

WEATHER REPORT

Much colder with cold wave tonight; continued cold for several days.

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TAFT HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

Nation's Chief and Wife Throw Doors Open and Greet the World.

GREAT THROU WISHES THEM "HAPPY NEW YEAR"

New Administration Holds First Annual New Year's Reception—Representatives of Nations File Through Presidential Abode—No Specially Invited Guests Present—Diplomats Enter in Line According to Rank—The Taft Smile Evident.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The expansive Taft smile overflowed its usual boundaries today and embraced the world.

The occasion was the first annual New Year's day reception of the new administration. The big, broad Taft personality reached out and gathered to its kindly presence thousands—

from the courtly members of the diplomatic corps to the plainest of the plain people.

It was "open house" at the presidential abode, with Citizen and Citizeness Taft as host and hostess.

Long before the White House doors were unlatched the crowds began to assemble in the president's front yard. It was a motley gathering that had come to wish "Big Bill" a happy New Year, and shake his hand in greeting.

Fur-lined overcoats rubbed elbows with garments that were shabby and thin. Venerable gray-beards, young bloods, timid maids, and matrons of polite huddled together in a heterogeneous American multitude.

While the great American people were aligning themselves in a snaky column that filled the yard, and extended for blocks up Pennsylvania Avenue, their high priced servant was doing his duty as the head of a great world power, greeting the representatives of the other world powers with words of cordiality and regard.

As the great hall clock in the White House boomed out eleven and four buglers stepped from the band and sounded the Presidential fanfare, the Executive and Mrs. Taft left the family apartments on the second floor and started down the great main staircase.

With the Vice-President and Mrs. Sherman and the cabinet members and their wives, they took up their position at the southern end of the Blue room. The ladies stepped to the right and formed a part of the receiving line. Then began the brilliant, formal reception of the diplomatic corps, the "elite" of official life.

No Special Guests. Only one thing that has characterized White House New Year's receptions in the past was lacking. That was the gathering of specially invited guests who in former administrations crowded the Blue Room.

The sole permanent occupants of the room today were President Taft and his official family. Mrs. Taft's health has forced the curtailment of social festivities at the White House, and it was thought best to conserve her strength on this occasion by omitting the personal guests.

Diplomats in Body Attend. A gorgeous procession of diplomats, clad in the brilliant panoply of the court costumes of their various nations, was the spectacle of the occasion. Led by the Italian Ambassador, Baron Mayor des Planches, the dean of the diplomatic corps by virtue of his length of service here in Washington, and followed by the entire body of accredited foreign representatives, ambassadors first, then ministers, and both arranged according to length of service—the newest ambassadors and ministers last in the procession of their rank—they entered from the south door of the mansion, and with great formality made their way to the host and hostess. With each ambassador were the members of his suite and their wives.

ZELAYA SEEKS TO RELEASE SON-IN-LAW. Mexico City, Jan. 1.—Former President Zelaya of Nicaragua has sent several messages to Managua urging his friends there to secure the release of his son-in-law, Joaquin Jasso.

He says that the arrest was a measure of retaliation and that President Madriz cannot prove charges made. Had Jasso been found guilty of misappropriating funds, Zelaya says that he would have accompanied him to Mexico. Notwithstanding statements to the contrary there is good reason to believe that Zelaya is arranging to stay for weeks or months in this country.

SWITCHMEN STILL WAITING

New Year Brings Strikers No New Hopes for Settlement of Difficulties.

PERHAM HAS MADE NO GREAT HEADWAY

Switchmen's Representative at Washington Presents Problem to Knapp and Neill, But Has Arranged No Conference With President—Will Be Nothing Further Doing Until Monday—Perham Submits Much Documentary Evidence.

Washington, Jan. 1.—It was a waiting game last night in negotiations for settlement of the switchmen's strike on railroads entering St. Paul.

All yesterday the government mediation board, consisting of Chairman Knapp of the interstate commerce commission and Commissioner of Labor Neill, together with H. B. Perham of the order of Railway Telegraphers, head of the railroad branch of the American Federation of Labor, wrestled with the problem of what to do in behalf of the interests affected by the strike, but without definite action.

Meantime, Mr. Perham has made no appointment with President Taft, who it is said at the white house, has not taken up the matter in any way. The conference with the mediation board was solicited by Mr. Perham, following the railroad's refusal to make vacancies for strikers, but other matters, including general conditions affecting the men, were considered.

No Conference Probable Today. Mr. Perham said that there would be no conference today "unless something extraordinary develops," and that he did not expect to confer again until Monday, and that he did not expect in the interval to do any telegraphic negotiations.

Mr. Perham submitted much documentary evidence bearing on the dispute between the railroads and the switchmen.

He further pointed out that his effort was to seek some way of reaching a settlement; that he wanted a resumption of negotiations between the railroads and the men.

The railroads say they have the situation well in hand; strikers hold the contrary. Switchmen want all of the strikers reinstated without prejudice; railroads, which have employed strikebreakers, refuse to make vacancies for the strikers. Something like 2500 switchmen were said to be affected by the strike originally, and the understanding here is that nearly all that number are still out.

Mills and other industries dependent upon full transportation facilities are said to be affected, and the mayors of St. Paul and Minneapolis telegraphed here urging a solution of the problem. To these telegrams Messrs. Knapp and Neill have replied, pledging their willingness to aid if the way were clear. Many informal propositions were considered, but none crystallized.

Common People Crowd in. Then there was a pause. Mrs. Taft and the ladies of the Cabinet departed for the refreshments which the hostess always serves on New Year's day, to the wives of the Cabinet members.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

GAYNOR IS MADE MAYOR OF GOTHAM

ENTERS UPON DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE TODAY

His Direct Patronage Compares Favorably With President Taft's—Rules Over More People Than Many Potentates—Much Interest in New Administration.

New York, Jan. 1.—Judge William J. Gaynor today became Mayor William J. Gaynor. The direct patronage that goes with the office of mayor of New York compares favorably with that of President Taft. His private secretary receives \$6,000 per year—\$1,000 more than Taft's, while his legal adviser receives \$3,000 more than Taft's. In almost all other of the cabinet offices the salary is correspondingly larger than the same offices in the federal service. The new mayor will exercise rule over twice as many people as are in Norway, 2,000,000 more than there are in Denmark, Serbia or Greece, and over a million more than Switzerland. There are enough people on the city's payroll to populate a Springfield, Ill., or a Topeka, Kan., with a budget exceeding that of many states.

Much interest centers in the new administration. Judge Gaynor has frequently been referred to while on the bench as catering to the galleries in his decisions and remarks pending arguments. It is hoped that he will play to the people and endear himself by an economical and honest administration that will make of him presidential timber, contrary to all precedent.

Leader Murphy expects that the new mayor will distribute a liberal share of patronage in Tammany's favor.

Prohibition in Tennessee. Nashville, Jan. 1.—The manufacturers' bill to prohibit the manufacture of liquors became operative at midnight.

In Chattanooga and Memphis it is understood that suits will be brought by retail dealers as well as by manufacturers and wholesalers.

MEN STRUGGLE IN ICE WATER

Sixty Nine Precipitated in Mississippi When Ice Jam Hits Bridge.

CAPTAIN OF TUG BOAT PERFORMS HEROIC WORK

Three Hundred Feet of False Structure Carried Away by Ice—Men Thrown into Chilly River—Tug Boat Rescues Forty After Two Hours' Fight With Ice—Boatman Makes Heroic Attempt to Warm Men—Property Loss is \$250,000.

St. Louis, Jan. 1.—Three hundred feet of false structure of the McKinley bridge now under construction across the Mississippi river was knocked out by an ice jam at 5 o'clock last night.

Sixty-nine men were thrown into the river and some may have been drowned. One hundred and fifty men were at work on the structure when the jam began to move. Eighty-one heard the warning snap of the timbers in time to escape to the steel work, but 59 others went down in the twisted mass of timbers.

Struggling Men Imperiled. Three hoisting engines and a traveler also went down, imperiling the struggling men below.

Captain John Short, in charge of a tug and two barges, picked up 40 men and got them ashore after two hours' battle with the ice, which is jammed six feet high in many places.

Several times the barges threatened to crush the tug, and several times the vessel nearly turned turtle when forced upon the ice by pressure behind it.

The 29 men unable to reach the tug are believed to have reached shore across the floating ice floes, but company officials last night said they could not know whether any lives were lost until today, when the men will be paid off.

The property loss is estimated at \$250,000, and completion of the bridge will be delayed several months. The bridge is being built by the Illinois Traction system.

Captain Proves Hero. Company officials said that many lives would certainly have been lost but for the heroism of Captain Short. Twice his little tug was caught between the barges and threatened with destruction, and each time he fought back the men on board to prevent them from risking their lives on the floes.

Twice his rudder became jammed, but he stuck to the boat. Once he risked his life to clear the tiller by climbing down into the ice and pulling out the jam.

The second time the rudder jammed, he could not release it and the boat drifted helplessly down stream, threatened by instant destruction by the barges and ice. Finally, rescue parties with ropes reached him from ashore after two hours' battle, and he and his men were landed.

Eleven men were unable to get aboard the tug when the span went down and clambered upon a pile driver moored in a small barge. This barge drifted with the ice for three

TWO RAILROADS REDUCE RATES

O. R. & N. and North Bank Both Announce Reduction in Freight Tariffs.

STOCKMEN WILL PROFIT MOST BY REVISION

Chief Changes in Rates Will Effect Hogs, Cattle, Sheep and Packing House Products—Revision Made as Concession to New Packing House and Stock Yards in Portland—Reductions Will Amount to Cut of One Fourth.

A reduction of freight rates which is of considerable importance to stockmen of Umatilla county as well as of all eastern Oregon is announced by the O. R. & N. and North Bank roads. While the revision of freight tariffs which is now in progress will effect a number of lines, the chief changes will be in regard to the rates on hogs, cattle, sheep and packing house products.

According to reports from Portland the changes are being made principally as a concession to the new packing house and stock yards industry on the peninsula but the stockmen of eastern Oregon will also profit thereby as it will mean an improved market for their products. It will also probably mean that more livestock will be shipped from this county to Portland in the future and less to Puget Sound points. Heretofore the greater part of the shipments made from this city have gone to Seattle and Tacoma.

A One-Fourth Reduction. Cattle, sheep and hogs are to take a rate equivalent to 75 per cent of the standard rate out of Portland. It is said that in buying bunches of stock frequent ill-fed animals are delivered with the better ones. The new rates will give stockgrowers an opportunity to purchase animals unfit for slaughter and ship them at low rates to points where they may be fed to good condition.

Packing-house products will take an eastbound rate in carloads of 40 cents per 100 to Pasco, with a 50-cent rate to Spokane. The old rate was 48 and 65 cents. Fresh meats and poultry, heretofore taking a rate of 68 and 95 cents, will take a rate of 50 and 65 cents.

The new rates on packing-house products apply on both lines, and both the O. R. & N. and Southern Pacific, as well as the North Bank, are publishing the 75 per cent rate on stock cattle to Oregon interior points for feeding and grazing.

On the North Bank road the Spokane rate on pig iron shows a reduction from \$6.50 to \$3.50 per ton of 2240 pounds. This rate has been carried by existing O. R. & N. tariffs for about 30 days, and will be continued in the new tariffs. In all particulars the new rates will be the same between Portland and competitive points on the O. R. & N. and Spokane, Portland & Seattle.

In addition, the North Bank has made a revision in its tariffs between Portland and Grand Dalles and way points where rates are affected by water competition. Heretofore competition has been met with low class rates, but the class rates have been increased to figures proportionate to rates to other points and reductions have been made in certain commodities that are handled by the boats.

The North Bank tariffs, too, will give Linton and intermediate points the same distributive rate that Portland now possesses, the idea being to aid the upbuilding of industries in those localities.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Spohr gave a watch party at their home on Water street, last night.

NEW DEPARTMENT ON THE O. R. & N. La Grande, Ore., Jan. 1.—A new department of the O. R. & N. company has been established. It will be known as La Grande freight and passenger district. The district will include the main line from Pendleton to Huntington and the Wallowa branch. "Jack" O'Neill, who for a number of years has been assistant passenger agent of the O. R. & N., has been placed in charge of this district. His title will be assistant freight and passenger agent. His headquarters will be La Grande.

Mr. O'Neill's brother, Hugh J. O'Neill, will hold a similar position on the district from Portland to Pendleton, with headquarters at Portland.

IMPORTANT DEAL IN TELEPHONE CIRCLES

INTERSTATE COMPANY TAKES OVER E. O. I. T. CO. Secretary MacWhorter of the Interstate Company Closes Deal Which Involves Nearly \$50,000—Merger Company Will Be Largest Independent Line in Eastern Oregon.

One of the most important telephone deals ever made in eastern Oregon was consummated in this city last evening, when the Interstate Telephone company took over the system of the Eastern Oregon Independent Telephone company. The latter is probably better known as the Butler Creek company. Secretary R. H. MacWhorter of the purchasing company, went to Echo this morning to take formal charge of the system.

The deal was made by Secretary MacWhorter of the Interstate company and Asa B. Thomson of the Independent company. The consideration is between \$45,000 and \$50,000, and the number of miles of line included in the deal is about 200.

President W. E. De Larm and Secretary R. H. MacWhorter of the Interstate company, will be the president and secretary of the newly acquired system which will retain its present name. It is probable that the name of the purchasing company will be changed to that of the one purchased.

The Eastern Oregon Independent company has supplied all the country between Pendleton and Heppner with telephonic communication. Aside from having connections with the Pacific company in this city, at Heppner and Umatilla, it has maintained exchanges at Echo, Stanfield, Hermiston and Umatilla.

The stockholders of this company were Asa B. Thomson of Echo; J. B. Saylor of Freewater; H. G. Newport, Hermiston; W. J. Furnish, Portland; T. C. Taylor, Pendleton; Frank Frazier, Pendleton; William Slusher, Pendleton; Jesse Moore, Echo; and Mrs. O. F. Thomson, Echo.

The consolidation of the two systems will give the new owners by far the largest and most important independent telephone system in eastern Oregon.

After drawing a few deep draughts of freedom last evening, Mrs. Maud Boney, Maud Johnson or Hazel Hazleton, is again in durance vile. She was freed by Judge Bean last evening on the habeas corpus proceedings instituted by her attorney, Judge James A. Fee, but she was almost immediately placed under arrest again on a fugitive from justice warrant which had been issued in the evening by Justice of the Peace Joe H. Parkes.

The heading of the habeas corpus proceedings which had been set for yesterday morning at 10 o'clock, did not commence until about 3:30. Then for more than an hour a war of words was conducted by Judge Fee for the defense and District Attorney Phelps for the state.

Fee argued that the Washington authorities were not entitled to the custody of the woman for the reason that they had her in that state and voluntarily allowed her to be brought into Oregon. He further held that if this court had no jurisdiction, insisting that it was purely a discretionary matter with the governor. He also declared that the local court could not deliver Mrs. Johnson to the Washington authorities so long as she was under conviction and sentence in this state.

In making his ruling Judge Bean finally dismissed all charges against the woman in this state, eliminated the affidavit of Sheriff Sappington of Vancouver, which was contained in the return of Sheriff Taylor and held that the petition for the issuance of a fugitive from justice warrant from his court should have been made a separate proceeding. He further intimated that owing to the congested state of the business of his court that the warrant should be secured from some other committing magistrate in this city. His tip in this regard was taken and the warrant was secured from the justice court.

A part of these rulings were announced immediately at the termination of the arguments at 5 o'clock, but the woman was not turned loose until after 8 o'clock in the evening.

It will probably be ascertained today, whether or not the Oregon governor is to honor the requisition papers from the state of Washington. If the Washington authorities are finally baffled she will be arrested on a warrant from California, as she is wanted in Santa Cruz and Ventura, two cities of that state, on similar charges to the one on which she is wanted at Vancouver.

FAKER QUEEN HOPS FROM FRYING PAN INTO FIRE

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