



RIVERS ON RAMPAGE

Ruin and Disaster in Their Paths.

WATER IS STILL RISING

In the Pittsburg District Alone the Damage Expected to Amount to Several Millions.

CHARITABLE SOCIETIES BUSY

At 10 O'clock the River Had Reached 26 Feet and Rising Half a Foot Per Hour—Weather Bureau Predicts 30 Feet.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 15.—Spreading ruin and disaster in its path the annual flood of the rivers and small streams in this section holds Pittsburg and much of the surrounding country in its grasp tonight. At 10 o'clock the river reached 26 feet rising half a foot per hour. The weather bureau predicts that 30 feet by tomorrow and possibly a foot higher before the crest of the flood arrives late on Sunday afternoon. At the headwaters the rivers continue to rise and the adjacent scores of cities and towns of Western Pennsylvania, Eastern Ohio and West Virginia and partially inundated. In the Pittsburg district alone the damage is expected to amount to several million dollars. The record flood of last year, when the water reached a high of 36 feet caused damage estimated at ten million but sufficient warning was given this year to save much property. It is estimated that 20,000 men are thrown out of employment and coming just this time when the factories are resumed operations after a period of stagnation, much suffering will be the result. The charitable organizations are at work.

BUFFALO, Feb. 15.—Buffalo and Scajaquda Creek broke their banks late today and the low lying streets of South Buffalo are from two to five feet under water. The flood area is two square miles. Many points in Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania are under water.

EVANSVILLE, Feb. 15.—The Ohio continues to rise rapidly. The biggest flood in years is expected. The worst washouts of 20 years on the Evansville and Indianapolis railway have occurred.

WHEELING, W. Va., Feb. 15.—One thousand families were compelled to quit their homes and go to higher ground, on account of the flood. Hundreds of merchants in the wholesale and retail districts are moving out of the path of the rising waters. There is great sufferings.

READING, Pa., Feb. 15.—The flood of the Schuylkill reached a height tonight of nine feet above low water mark when the ice broke up without causing any damage after which the waters began to recede.

RECEIVER APPOINTED.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Receivers were appointed tonight for the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance Co., upon the application of a policyholders' committee.

TWO HUNDRED INSPECTORS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—The citizens' health committee has au-

thorized the employment of 200 inspectors to visit the business houses and residences of the city to enforce the observance of the sanitary laws. In all 750 inspectors have been engaged in this work. A clash occurred in Butchertown between the federal authorities and the owners of hog pens, the latter refusing the government physician's free hand in the campaign against rats. The federal authorities were determined that these places should be cleaned and gave the owners a reasonable time to clean up.

"IN GOD WE TRUST" ON COINS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Representative James, of Kentucky, appeared before the House committee on weights and measures today and made an argument in support of his bill to restore to the United States gold coins the words "In God We Trust." On leaving the committee room James said he had been assured that the bill would be reported favorably.

PRINTERS CUT 33 PER CENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The President approved the order reducing the price of composition in the government printing office from \$1.20 to 80 cents an hour for hand composition, and from \$1.80 a hour to 80 cents per thousand ems for machine composition.

FLOTILLA ARRIVES.

TALLICAHUANO, Chile, Feb. 15.—The American torpedo flotilla arrived today.

WILL DEFY THE LAW

Womens Suffrage Societies to Parade on Fifth Avenue

PARADES REQUIRE PERMITS

There is Some Nervousness at Police Headquarters for it is Feared that the Women May Follow Example of Their London Sisters.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The New York police stand a fair chance of having their first experience with the militant suffragists tomorrow when the Women's Suffrage Societies of the city plan to hold a parade on Fifth avenue, the line of march being from Union Square to Central Park. Although the law provides that parades shall not be held without permits from the police, and shall not be held at all on Sunday, the suffragists are planning to go on with their demonstration in spite of the law or the police. Women who are prominent in the movement state that there will be at least 10,000 women in line, although the police are inclined to doubt that there will be that many. It is pointed out that if the women wish to march quietly up the street without music or banners they may be allowed to proceed, but while no orders have been issued, it is said that the police department will prevent the use of banners and bands. There is some nervousness at police headquarters, for it is feared that the women may follow the example of their London sisters and refuse to obey the orders of the police, based on man law and resist to a point where physical force will be necessary to make them observe the regulations.

FOUR FIRES IN BUTTE.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 15.—As the result of four incendiary fires early yesterday morning in the residence section of South Butte an indignation meeting was held last night by the people of that portion of the city. The facts of the fire are too conclusive to admit of anything but incendiarism. One woman narrowly escaped burning to death. The loss was about \$5000.

INSIDE RATE TO SHIPPERS

Southern Pacific Railroad to be Prosecuted.

A LIST OF 108 FIRMS

Railroad Commission of California Requested a Transcript of Report and Evidence.

PREFERENTIAL RATES GRANTED

Franklin K. Lane of the Interstate Commerce Commissioner Made a Visit to Pacific Coast and Unearthed Existence of Extensive System.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Prosecutions are to be instituted by the government against the Southern Pacific Company and certain officials of that railway organization on the allegation they paid rebates to shippers. The evidence in the case was obtained by the Interstate Commerce Commissioner Franklin K. Lane upon his recent visit to the Pacific Coast. His report of the conditions were made public today, having been approved and referred to the department of justice for "Such prosecutions under the law as may be warranted."

At the request of the railroad commission of California that a transcript report and evidence be sent the commission which indicated its purpose to prosecute alleged violations of the California laws that may be shown by the report.

Commissioner Lane's report finds "The existence of an extensive system of preferential rates granted to certain shippers on interstate business by the Southern Pacific Co. The record discloses a list of 108 firms, corporations, and individuals, who enjoy special inside rates."

That the refund claims amounted in various months of the years 1906 and 1907 were from \$30,000 to \$50,000 per month; that one firm during the period from April, 1906, (the date of the San Francisco fire, when all previous records were destroyed), to September 23, 1907, took down \$23,994 and that the refunds for the same period for other shippers ranged from \$13,690 to \$22,251; that one shipper admitted that an allowance of such rebates influenced traffic over the rails of the Southern Pacific; that there existed for years an understanding between the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe and certain shippers of dried fruits were to receive a refund of one-half of the local state rate charged at the time of the original movement; that the voucher books show these transactions.

TRIBESMEN RAID A TOWN.

ROME, Feb. 15.—A long report has been received by the government concerning the raid on the town of Lugh, Italian Somoliland, by tribesmen on December last. It says the troubles had their origin in the Italian contingent rushing to the rescue of the native population and several British caravans which were being attacked by Abyssinians.

OPIUM MUST GO SAYS BUTTE.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 15.—The city officials of Butte have a determined campaign against the sale of opium, every Chinese merchant in the city to the number of twelve have been arrested on the charge of trafficking in the drug. The selling of opium

under the city ordinances is a misdemeanor. It is the intention of the city officials to clean out a score of opium dens existing in Butte's Celestial quarter, and more arrests are expected. All but two of the Chinamen taken into custody admit the sale of the drug.

INCREASE CUSTOM RECEIPTS. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—The records of Collector Hill, of the port of Philadelphia for the month of January show an increase of \$4,000,000 over those for the same month last year, indicating a revival of business. After the financial flurry business fell from an average of \$100,000 a day to as low as \$20,000 while the average has now reached \$80,000.

AGAINST REPEAL OF A LAW.

LEXINGTON, Feb. 15.—Kentucky horsemen will appeal to the New York legislature in behalf of horse racing. A committee of representatives of horsemen will go to Albany and appear before the legislature Wednesday and protest against the repeal of the Perry-Gray law affecting racing in New York.

CONVICTED OF MURDER.

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—Joseph Anderson, highwayman, was tonight convicted of the murder of Harry Logan, engineer, whom he killed while plying his profession as a highway robber. An appeal will be taken from the verdict of the jury.

ORGANIZATION COMPLETED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The organization was completed today of the building trades department of the American Federation of Labor.

TORNADO'S PATH

Cut a Wide Swath Several Miles Long.

SEVERAL PERSONS KILLED

The Towns of Soso and Service Were Partly Wrecked and it is Reported That Another Small Town, Epps, Was Badly Damaged.

MOSSVILLE, Miss., Feb. 15.—Four whole buildings and two halves of buildings are the only habitable abodes in this village today. The remainder of the structures were blown down and many of them swept outside the town by yesterday's tornado. Two old negroes, Alex Windham and his wife are dead and Edward Campbell, white, is probably fatally injured.

Of the dozen other persons painfully hurt at this place all are rapidly recovering. Reports reaching here from other towns in the tornado's path give not to exceed five other fatalities, only one of which has been confirmed.

The buildings left standing here are two residences, a cotton gin and a school house. The buildings which the storm cut in two are the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad depot and a residence.

The station master happened to be in the half of the depot which was left standing and was scarcely disturbed when the other half of his habitation went down in a heap and then flew away piecemeal. The inhabitants of Mossville claim that their village was scattered over at least four miles of territory, this statement being based on the identification of a hatchet picked up by a farmer four miles from here as part of the stock of the general store of the village. The contents of this store were scattered over at least half a mile of ground in the direction taken by the wind.

Sturdy oaks were uprooted in the main streets of the town. The tornado also cut a swath several miles long through the timber and almost every other obstruction on the face

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COLLISION AT TOLEDO

Seven Killed and Twelve Injured.

SIGNAL MISUNDERSTOOD

Big 4 Passenger Train Crashes Into a Toledo and Western Electric Car.

INVESTIGATION TO BE HELD

When the Electric Car Reached the Michigan Central Crossing Just West of Toledo, the Big Four Passenger Bore Down Upon Them.

TOLEDO, Feb. 15.—Seven killed and a dozen were injured when a Big Four passenger train struck a Toledo & Western electric car at the Michigan Central crossing just west of Toledo tonight. A misunderstanding of the signals was the cause which will be investigated.

AUTOMOBILE RACE ENTRIES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The entries for the automobile race at Ormond will close today at the rooms of the Automobile Club of America, which, this year, is in charge of the events. Eleven cars had been entered last night and more are expected today. Among the cars entered are several very speedy ones and it is expected that some fast time will be made and that in all probability records will be broken. Among those entering cars are E. R. Thomas, who purchased the car which Elliot F. Shepard drove in the last Vanderbilt Cup race; W. Gould Broker, who will drive a car which he used in Europe last year; E. P. Blakeley, who will drive the car which won the Minneapolis 100 mile championship race last year; R. C. Kelsey and others.

ETRUSCAN ANTIQUITIES.

ROME, Feb. 15.—The Italian Government has decided to buy the rich Barberine Collection of Etruscan antiquities which recently was bought by Signor Volpi who offered to give the Government two-fifths of the whole collection if it would permit him to sell the remainder at public auction with the right of exportation. The collection contains bronzes, ancient jewelry, ivories, precious stones and rich carvings. It is valued at millions of dollars.

MEN HAVE NARROW ESCAPE.

GRASS VALLEY, Cal., Feb. 15.—Twenty-five men narrowly escaped being suffocated today in the Brunswick mine near here. A fire, coupled with dense smoke and generated gases, overcame the men who were removed with difficulty. A number of those hoisted to the surface were unconscious. William Bawden, the hero of the camp, tonight made seven trips through the heavy smoke and assisted in bringing every man out.

ITALIAN BOMB MAKER.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—In the person of Vincenzo Calderone, who was arrested last night, the members of the Italian detective squad believes they have captured the man who made the bombs used in many, if not all the recent "black hand" outrages in New York. Calderone was formerly a manufacturer of fireworks at Maspeth, L. I. but four years ago his little factory was blown up, his wife

was killed and he himself was badly injured. He was unable to continue his work as a manufacturer and therefore came to New York and went into the business of peddling fruit. He roomed in a tenement house in Elizabeth Street and was not suspected until a short time ago. Then four of the Italian detective squad at headquarters who were detailed to discover the perpetrators of a bomb outrage through which the front windows of an Italian bank in which \$40,000 in money was exposed, were blown out.

CITRUS SHIPMENTS HEAVY.

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—Citrus shipments are surprisingly heavy and the great crop of Southern California is bringing unusual prices to the growers. The harvest to date surpasses that of last year for the same time by 1050 carloads and only a fifth of the total crop has been picked. The particular surprise to the citrus world is a gain in lemon shipments which already exceed last year's to date by 300 carloads and will aggregate this year 7000 carloads against 5000, the most ever grown heretofore.

HEAVY MAIL.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Saint Valentine made business at the Chicago postoffice so heavy this year that it was announced yesterday the record had been broken. For the preceding 24 hours 2,696,642 pieces of mail had been handled. This exceeded the high record of December 31 last, when 2,613,837 letters and packages were handled.

CAPITAL AND LABOR

Taft's Theme at a Gathering in Hartford.

ENDORSED BIGGER ISSUES

If Capital Finds it Advisable to Organize That Labor Had an Equal Right to do the Same, But That Violators be Punished.

HARTFORD, Feb. 15.—Secretary Taft made two addresses in this city this evening. At both gatherings he received a rousing welcome. Taft endorsed all the bigger issues of McKinley and Roosevelt administrations including expansion on which he spoke at length. After he discussed quite emphatically the relations of capital and labor stating that if capital found it advisable to organize that labor had an equal right to do the same but that violations of labor be punished just as severely and as certainly as misdoings of capital.

IRISH ACTORS HERE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Several members of the Irish National Theatre Company of Dublin arrived in New York yesterday and next week will begin presenting a series of Irish one act plays at the Savoy Theatre, their performance preceding that of "Twenty Days in the Shade," a comedy which is now running there. The company is supported by the Irish National Theatre Society which has the backing of those who are working for a revival of Irish literature. The plays which the company present are largely from the pen of Wm. Butler Yeats and most of them are in act form. The first one to be given in New York will be "A Port of Broth," a one act comedy.

SECOND DEGREE OF MURDER.

THE DALLES, Ore., Feb. 15.—Guilty of murder in the second degree was the verdict tonight by the jury in the Bonomi Gosson murder case. Gosson killed Bonomi during last summer.