINNER

"JOKER" FOUND IN ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Excipients From Governor's Speech Thought to Be Practical Indorsement for Minnesota Man. CHICAGO, April 25.—(Special.)—Governor Johnson's Chicago managers today declared they had discovered a "joker" in the Illinois Democratic platform which was in effect a hint to the 54 National delegates to use "common sense" at Denver and get with the winner.

The hint is given in the paragraph immediately following the resolution on states' rights. The Johnson men produced a copy of the Governor's Shilloh speech and proved that the states' platform in the Illinois platform was a palpable paraphrase of the Governor's words on the same subject, spoken on the battlefield.

The claim was made that in copying Mr. Johnson's states' rights views, and then telling the delegates to nominate a winner, the platform is practically an indorsement of the Minnesota Governor, in spite of the emphatic Bryan instructions, which are contained in the last paragraph.

News of this discovery was spread abroad with diligence by Johnson supporters and among Bryan men it was received with some consternation. When the "joker" is studied by Millard F. Dunlap and the State Federation of Bryan Clubs, it may have the effect of reviving the rump-convention plan, although on the other hand the claims of the Johnson men may be regarded as too groundless for attention. The paragraph in which the Minnesota boomers see encouragement is in the middle of the platform, and reads as follows:

"We commend these thoughts to the attention of our delegates to the National Convention of the Democratic party, to an end."

(Concluded on Page 2.)

DENOUNCE TAFT FOR PRESIDENT

Machine Henchmen Take Wrong Cue.

RESENT ROOSEVELT DICTATION

Herrin Gang Gives Away Portion of the Leaders.

DELEGATES GO UNPLEGGED

Meeting in 37th District Becomes Enthusiastic When Taft and Roosevelt Policies Are Denounced. Commits Bad Strategy.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—(Special.)—The hand of the machine, which has been carefully concealed behind General George Stone's fatuous straw vote for Presidential candidates, was exposed last night at a meeting of the Eddie Wolfe-Arthur G. Flak "push" in the Thirty-seventh District.

Speeches were made at this meeting violently denouncing the candidacy of William H. Taft for the Presidency and at every repetition of the abuse the speakers were interrupted by vociferous applause. The Herrin "push" know that their master does not want Taft, but they forgot, in the heat of their enthusiasm, that their boss is using Taft's name as honey to catch unwary flies. So they cheered when Taft was denounced. It was bad political strategy, but very illuminating.

The burden of the speeches was that the speakers would be for Roosevelt if he would run again, but unfortunately, this was out of the question, so they objected to anybody who will carry out his policies. This, of course, is the Herrin and Herrin programme, but it has never before been shouted from the housetops.

"Roosevelt is a good man, but he can't dictate his successor to me," said General E. R. Saloman. "I'm too good a Republican. This handful of men here reminds me of the three tallors of Tooley street. The first time I voted was for John C. Fremont. I was a year too young, but I voted anyway. We did that sort of thing in those days. We don't want to indorse anybody." "We won't take any man who is thrust down our throats by Roosevelt," declared W. S. Williams. "Let our delegates go uninstruced."

PILES SECURES FORTUNE

Senator Comes Into Possession of Half of a \$1,000,000 Estate.

SEATTLE, April 25.—United States Senator Samuel Piles, of this city, yesterday was given possession of a one-half interest of the John Sullivan estate, valued approximately at \$1,000,000. This ended a litigation that has extended over a period of eight years and which has been prolific in having the history of the Sullivan family in Ireland well aired in the various courts of this state.

Eight years ago John Sullivan, a prominent citizen of Seattle, owner of one of the biggest business blocks in the city, and suburban and rural properties, died leaving no will. Claimants sprang from everywhere, although Sullivan had no relatives so far as known in this country.

Senator Piles, who was a friend of Sullivan, went to Ireland to investigate. Graves were examined, church records scanned, and finally the true relatives of Sullivan were located. They agreed to give Senator Piles one-half of the estate to defend it against the many litigants who were endeavoring to secure a slice of the valuable property. Edward Corcoran and Johanna Callahan, since deceased of Dublin, Ireland, were declared the rightful heirs. Senator Piles' law firm will also be rewarded as well as the Senator for bringing this fight, the most remarkable of its kind in this state, to an end.

HARRY MURPHY THROWS HUMOROUS SIDELIGHTS ON A FEW EVENTS OF THE WEEK

