EMIGRATION DAMAGES ITALIAN INDUSTRIES

Southern Provinces Threatened With Depopulation as Result of Rush to America—Needed to Help Grow Crops at Home.

By Antonio Mangano.
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The story is told of a trip made by the late Prime Minister Zanardelli through one of the Italian provinces where emigration had begun to be a menace to the community. The mayor and chief men of one town met the minister at the station and escorted him in state to the central square, where, before a platform gorgeously decorated in red, white and green of Italy, waited a motley throng. Looking down on those poor, half-starved, ill-clad peasants, the prime minister listened to an elaborately prepared address of welcome, read by the mayor: "I welcome you in the name of 5,000 inhabitants of this town, 3,000 of whom are in America and the other 2,000 preparing to go."

An extreme instance, do you say? Yes, yet this is the phase of our immigration question which strikes home to Italy, and vital as the question of Italian migration is to us, it concerns Italy vastly more. I have spent several months traveling through Italy, riding through the country and seeking out the villages and hamlets where tourists rarely go. It is from these villages that emigration is largest, it is here that the effect of the enormous annual exodus of Italian workmen is most evident.

In their official reports the Italians group their emigrants in two classes, temporary and permanent. To the first class belong all those who leave the country annually during the working season—from May to October—and those who leave for a definite period of time and who, with few exceptions, return to Italy. In general the members of this temporary class go from the northern provinces—Piedmont, Lombardy, Venetia, Emilia, Tuscany. The north of Italy is a great plain containing the most fertile and productive land in the country.

Northern Peasants.

The northern peasants are taller, healthier and better fed and clothed than those of the southern provinces. The thousands who leave their home each year generally return when the working season is over, and spend their earnings in their native land. They are still loyal Italian citizens and their money adds to the prosperity of this region.

In the early days emigration was mainly limited to the provinces of the north. From the south there were but few who emigrated prior to 1885, unless the Basilicata be excepted. While a goodly number from the southern provinces may be found in South America and in Africa, there being a flourishing colony of 75,000 Italians in Tunis, by far the vast majority find their way to the United States.

The Italian government reports emigration is divided into two classes, those who cross the ocean and almost as a whole now come to the United States, and those who find their way to the countries of Europe and to countries bordering on the Mediterranean. During the year 1906, of the northern provinces, Piedmont furnished 72,190 emigrants, but only 33,385 crossed the ocean. Lombardy gave a total of 63,632 in the same year, but only 20,046 came to America, and of 104,885 emigrants from Venice, only the insignificant number of 16,000 crossed the ocean.

The southern districts tell a very different story. The Abruzzi and Molise give as the total number of emigrants, 58,032, only 6,030, of whom remained on the other side of the ocean; while Sicily shows 127,603 emigrants for the same year, 121,669 coming to our shores. The three provinces of Calabria during the same period sent forth 57,084 emigrants, and all but 1,507 crossed the Atlantic. But it is in the Basilicata which is today under greatest stress owing to the loss of nearly all its able-bodied men. From this province alone, in 1906, went 18,093 emigrants and all save 310 came to America.

Class of Immigrants.

Of more importance to the American are these foreigners who land at our ports and remain here permanently in the proportion of two out of three. The provinces from which they come are the Abruzzi, east of Rome; Bari, east, but farther south; Avellino and Basilicata, in the central and southern part; and Calabria, comprising the three provinces of Cozenza, Catanzaro and Reggio joining the extreme southern part of the peninsula and the island of Sicily. To this second, or permanent, class of immigrants belong those who absent themselves from their own country for a long period of time or settle permanently in foreign lands.

Nature has not been kind to man in these southern provinces; the lofty range of the Appenines is picturesque and magnificent in its snow-capped grandeur, but the rocky sides are useless to the farmer and yield nothing even as herbage for flocks. Most of the vineyards and orchards are on the hillsides, and where the slope is very steep the peasants have built platforms of earth, 12 or 15 feet wide, supported by thick stone walls, six or eight feet high. Flights of stone steps lead from one terrace to another. Here are fig trees, pomegranates and citron and entire hillsides covered with the silvery gray foliage of the olive. Where there are no orchards or vineyards, there are vegetables and these are often planted between rows of vines or trees so that every available inch of ground is used. The pitiful fact is, however, that even with so much hard work the soil produces only food enough to scantily feed the increasing number of inhabitants, and wages are only 30 cents a day for a man, and less for women and boys.

An American is a marked man in southern Italy. Especially did I find this true in the out-of-the-way towns where tourists never go. The people quickly collect in a group and follow the stranger eager to ask questions about America, which seems to them almost an enchanted country.

Leave by Hundreds.

In the province of Bari, as I entered the town of Altamura, I saw a great throng of people. Upon inquiry I was told that they had been to the station to bid goodbye to 120 of their townsmen who had just left for America. Three weeks later, in Gravina, 200 emigrants were accompanied to the station by nearly half the population of the town. These towns have only recently caught the migrating fever. In 1900 and 1901, Altamura sent us 25 and 36 and Gravina 25 and 96 respectively.

In Naples, I had been only a day at the hotel when the head waiter, a very capable man who speaks fluently English, French and German, as well as Italian, introduced himself to me and asked if I thought he could find work in America.

The concierge or head clerk of this same hotel, a man speaking several languages, told me he was planning to go to America. A week later, the little Calabrian elevator boy asked me if I would help him to get work in America.

Everywhere I went I met with requests for letters of introduction for prospective emigrants. There was talk of America constantly in the trains, on the road, in the towns. I invariably met people who had been to America, or had friends or relatives here. Every train from the south which comes into Naples brings the familiar Italian emigrant. In the southern towns it is no uncommon thing to hear English spoken. In Sala, a town of the Abruzzi, there were about 25 men who had been to America and settled in Astoria, Long Island, and who expected to return in the spring. In Toritto I found young men, sons of emigrants, who could not speak Italian, but could speak excellent English. In a streetcar in Naples I watched with curiosity a conductor who had a book in his hands and, between collecting fares, seemed to be studying. To my amazement I found that it was an Italian-English grammar and reading book. He was preparing himself to go to America.

Subjects Increase.

In spite of the vast numbers that have left Italy during the last 20 years, 4,000,000 of whom have become a permanent element in foreign countries, the number of Victor Emmanuel's subjects has not diminished, but has on the contrary increased. Italy has an annual increase of births over deaths of 350,000 and in 1897 it rose to 406,000. This little peninsula with an area of 110,623 square miles, has a population of 32,449,754, or 293 people to a square mile, as against France with 189 and the United States with only 21. Overpopulation in districts difficult of cultivation, heavy taxation, fearfully low wages and proportionately high rents have combined to keep the people poor and living conditions little better than during the middle ages, and at last have compelled those who could not make even the poorest kind of a living at home to go elsewhere, usually to America. Emigrants, few in number at first, succeeded so well that others have followed until now the government, patriotic citizens and great landholders are all deeply concerned about the departure of so many able-bodied workers.

To put it another way—considering the small area of the country, together with the fact that one third of this consists of barren mountains which produce absolutely nothing, and large sections are virtually abandoned owing to the prevalence of malaria, it is quite evident that emigration must continue; otherwise the country will not be able to support its inhabitants. Indeed, unless hundreds of thousands of Italians expatriate themselves every year, they will increasingly have to build their homes on the seashore and on the precipitous mountain sides. If the people who leave the country came in relatively equal numbers from all the provinces, and if the percentage of women was as large as the percentage of men, if the old and infirm would go as well as the young and strong, the government would not complain.

The country can easily spare from 300,000 to 400,000, or the same number as the annual increase of births over deaths last year. But it cannot with impunity be drained of 400,000 of its agricultural population, the food-producing class, especially when over three fourths of this number are men from 17 to 35 or 40 years of age, representing the most vigorous and ambitious element in their home towns, and coming, as they do, from a limited section of the country.

In the course of a trip from La Cava to Sorrento, we passed through Positano, a quaint town perched on the hillside, that has been abandoned by its male inhabitants, all of whom are in America. We saw row after row of empty, desolate looking houses. In conversing at Amalfi, with the proprietor of the old Cappuccin Monastery hotel, who has been on that beautiful spot for fifty years, he told me how twenty years ago Amalfi was a thriving town of ten thousand; by 1901 it was reduced to 6,681, and today it cannot contain more than 2,000 persons. America has all the rest. This explains why the factories cannot run and why the vineyards are going to decay. In fact, so serious has this depopulation become that an effort has been made to colonize the southern provinces with workmen from the north.

Conditions Change.

When emigration had not assumed such enormous proportions as at the present time, the Italian government looked upon it with favor, but it served as a kind of balance wheel to the economic equilibrium of the country. The laborers would leave home when they had no work and return at the end of the season with money to spend. This kind of emigration is fostered by the Italian government notwithstanding what may be said to the contrary. But the great bulk of the emigration today is a very different sort. It is the permanent tendency in the tide of emigration which is occupying the attention of those most keenly interested in the welfare of the country as a whole. They are seeing before their very eyes the depopulation of entire provinces, and the soil which once was a veritable garden, maintained in a high state of cultivation by the labor of countless contadini eager to work for the mere possibility of existence for themselves and their families, today lies abandoned because men cannot be found to till it.

NEVADA SOLONS' SPECIAL SESSION

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Carson, Nev., Jan. 14.—The special session of the Nevada legislature, called by Governor Sparks to take action on the situation growing out of the miners' strike, convened at noon today. Lieutenant-Governor Dickerson presided in the senate and Speaker Robert Skaggs appeared in his customary place in the house. Both of them are opposed to Governor Sparks' policy affecting the Goldfield situation, and the miners look to them for much assistance.

In his message the governor says the principal reason for calling the special session grew out of the controversy between the operators and their union employes.

The governor recommends that a law should be enacted regulating the police power of the state, either along military or civil power lines vested in the state government.

He says the necessary money should be appropriated to cary out any plan decided upon and suggested that the legislature, in recognizing the favor extended to the state, should give President Roosevelt a vote of thanks.

The general impression is that the legislature will support the governor in spite of the strong influence that is being wielded against him.

PRIEST'S RESIDENCE AT EUGENE ROBBED

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Eugene, Or., Jan. 14.—Burglars entered the residence of Rev. Father O'Farrell, rector of St. Mary's Catholic church, in this city, Sunday night while the father was at the church service and took a small sum of money, a revolver and some jewelry. He entered the residence by way of the rear door, which had been left unlocked. The same night some one effected an entrance into the residence of R. B. Spencer and took a $40 field glass and some money. There are many hoboes in the city and the police think it is the work of some of them.

Postmasters Named.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Washington, Jan. 14.—President Roosevelt today sent the following nominations to the senate for postmasters:

Idaho—Charles W. Wilson, Sand Point; Mary P. Jones, Malad City; Walter E. Babcock, Parma.

Washington—William Isenhart, Chelan.

In answering advertisements herein, please mention The Journal.

TOTAL OF 130 KILLED IN FIRE

Death List at Boyerston Will Not Be So Large as Was Believed Earlier.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Boyerstown, Jan. 14.—Official announcement was made this afternoon that according to the best facts obtainable the list of those killed in last night's theatre panic and fire will not exceed 130; that 100 were seriously injured, 20 of whom are expected to die.

The authorities of the city have been at work all day in an effort to determine who could possibly be held responsible for the disaster. It is not improbable that charges of criminal carelessness will soon be made against one or more parties.

All saloons and hotel bars have been closed. A squad of the state constabulary has arrived from Reading to assist in the rescue work.

NO END TO MARSHAL FIGHT AT HOQUIAM

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Hoquiam, Wash., Jan. 14.—The fight over the reinstatement of Marshal McKinney goes on, with the chances about even. Two petitions have been circulated and very generally signed, one for and the other against the marshal. The one in his favor is headed by the name of W. L. Adams, president of the oldest bank here, and contains the name of State Senator Polson, a warm advocate of McKinney. The names of many other prominent people are also on this petition. On the other hand there is a petition containing 300 names, some of them having been removed from the former petition. Among them is the name of O. M. Moore, editor of the Daily Washingtonian, which is waging a fierce fight against the marshal, and which has declared it desires to see the case brought before the grand jury.

This case is exciting almost as much interest as the famous Todd case, in which the marshal was one of the principal figures, having obtained sufficient evidence to convict Steele if his convictim had not been forestalled by his suicide.

Mrs. Regan, the woman in the case, is again in Hoquiam, and says all is harmony between herself and her husband.

STORM EFFECTS IN THE HARBOR REGION

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Aberdeen, Wash., Jan. 14.—This branch of the Northern Pacific is only just recovering from the effects of the unusual storm of last week. A phenomenally high tide, almost beyond the memory of the oldest inhabitant, was rolled in by heavy gales, and the terrific wind did considerable damage. Plate glass windows were blown in and signs blown down. The railroad track was carried out and more or less damage done as far up the valley as the tides ran. It is only within the past day or so that cars have started to run again on the Ocosta branch, the mail being carried down by handcar. The line between here and Moclips was also badly damaged, and traffic interrupted. The heavy rains have so loosened the soil that landslides are frequent. All trains run slow on account of the soft track.

EUGENE VETERANS FORM NEW POST

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Eugene, Or., Jan. 14.—Temporary organization of a new G. A. R. post was effected at a meeting of a number of old soldiers in Eugene yesterday afternoon. This post is in addition to the one already established here and which has a membership of about 150. Some of the members became dissatisfied with the manner in which the post is conducted, with the result that the new one was organized. The name chosen was Rich Mountain post. A number will be given it when its charter is granted. The following officers were elected: Commander, J. T. Rowland; senior vice commander, Albert Rogers; junior vice commander, J. C. Small; officer of the day, Henry Hopkins; quartermaster, Frank Reisner; chaplain, Charles Clapper; officer of the guard, Charles Shuck; surgeon, William Smith.

WEBB TO CONSIDER RAILROAD REBATING

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—With a transcript of all the testimony taken before Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lane during the investigation into alleged rebating by the Southern Pacific company, the state board of railway commissioners this morning considered the offenses of the Southern Pacific for exactly six minutes and then in a resolution presented by Commissioner Loveland passed the entire matter up to Attorney-General Webb.

While the alleged offenses of the Southern Pacific company were thus disposed of so far as the commission is concerned, Commissioner Loveland, one of the men named as having benefited by rates lower than the tariff published by the Southern Pacific, introduced another resolution which, he declared, was designed to guard against all forms of rebating in the future.

ALL INDICATIONS POINT TO SUICIDE

Charles Frank, an elderly German, was found dead in his house on a small farm two miles beyond Holbrook yesterday morning under conditions indicating that he had committed suicide by taking poison. An empty bottle labeled "strychnine" was found on a table beside the bed on which the body lay. Several letters were also found, in which the writer bade goodbye to friends and asked that his daughter, now in this city, be taken care of. The body was taken in charge by Coroner Finley and an inquest will be held some time this afternoon.

NINETEEN CAUGHT IN GAMBLING GAME

A gambling game at 87 Fifth street was raided by the police last night and 19 men, all of them Greeks, were arrested and taken to the police station. The raid was made on information furnished by a Greek named George Alexander who claims to have lost $300 in the place. The men will appear for trial before Judge Cameron tomorrow.

OREGON CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION DATES

(Washington Bureau of The Journal.)

Washington, Jan. 14.—The regular spring civil service examinations in Oregon will be held as follows: Portland, Astoria, Baker City, Eugene and Pendleton, March 11; Astoria, Baker City and Eugene, April 15; Pendleton, April 7 and 15; Portland, April 6 and 15.

Danish Poet Dead.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Copenhagen, Jan. 14.—Holger Drachmann, greatest modern Danish poet, died this afternoon.

CITY EMPLOYES TO BE GIVEN HEARING

Executive Board to Hear Complaints Against Department Officers.

Alex Donaldson, superintendent of the city street cleaning department, and Frank Jenkins, day foreman of the same department, will be formally tried before the street committee of the city executive board this afternoon at 4 o'clock, on the charges of having received money for hauling city dirt and for neglecting their duty.

It is believed the charges will fall flat and that the complainants will not be on hand to prosecute Donaldson and Jenkins. Whitfield and Farrington are attorneys for the complainants, whose names were never given out. It is said that Lawyer Whitfield will not be present to prosecute the cases.

The following have been subpoenaed as witnesses to testify this afternoon: Max McDonald, August Piele, James Hayden, Gus Hubert, Mike McGinnis, Asa Harris, Ted Smith, Jim Wourtey, John Schwan, James Kearns, Rodney Tomkins, John Cooley, William Savage, Mike Coleman, William Crane, W. Sting, Henry Mays, Fred Purath, H. K. Milbanks.

COUNTY ASSESSORS MEET FOR CONFERENCE

Ten Members of State Association Foregather With Multnomah's Official.

A convention of the state association of county assessors was opened this morning in the office of D. B. Sigler, assessor of Multnomah county and president of the association. At the morning session general routine business was discussed. This afternoon tax laws and new initiative measures were taken up for consideration. The convention will be in session for several days for the purpose of discussing the various questions of interest to the assessors of the state.

There were 10 members of the association present at the meeting as follows: George W. Staley of Douglas, Fred J. Rice of Marion, A. T. Laws of Columbia, D. B. McKnight of Linn, Otto Peetz of Sherman, W. S. Conner of Morrow, C. S. Graves of Polk, Deputy Assessor Humphrey of Union and Secretary T. J. Nelson of Clackamas.

DISCUSS FRANCHISE OF UNITED RAILWAYS

At a meeting of the street committee of the city council held this afternoon representatives of the United Railways company met in conference with the members of the committee to discuss changes in the franchise which the company is seeking to have granted by the council. The committee is in favor of granting the franchise with small changes, the principal change being in the routing of the new road which the city wishes to be constructed past Mt. Calvary and on to Hillsboro.

Clauses were inserted providing for these changes and after consultation the representatives of the company agreed to them. The franchise as amended will now be referred to the city council at the next meeting with the recommendation that it be granted.

LITTLE WARMTH IN WINTERS' FAMILY

George A. L. Winters was brought to the jail this morning on a warrant charging him with non-support, but his stay was brief. On investigation of the case before Judge Webster it was found that the charge, which was made by his wife, is the culmination of long-standing family disagreements, which have led to at least two separations. The last time Winters left everything he had to his wife and started out new, securing a job on one of the railroads. He was at work when arrested, and under the circumstances it was thought best to allow him to go on his own recognizance.

ROBBERS HIT VICTIM WHO IS SUBMISSIVE

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—Advices were received this morning by Postoffice Inspector Johnston that a mail driver at Marysville while on his way to the depot last night was held up by two masked men and the registered mail pouch rifled. After holding the driver up the robbers forced him to drive into a dark alley where they struck him over the head with an iron bar, fracturing his skull. They then fled and have not been captured.

BRIDE OF THREE MONTHS DIES

Mrs. Margaret Larsen, wife of Lewis Larsen, night clerk at the Belvedere hotel, a bride of only three months, died suddenly last night at her home, 728 Wygant street. Mrs. Larsen had not been in the best of health for some time. She was 19 years old. Mrs. Larsen was formerly Miss Margaret May Barton and lived with her mother at 967 East Seventeenth street. Funeral services will be held at Finley's chapel at 10:30 o'clock Thursday morning.

WAR VETERAN FOUND DEAD IN HIS BED

John Whittle, a veteran of the civil war, was found dead in his room at 456½ Raleigh street yesterday morning. It is believed that death resulted from natural causes, as the old man had been in poor health of late and was very feeble on account of old age. He has been an inmate of the Soldiers' home at Roseburg for several years, but came to this city several weeks ago to pay a visit to his son, who is an employe of the Standard Box factory.

WRECK DELAYS SOUTHERN PACIFIC

Travel over the main line of the Southern Pacific was delayed five hours this morning by a freight wreck in the yards at Rice Hill, a few miles south of Eugene. While switching some box cars in the yards a string of freight cars ran into a misplaced switch and jumped the track. One of the cars tipped over and it was necessary to send to Roseburg for a wrecker before the track could be cleared for travel. No one was injured.

BURGLARS NEEDED SPRING CLOTHING

Burglars entered the residence of C. R. Wilson at 547 Pine street last night and stole a quantity of wearing apparel and other articles of value. The robbery was reported to the police, and a detective was detailed to make an investigation.

HARNESS MEN RE-ELECT MILLS

Convention Will Be Held Next Year in Tacoma or Seattle.

A three-hours' executive session occupied the time of the Northwest Retail Harness Dealers' convention this morning, which is in session in the United Artisans' hall, Abington building. A number of committee reports, important to the members of the association, came up for discussion.

Just prior to adjournment at the noon hour, the election of officers for the ensuing year was taken up. M. D. Mills of Lewiston, Idaho, was reelected president; A. F. Hoska of Tacoma, first

O. R. Nestos.

vice-president; R. W. Price of Portland, second vice-president; O. R. Nestos of Spokane was reelected secretary and treasurer; T. R. Fisher and J. M. Ward were elected trustees for a term of three years.

The executive committee will be chosen at this afternoon's session, and a place selected for holding the next annual convention, which will probably be Tacoma or Seattle.

At the meeting this afternoon, which convened at 2 o'clock, the executive session continued for a short time, followed by an open session, when the following subjects were taken up for discussion:

Collection Department—"Limit of Credit, Time and Amount," F. E. Schafer; "Method of Collecting Accounts," J. C. Kellar.

Manufacturing Department—"Method of Making Estimates," W. L. Myers; "New and Useful Machinery," O. R. Nestos; "Repairing and Methods of Charging for Same," general discussion; "Tricks of the Trade," A. F. Hoska; "Exchange of Ideas Not Patented or in General Use," general discussion.

C. H. Overington, representing the Santa Rosa, Vallejo, Tanning company, was present at this morning's session, and enlivened the proceedings by presenting to each member of the association, a souvenir in the shape of a handsome match case, bound with morocco leather.

Yesterday afternoon's session was devoted to a general discussion of the various departments of the harness men's business, with a view to improving methods now in use and to offer suggestions and new ideas that would be beneficial to the trade. The program included a discussion of "Business Department Methods," led by L. Walters, A. D. Nestos and P. B. Stravens; "Stock Department," led by Victor Marden and J. Hamby; "Advertising Department, and How to Use the Space in Newspapers," A. W. Stacey and R. W. Price took the lead in this discussion.

The convention will finish its business and adjourn this afternoon.

PEEPING TOM HAS RESIDENTS SCARED

Unknown Man Throws Rocks Through Windows Late at Night.

People living in the vicinity of the east end of the steel bridge are being terrorized by an unknown man who has been visiting houses late at night, peering in at windows and otherwise comporting himself in a manner to frighten timid persons. Mrs. A. N. Wright, who lives at 403 Larrabee street, reported to the police last night that at 2 o'clock Sunday morning a man threw a rock through the front window of her residence, breaking the large plate glass and scattering the fragments over the interior of the room.

A few nights ago a man was seen looking in at the front window of a neighboring house. He was chased away and two shots fired at him, but he escaped in the darkness apparently unharmed. Chief Gritzmacher has instructed the officer on the beat to make an effort to catch the prowler.

DUNN AND JAYNES BOTH DONE BY JUDGE

Two felony cases were disposed of by Municipal Judge Cameron this morning by binding the defendants over to await the action of the grand jury. One was that of "Dr." J. D. Dunn, charged with assaulting Hallie Williams, and the other, E. B. Jaynes, accused of passing a fictitious check. Dunn's bond was fixed at $2,000, while that of Jaynes was set at $750. Both men were sent to the county jail in default of the required bond.

ELECTORS KEEP CLERKS HUSTLING

The rate of registration maintained last week promises to be well sustained this week, the average for the seven days since the books have been open being over 300 per day. This morning 145 names were added to the rolls, of whom 108 were Republicans, 26 Democrats, 5 independents, 5 Prohibitionists and one Socialist. The total registration up to this morning was 2,130, divided as follows: Republicans 1,695, Democrats 379 and miscellaneous 56.

Took Poison and Was Sorry.

A young Canadian named Frank Mackinaw became despondent last night because he was out of work and determined to take his own life. To this end he purchased a bottle of laudanum at a drug store at the corner of Seventeenth and Savier streets, and walking outside swallowed the poison. He repented of his act immediately and confided in Patrolman Peterson, who sent him to Good Samaritan hospital for treatment. Antidotes were administered and the young man was soon out of danger. He was discharged from the hospital this morning and declared his intention of living to a ripe old age.

BLACK HAND AT WORK ON COAST

Attempt Made to Kidnap Seattle Girl With View of Securing Ransom.

(United Press Leased Wire.)

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 14.—Fears that the dreaded Black Hand society has begun active operations in the northwest seems to have been verified last night when two Italians, one armed with a stiletto, attacked Geraldine Ballou near her home at 514 Virginia street. After they tied and gagged the girl her assailant summoned a hack, with intent to bear her away, presumably for ransom.

Miss Ballou had left her home momentarily to mail a postal card. She had no more than reached the mail box than two men sprang upon her from the shadows of the buildings and beat her, forcing a strange liquid down her throat. She struggled desperately and one of the men slashed at her clothing, cutting her shirtwaist and making slashes in her skirt. She was gagged, bound hand and foot, with her hands behind her back and struggling and screaming dragged by main force for 50 feet. Her parents heard her cries and came to the rescue. At this the villains slunk away in the darkness.

Today Miss Ballou is confined to her bed from her injuries and shock, but she remembers distinctly all that occurred up to the time the men hurried away.

Miss Ballou is a niece of M. J. Luts, proprietor of the Pioneer saloon at 85 Columbia street, and well to do. Many Italians of all conditions congregate there. Luts knows many of them personally and by sight, and it is believed by the family that the girl's assailants had made a well-laid plan through connivance with the hackman to tie her up, bear her away with the hack in ready call and hold her for ransom by relatives.

GATLING GUNS TO QUELL JAPS

Vancouver Brown Men's Houses Are Stocked With Modern Firearms.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 14.—The Asiatic Exclusion league wants the city to buy several gatling guns for use in preserving peace if another outbreak with the Japanese should occur in Vancouver. President Von Rhein declared at the last meeting that he had gained official information that in the Japanese boarding-house where the firemen were so badly injured on New Year's morning, there were 40 rooms containing from three to seven rifles in each room.

In the entire building there were 150 rifles ready for instant use. Accordingly a resolution was adopted calling upon the attorney-general of British Columbia and the police commissioners of Vancouver to make a general search for arms in the oriental quarters. One speaker declared that a Maxim machine gun was now quartered by the Japanese on Powell street. The city will be asked to buy two or three up-to-date machine guns.

A resolution also was adopted calling upon John Jardine, a member of the legislature, to introduce a natal act for the exclusion of Japanese next week. The proposal is that the rules be suspended and the act rushed through. If it is disallowed by the Ottawa government it can then be passed a second time in the same session of the British Columbia legislature.

TACOMA RUNAWAYS SENT OUT TO WORK

James Lenzi, Peter Greboski and Frank Lubi, three youths from Tacoma who were picked up by the police last night, were before the juvenile court this morning. They told Officer Hawley that their parents consented to their leaving home, as they could find no work in Tacoma and needed a job. They were sent out this morning to find work.

Frank Oliver, the 17-year-old boy who stole a revolver a few nights ago in order, as he says, to be taken to jail, where he could have a warm place to sleep and something to eat, will be tried in the juvenile court Thursday. He says that a policeman suggested that he "break into jail," and that he only followed out this advice, but Officer Hadley does not place much credence in his story. An effort will be made to learn more concerning his history.

PIONEER OF LANE DIES OF OLD AGE

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)

Eugene, Or., Jan. 14.—W. R. Dillard, a Lane county pioneer, died Sunday at his home at Goshen, of old age. He was born in Knox county Tennessee, June 3, 1831, and was married December 8, 1853, to Alzura Hendricks. To them six children were born, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are: Mrs. Julia Bishop and Mrs. Tamsy, both of San Francisco; Mrs. Laura Hampton of Baker City, Oregon; U. W. Dillard of San Diego, California, and F. B. Dillard, of Goshen. Mr. and Mrs. Dillard came across the plains to California in 1856 and two years later came to Oregon, settling at Goshen, where they resided continuously until Mr. Dillard's death.

PASSION OR PREJUDICE ALLEGED IN VERDICT

The Portland & Seattle railway is much dissatisfied with the verdict of $26,000 damages given George W. Marshall in its suit for condemnation of his property on North Front street, although Marshall asked for $125,000. Motion for a new trial was filed today on the ground that excessive damages were granted, "apparently under the influence of passion or prejudice." Errors in the trial also are alleged.

Another condemnation suit is on trial before a jury in Judge Gantenbein's department, where the Marshall case was heard. The Mount Hood Railway & Power company is seeking to condemn 3.28 acres for right of way through the 70-acre tract of Daniel F. Talbot in the eastern part of the county.

DAVENPORT IS TO LECTURE TOMORROW

Homer Davenport is in the city preparatory to delivering his famous lecture at the White Temple tomorrow night. He came down from Silverton, where he has been at the bedside of his father, who has been very ill. He will leave for New York on Thursday to resume his art work. It was with considerable difficulty that the White Temple congregation was able to secure his services on Wednesday evening, as on account of pressing eastern engagements he had planned to return the first of the week. He finally consented and those who attend his lecture will have the privilege of enjoying one of the most interesting of their lives.

STUDY CULTURE OF SEMI-ARID LANDS

Oregon Delegation Will Include Many From Eastern Part of State.

Governor George E. Chamberlain has appointed a strong delegation of Oregon men to attend the dry farming congress to be held at Salt Lake January 22-26. Many parts of Oregon being semi-arid and having elevation or contour that prohibit irrigation can be developed into productive areas by an intelligent study of dry farming methods advocated by the late Colonel Judson, who as industrial agent of the O. R. & N. company for years gave special attention to this method.

The Oregon delegation to Salt Lake will be composed of W. H. Kerr, president of Oregon Agricultural college, Corvallis; Tom Richardson, manager Portland Commercial club, Portland; O. D. Teel, Echo; Louis School, Echo; Dr. F. M. Ackley, Echo; E. E. Spike, Echo; T. M. Van Horn, Echo; C. C. Kuney, Salem; A. Bennett, Irrigon; J. C. Turney, Burns; David C. Eccles, Baker City; H. A. Hunter, Lakeview; Max Luddeman, Madras; F. S. Stanley, Hood River; M. F. Eggleston, Ashland; J. C. Brown, Medford; Dr. W. L. Marsden, Burns; E. W. Rumble, Elgin; Jasper Davis, Harney; W. J. Woods, Huntington; J. A. Woolery, Ione; Walter L. Mulkey, Joseph; C. F. Stone, Klamath Falls; Turner Oliver, LaGrande; F. F. Humeston, Weston; P. E. Phelps, Vale; W. A. Maxwell, Union; Oliver Lynch, Umatilla; J. M. Patterson, The Dalles; Geo. E. Allen, Sumpter; M. R. Elliott, Prineville; Louis G. Dumbleton, Roseburg; J. S. Barrett, Ontario.

"This movement merits the earnest attention of the people of the state," Governor Chamberlain said, "and I hope that Oregon will boost for the dry farming congress. In the great northwest there are homes for millions of people on lands already accessible and productive and for more millions on lands that can be made productive by intelligent development of various methods of treating semi-arid soils. The dry farming processes have made much headway and there is no telling what they may yet accomplish for the general good of the state."

Fisher Harris, president of the congress, declares that the success of the dry, or arid farming movement, as represented by this congress, is of greater importance than either irrigation or swamp drainage, for the reason that the extent of country subject to redemption is infinitely greater in the former than in the latter cases combined.

HOLDS BONDS WHICH HAVE FRENZIED TAINT

Possessor of Paper Asks for Arrest of Man Who Sold Them.

What is claimed to be a case of frenzied finance cropped up at police headquarters today when Mrs. Sarah B. White applied for a warrant for the arrest of J. A. Stevens on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses.

According to the story told by Mrs. White, she purchased from Stevens, who is said to be a bond broker, five $100 debenture bonds of the United Lumber & Export company of Portland, paying therefor the total sum of $350. The bonds are signed by C. E. Broughton, president, and S. B. Edwards, secretary. The bonds are alleged to be guaranteed by the Northwest Guarantee & Trust company, and carry an indorsement to that effect, signed by Thomas P. Thornton as secretary of the trust company.

Mrs. White alleges that she has ascertained that the bonds are worthless and that she has been unable to either secure the return of the money paid for them or to get any satisfaction whatever, financial or otherwise. After stating the case to her attorney, George W. Joseph, she was advised to get a warrant for the arrest of Stevens.

Judge Cameron issued the warrant and placed it in the hands of the police for service. Bonds were fixed in the sum of $1,000. Mrs. White does not know the present whereabouts of Stevens.

BANK NOW IN CHARGE ON PLANT

According to the real estate transfers of yesterday the Merchants Trust & Savings bank has been given a deed to the real and personal property of the St. Johns Gas Light & Heating company, for a consideration of $50,000. The significance of the deal is not understood in St. Johns, but $50,000 is considered a big price for the franchise and the water front property owned by the gas company. The franchise is evidently considered a valued acquisition.

S. V. Davidor, president and promoter of the St. Johns gas company, explains that the deed was merely a trust deed given to the bank to enable the company to issue bonds or other securities.

The franchise granted the St. Johns Gas Light & Heating company was accepted some time ago. By December 24, according to the terms of the contract, Mr. Davidor was to have filed a $10,000 bond to insure careful execution of the contract on his part. Mr. Davidor asked for an extension of time and 30 days was allowed, furthermore, the bond was reduced to $5,000. This bond must be filed in the next 10 days or the franchise will not be in force.

WILL SEE CHILDREN OR USE REVOLVER

A warrant was issued today for the arrest of Dr. W. T. Slatten on a charge of threats against life. The complaint is sworn to by T. Sundberg, son-in-law of Dr. Slatten. The son-in-law declares that October 30 Slatten threatened to kill him unless permitted to see his children, who are in Sundberg's custody by order of court.

About midnight Saturday night Patrolman Addison found Slatten hanging about in the vicinity of First and Salmon streets. When questioned as to the reason for his presence there he replied that he was doing a little detective work on his own account, having been advised to do so by his attorney. The matter of the family trouble in which Slatten declares himself involved will be threshed out in the police court when the case is called for trial tomorrow.

NO RECEIVER FOR CALIFORNIA TRUST

(United Press Leased Wire.)

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—Judge Coffey this morning failed to announce the selection of a permanent receiver for the California Safe Deposit & Trust company. Whether he has decided upon one or not, he did not state. Many interested persons, stockholders and depositors, remained in and about the court during the entire morning, but Judge Coffey made no mention of the bank case during the session of the court.

It is probable that he will announce who will be selected to permanently handle the affairs of the defunct bank either this evening or tomorrow morning.