

WEATHER REPORT

Rain or snow tonight and Sunday; warmer tonight.

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EAST IN GRIP OF BLIZZARD

Middle and East Swept by Severe Storm and People are Suffering.

CHICAGO THREATENED BY COAL AND MILK FAMINE

Windy City Cut Off from World—Coal and Milk Supplies Almost Exhausted and People Are Suffering—Hospital and Insane Asylum Inmates Threatened—Railroads Kept Clear for Incoming Freights—Traffic in Minnesota Blocked.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—Chicago is like a city besieged today. A blizzard which has swept Illinois for several days continued today and caused much suffering here. The coal supply is nearly exhausted and milk is being delivered only to families having babies. Many trains due to leave this city for other points are sidetracked, and the roads kept as clear as possible for the incoming freight trains bearing coal and milk. Hospitals' milk supplies are low and it is feared that deaths will result from this cause in several institutions unless conditions are relieved before tomorrow. The fuel supply will be exhausted at the Elgin state insane asylum before the day ends. There are fifteen hundred patients confined in the hospital and it is feared that great suffering will follow if coal or wood is not secured immediately.

Traffic Blocked in Minnesota. Minneapolis, Jan. 15.—Rail traffic and wire communication throughout Minnesota is demoralized today as the result of a storm that is raging in the upper Mississippi valley. All trains from the south and east are from three to seventeen hours late. Schedules on every road are interrupted. The storm continued throughout the night without abating.

Blizzard Hits New York. New York, Jan. 15.—This city is in the grip of the worst blizzard experienced in years. Five deaths and many accidents are already reported and it is feared the list will be greatly increased unless the cessation of the storm comes before nightfall.

Three Lost in Alaska. Fairbanks, Alaska, Jan. 15.—Three lives have been lost in the past three days in a terrible blizzard that has raged along the Valdez Fairbanks trail for a week, and it is feared others have perished. Rescue parties from the United States signal stations are patrolling the trail in search of travelers who may have been lost in the snow storm or overcome by the biting arctic cold.

Passenger Trains Stalled. La Crosse, Wis., Jan. 15.—Snow plows today were sent to the rescue of two passenger trains stalled in great snow drifts piled up by the blizzard that has swept this section during the past 24 hours. One train compensating advantages to them Reno, Minn., on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road, and the second is on the Chicago, Northwestern line, west of La Crosse.

Joe Scott, one of the prominent grain growers of the county, came down this morning from his home in Athens, to attend the meeting of farmers which was held at the commercial association rooms this afternoon.

JAMES JOHNS OPTIMISTIC FOR LOCAL IRRIGATION PROJECT

James Johns, president of the Hartman Abstract company, who returned yesterday from an extended trip through the middle west, is optimistic over the possibilities of irrigation in the close vicinity of Pendleton. In the opinion of Mr. Johns it will be feasible to irrigate many thousands of acres of land through water taken from McKay or Birch creeks. Furthermore, he says that money for financing such work can be had. "Irrigation bonds are now sought after by investors in the east and I am satisfied that I could place a bond issue in the event a project should be undertaken here." At this time Mr. Johns is anxious to have a survey made for the purpose of ascertaining the possibilities of irrigating lands from water stored on McKay creek. He has already filed upon a reservoir site at the fork-

INSURGENTS COMBINE ARMIES FOR ATTACK

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Jan. 15.—Generals Chamorro and Mena of the revolutionary forces effected a union of their armies near Acopyapa today. An immediate attack upon the city is expected. Conflicting reports concerning the movements of General Vasquez, in command of the government forces at Acopyapa, have arrived here. One report has it that Vasquez has fallen back to the outskirts of Managua, preferring to risk an engagement there.

HERMANN'S FATE IN WOLVERTON'S HANDS

JUDGE MUST DECIDE AN IMPORTANT POINT

Battle to Connect Former Commissioner of Lands With Conspiracy Takes Decisive Turn—Defense and Prosecution Argue Against and for Introduction of Certain Testimony.

Portland, Jan. 15.—Judge Wolverton of the United States court has come to a point in the Binger Hermann trial where he must turn the hinge of the case for or against the defendant. All during the session of the court this morning, the judge listened to the reasons presented by Attorney Worthington, why he should not turn the hinge against the defendant and open the gate of evidence against him and to other reasons presented by Prosecutor Henny why he should let loose the flood of testimony which the prosecution expects will connect the ex-commissioner of the land office with the conspiracy of Mays and Jones in the Blue mountain forest reserve. When the court adjourned at noon until Monday Worthington had not finished his reply to Henny, and it will be noon Monday before the judge will have had an opportunity to hand down his decision, which will be vital to the further conduct of the trial. The controversy which is raging between the attorneys concerns the testimony of Dan Turpley, Horace G. McKinley, George Sorenson and S. A. D. Pater, regarding a conversation, or conversations had with F. P. Mays regarding the operations of men in securing the school land lands in the Blue mountain forest region prior to the time of the creation of the reserve, or the withdrawal of lands from settlement. It is expected by the prosecution that this testimony will link Hermann with the conspiracy of Mays and Jones in the creation of the forest reserve, and the illegal plan to secure school lands prior to the creation.

DENVER WITHOUT NEWS THROUGH PRESSMEN'S STRIKE

Denver, Jan. 15.—Up to noon today the Denver Express was the only newspaper published in this city since yesterday morning as a result of a dispute with the pressmen's union. The Express had already signed an agreement with the union, but the other papers refused to publish, although they had until 12 tonight to negotiate with the pressmen. The pressmen ask for seven hours a day, with an increase of from three, four and five dollars per day, to four, five and six dollars.

F. A. Sikes, president of the state organization of the Farmers' Cooperative and Educational Union of America, is among the prominent grain growers in the city today.

OLD MEN FIGHT DUEL TO DEATH

Rivals in Same Employ Settle Long Nursed Hatred With Revolvers.

TRAGEDY IS ENACTED IN DEAD OF NIGHT

Climax to Eighteen Years of Hatred Kindled by Taunt, Fanned by Night Long Quarrel, and Ends With Fatal Duel—Fires of Passion Blaze Fiercely in Aged Enemies—Old War Veteran Challenges to Save His Honor, and is Shot to Death.

New York, Jan. 15.—Two old men who had arrived at the age when a peaceful end was near, fought a duel to death early today. John Ferris, 56 years old had a steadier hand than his opponent, William Wood, aged 72, who fell dead with five bullets in his body. The battle took place in the basement of a big grocery store on Broadway and Twenty First streets where Ferris had worked for thirty seven years.

Eighteen years ago Wood entered the employ of the firm. Ferris regarded him as an interloper, and since that time has looked upon him as a new comer. Last night Woods, feeble with age, was delayed by the blizzard that swept New York and came to work a little late. Ferris greeted him with the boast that an "old timer" could beat any "new comer" in getting to work. This taunt started Wood to sweep out, and the "old man" refused.

Old Veteran Challenges. The enemies quarreled until long past midnight, their remarks growing more heated and finally containing threats. In reply to a taunt Woods at length pointed to a G. A. R. medal on his breast and declared: "I fought through the Civil War for my country. I was no coward then, and I am no coward now. I am prepared to fight for my honor." Ferris accepted the challenge, and the men, securing two revolvers, adjourned to the engine room in the basement. There the aged combatants, by this time almost insane with rage, stepped off the distance and arranged the final details. There were no witnesses to the early morning duel to death, and only Ferris was left to tell the tale. According to his story he won the duel because he was a better shot and through superior prowess. It is supposed that both men died about the same time, and the fact that Woods was shot five times indicates that Ferris probably in the fury of his hatred, continued to fire at his enemy after he had fallen.

When Woods was dead Ferris wrote a letter to the police headquarters "telling of the deed, put a special delivery stamp on it, went out to the nearest mail box, and posted it. Then he returned to the basement and sat down to await the coming of the officers. Near the engine room is the liquor department and the old man, feeling exhausted from his terrible night's work, secured a bottle of whiskey and sat drinking as he waited for a reply to his letter."

MOTHER LOSES THREE CHILDREN IN FIRE

Willock, Wash., Jan. 15.—The three infant children of Oscar Backman were burned to death in a fire that destroyed the Backman home south of this city last night. Mrs. Backman sent her two older boys, aged 4 and 2 years, on an errand to a neighbor's, and then left the year old baby in a cradle in the kitchen while she went to her mother's home a few hundred feet distant. She was gone but a few minutes when the house burst into flames.

The fire had apparently started in the kitchen. With Warner Backman, an uncle of the children, Mrs. Backman rushed into the burning house and attempted to rescue the children, but the two were unable to get into the kitchen. Backman then broke into the front door of the house. No one knew the two boys had returned to the house until the charred remains were found. Backman effected an entrance into the room where the boys met death, but owing to the smoke did not see them. The bodies of the children were incinerated. It is not known how the fire started, but it is supposed the boys were playing with matches. From the position of the bodies it appears as if their clothes caught fire and they climbed into bed. The four year old boy had his arms around his 2 year old brother and was apparently trying to protect him. The baby's remains were found near the bed.

BRIEF LULL IN WAR'S TURMOIL

Republican Insurgents and Regulars Frame up Temporary Armistice.

UNITE TO NOMINATE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

Warring Elements at Washington Form Temporary Agreement—Reach an Understanding to Hold Caucuses to Nominate Committee to Investigate Ballinger Charges—Republicans Forget Contentions in Party Loyalty Democrats Hold Caucus.

Washington, Jan. 15.—The dove of peace succeeded in getting reasonably near a perch yesterday on the field occupied by the warring republican factions of the house. When Representative Hayes of California, mediator for the insurgents returned to the house after one of his frequent calls upon President Taft, the news circulated rapidly that a truce had been arranged and a more or less permanent peace in the republican ranks was about to be announced.

This was considered confirmed when a statement issued from the white house and another from the republican whip, Representative Dwight, announcing details of the armistice. This pronouncement proved premature, however, for Representative Hayes, between numerous conferences with his associates, announced that no agreement had been reached and that the matter would go over until tomorrow. At this juncture the insurgents, gathered in the room of Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, issued another statement saying that "an understanding had been reached."

Insurgents to Attend. "It is true that an understanding has been reached that we shall attend the caucus about to be held for the choice of the republican members of the investigating committee. The question of future conferences, however, is one of which there has been no agreement. In fact, I had no authority from my associates to enter into that question. Of course, this agreement in no way affects the control from the house of representatives."

Democrats of the house announced today that they would hold a caucus Saturday night to nominate minority members of the committee to investigate the Ballinger-Pinchot affair. Representatives Ollie James of Kentucky, Slayden of Texas and Palmer of Pennsylvania were mentioned as possible nominees. The democrats insist upon their right to name minority members of the committee, and if the majority declines to allow it, there is a prospect of democratic-republican insurgent alliance upon the question. Insurgents say they are contenting merely for a fair committee and care not who are its members.

The statement of Representative Dwight, republican whip, concerning the reported understanding between the regulars and insurgents follows: "The questions of the past have been forgotten. The tariff bill is no longer a matter of discussion. The speakership fight is ended. The question of the rules is not now an issue. We are confronted with the problem of redeeming the pledges of the republican party to the people."

Last Friday there was a vote in the house which caused a republican division. Mr. Dwight here referred to the vote on the Norris Amendment, taking the appointment of the Ballinger-Pinchot investigation committee out of the hands of Speaker Cannon and placing it with the house itself.

"That was a matter of no consequence and a small subject in which the people could have but little interest," continued Mr. Dwight. "I showed a division in the party. The next day I saw President Taft and told the matter before him. I told the president that the so-called insurgents were represented as being friends and supporters of the administration and ready to help enact his recommendations into law. I assured the president that the regular republicans of the house were ready to do likewise. We were prepared also to go into caucus upon any proposition and abide by the result. Were the insurgents ready to do the same?"

"For the last two days conferences have been in progress and those who differed from us last Friday are now ready to enter the caucus and abide by the decision reached there." Mr. Dwight was asked if the insurgents had been given any definite assurances as to the treatment they would receive in caucus. "No," replied he, "except that they have been assured of fair treatment. They will not be discriminated against."

SEA GIVES UP FIRST VICTIM OF WRECK

Marshfield, Ore., Jan. 15.—The sea today gave up the first victim of the Catarina wreck in which 24 lives were lost, when the body of a man was washed ashore this morning. Nothing was found on his clothing to lead to his identity and identification will be impossible until First Assistant Engineer Kentzel recovers sufficiently from his experience of two hours in the water to go to the morgue. This is the first body recovered.

NEW TRAIN SCHEDULE GOES INTO EFFECT

CHANGE IN BOTH OREGON AND WASHINGTON DIVISIONS

Pendleton-Portland Local Leaves 10 Minutes Later in Morning—Spokane Train No. 8 Will Leave This City at 7:30 in Morning.

NEW TRAIN TIME CARD ON O. R. & N. Westbound Main Line trains: No. 1—8:50 a. m. No. 5—1:50 p. m. No. 7—12:15 p. m. No. 9—1:05 a. m. Eastbound Main Line Trains: No. 2—5:00 p. m. No. 6—5:00 a. m. No. 8—5:15 p. m. No. 10—12:25 a. m. Washington division, Northbound: No. 8—7:30 a. m. No. 16—5:30 p. m. Washington division, Southbound: No. 7—5:00 p. m. No. 15—8:40 a. m.

New time cards on both the Oregon and Washington divisions of the O. R. & N. go into effect tomorrow morning. The Portland-Pendleton local will continue to run as before with this city as the terminus, instead of Salt Lake, only it will leave here at 8:50 in the morning instead of 8:40.

Train No. 11, the fast mail west has been taken off and in its place, trains No. 9 and 10 will be run as fast mails both east and west. With the exceptions of trains No. 7 and 8, the time of arriving and departing of the other trains on the main line of the O. R. & N. are changed.

On the Washington division the only change is that of Spokane train No. 8 which will leave here at 7:30 in the morning, instead of 12:30 in the afternoon as heretofore. This arrangement will give Pendleton the best train service on the Spokane branch that it has ever enjoyed for it will give the people of Walla-Walla and way points in this county a chance to come down on the morning train to do their shopping and return in the evening, if they so desire. Or they can come down from Walla-Walla, Milton, Freewater, Weston, Athena and Adams, in the evening, attend the theatre or other evening events and return home the next morning in time to take up their day's work.

Under the new time the train will arrive in Spokane at 6 o'clock in the morning, instead of 10 o'clock, as at present.

LIEUTENANT DRAKE RESIGNS FROM LOCAL GUARD COMPANY

Through the resignation of First Lieutenant Lee D. Drake, company I, third regiment, O. N. G., has once more lost its commanding officer. The resignation of Lieutenant Drake is now in the hands of Adjutant General W. E. Finer and while it has not been formally accepted, Mr. Drake expects to have such action taken and is preparing to turn the company over to the next ranking officer, Second Lieutenant D. B. Bailey. According to Mr. Drake he has reluctantly severed his connection with the national guard. He was prompted to do so because of his duties as advertising manager of the East Oregonian and a desire to devote his entire attention to his interests in this paper. Lieutenant Drake became a member of company I when that command was formed three years ago. At that time he was made third sergeant. By his ability and attention to duty he rose rapidly to be successively quartermaster, sergeant, first sergeant, second lieutenant, and then first lieutenant. At this time the captaincy is open to him should he remain in the company. Few members of company I have rendered the company better service than has Lieutenant Drake. He has been credited as one of the best officers the company has had and also won much distinction as a member of the company's rifle team. He has been a member of the team for three seasons and has won many medals, the most prized being a silver medal he won at the state rifle tournament in 1908 when he won the state individual championship at slow fire. He was twice chosen to go east with the state rifle team, but for business reasons declined the honor. As a result of Mr. Drake's resignation promotions will be in order for other members of the company, two commissions now being vacant.

SHIP SUBSIDY IS CONDEMNED

Farmers of County Hold Mass Meeting and Unanimously Adopt Resolutions.

WANT REPEAL OF TARIFF ON SHIPBUILDING MATERIAL

Farmers Ascribe Degeneration of the Merchant Marine to High Tariff and Navigation Laws—Oppose Ship Subsidy Plan As Working a Hardship on Farming Element—Want Reclamation Service to Extend Umatilla Project.

A strong condemnation of the ship subsidy plan and a demand for a repeal of the tariff on shipbuilding materials are contained in the resolutions adopted this morning without a dissenting vote at the mass meeting of farmers of the county and this afternoon at the meeting of the county organization of the farmers' union.

The resolutions declare the high tariff and navigation laws of the country are responsible for the decline of the American merchant marine. They also declare that the burden of the proposed ship subsidy plan would fall upon the backs of the producers and more particularly upon the growers of grain. The mass meeting of farmers was planned by J. T. Hinkko of Adams and was called together by him. He explained the purpose of the meeting and then C. A. Barrett was named as chairman and E. A. Sikes of Milton was elected secretary. In addition to the ship subsidy resolutions the secretary and the chairman were instructed to sign a resolution calling upon the reclamation service to adopt the proposed extension of the Umatilla project for the object of the next expenditure of reclamation money in this state.

The resolutions relative to the ship subsidy proposition, in full, are as follows: Whereas, under the high tariff and navigation laws of many years past the American merchant marine has steadily declined, until less than eight per cent of American commerce is carried in American bottoms;

Whereas, this decline is due principally to the refusal of our government to allow registry to foreign built ships, and to excessive duties on all ship materials, so that it costs more than fifty per cent more to build ships in this country than abroad, and

Whereas, extreme duties tend to restrict imports and also exports and are a heavy handicap on commerce, and

Whereas, all other commercial nations admit all ship building materials and supplies free of duty, and

Whereas, government subsidies to in contravention of the doctrines of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, and ship subsidies would lead to the formation and operation of another great trust constantly growing by the increased subsidies it was fed on, and

Whereas, the subsidies would have to be paid by the taxpayers and producers, especially the farmers and particularly wheat growers with no compensating advantages to them whatever, but would be a constant and growing burden upon them for the

(Continued on page 8.)