

WRECKAGE BURNED

Certain That Thirty-Five Bodies Are Reduced to Ashes.

TRAINS COLLIDE IN COLORADO

Flames Do Work So Thoroughly That Only One Body Has Been Identified.

Pueblo, Colo., March 17. — A wreck accompanied with horrors exceeded only by the Eden disaster, which occurred August 7, 1904, on the line of the same railroad, resulted from a head-on collision of two passenger trains on the Denver & Rio Grande railroad four miles east of Florence, Colorado, at an early hour yesterday morning. The trains were the Utah-California express No. 3, west bound, from Denver, and the Colorado-New Mexico express No. 16, east bound, from Leadville and Grand Junction. They met on a sharp curve and were less than 200 yards apart when the engineers discovered that a collision was imminent.

The disaster was made more horrible by the manner of the death of many of the passengers, variously estimated from 20 to 35. Fire swept over the wreck, engulfing the victims in a cauldron of flame and leaving only charred and blackened bodies to tell the tale of slaughter.

A list of injured given out by officials of the railroad company comprises 32 names. None of the injured are dangerously hurt, and it is believed all will recover quickly.

It is reliably reported that but one body is sufficiently intact to make recognition possible, all the others having been incinerated. The identification of the victims was only possible, it is believed, through a comparison of lists of rescued and missing. No accurate estimate of the number of dead was possible by reason of the fact that so many of the bodies were practically destroyed.

One of the pathetic tragedies of the disaster was the wiping out of all but two of the family of Taylor Hewitt, of Lebo, Kan. Father, mother, daughter, grandchild, and the wives of the two sons are missing. The sons, A. E. Hewitt and W. L. Hewitt are among the injured in the hospital here each of them having leg fractures in addition to other injuries.

ACT LIKE CAT AND DOG.

Russia and Japan Ready to Spring at One Another.

St. Petersburg, March 17. — General Grodekoff's order issued yesterday excluding Japanese from Russian Manchuria, and at the same time beginning the distribution of land among the disbanded troops whose families are helped by the government to emigrate to Manchuria, and the fact that many officers are dispatched to Vladivostok daily indicates that the situation in the Far East is considered unsafe. A famous general who recently returned from Manchuria is quoted as saying:

"Despite official and diplomatic declarations at Tokio, we believe the Japanese consider the war unfinished, and that they will seize occasion to conquer the Amur region from Harbin to Lake Baikal. Their military forces in Manchuria have been strengthened rather than diminished, and officers allow no one to visit headquarters. Even Englishmen are excluded.

"The disorganized state of the Russian army in Siberia favors the plans of the Japanese. This is the reason for General Grodekoff's order and General Rennenkampff's excessive severity in crushing the revolution at Chita in Trans-Baikalia.

Robbed of Large Sum.

Great Falls, Mont., March 17. — A Tribune special from Kalispel reports the loss of \$8,000 by the O'Brien Lumber company at the hands of highwaymen. John Peterson, a trusted employe, was carrying the money from Kalispel to the works at Timers, about nine miles distant. Near the mill he was stopped by three men. One held the team, another held a gun at Peterson's head, and the other secured the currency. The robbers were disguised, but are believed to be the men from that locality.

Bond Company a Fraud.

Louisville, Ky., March 17. — Charges of fraud and insolvency were made in a suit filed late yesterday against the American Reserve Bond company, of Chicago, asking for the appointment of a receiver. Millions of dollars belonging to investors all over the United States are involved in the suit, which was filed in the United States court for the eastern district of Kentucky by Levi Hake and Mary Welch, investors in the company.

ACT ON JETTY BILL.

House Rivers and Harbors Committee Will Soon Meet.

Washington, March 16. — Chairman Burton, of the house rivers and harbors committee, said he would call a meeting of his committee at an early day to consider Senator Fulton's bill appropriating \$400,000 for work on the jetty at the mouth of the Columbia river. The committee is due to arrive here from its southern trip by Saturday or Sunday and it is probable the meeting will be held some time next week.

If it shall be the opinion of the committee that this separate bill should be presented to the house and passed on its merits, the bill will be reported without amendment. There is every reason to believe that the committee will favor the appropriation of \$400,000 inasmuch as the chief of engineers and secretary of War have both stated that this amount is absolutely necessary to preserve the jetty work from destruction and have specifically stated that any less amount will not answer.

There is a report that the members of the house committee may favor enlarging the Fulton bill by adding provision for three or four other emergency projects, so as to make it virtually an emergency river and harbor bill, such as was suggested earlier in the session. This is not certain, however, as the committee has had no meeting this session, and its sentiments cannot be accurately ascertained. If the bill can be so amended without making it a general river and harbor bill, its chances of passing the house will be brighter than would the bill making an appropriation for the Columbia river alone.

CONSTITUTION FOR CHINA.

Commissioners Predict This as Result of Study of America.

New York, March 16. — Prince Tsai Tee, High Commissioner Shang Chi Heng and Li Cheng To, envoys of the emperor of China, their secretaries and attaches, sailed on the White Star liner Baltic today to continue their investigations in England, France and Belgium. The prince said last night:

"I have greatly enjoyed my visit to this country, and the uniform courtesy that has been accorded me, including the reception by President Roosevelt, has deeply impressed me with the friendly attitude of the American people. I believe that such contact makes for a better understanding and must bring benefit to both of our peoples."

That China will soon have a constitutional government is the opinion of some of the commissioners. Announcement of this belief was made by one of the secretaries of the commission just before the Baltic sailed. It followed a brief conference between all members of the party.

"We have been making a comprehensive study of the political situation in this country," he said, "and have seen the application of your laws and the workings of the governing bodies. I believe that China will soon have a constitutional government. It will probably be modeled much on the lines of the British constitution, but will contain some of the good features of your own constitution."

WRECK KILLS 150 PEOPLE.

Head-On Collision of Fast Passenger Trains in Colorado.

Pueblo, Colo., March 16. — No. 1, southbound, and No. 3, northbound, passenger trains on the Denver & Rio Grande railroad collided head on near Portland, Colo., shortly after midnight, and it is reported at least 50 persons are killed and a large number injured. Relief trains have been ordered from Pueblo and Florence. At this hour details are unobtainable.

Meager but authentic information from several sources states that the number killed in the collision will reach 150. The coaches caught fire and most of the victims were roasted to death.

Money for Guns and Powder.

Washington, March 16. — The senate committee on appropriations today completed the fortifications bill, and it was reported by Senator Perkins. It carries appropriations aggregating \$5,618,993, an increase of \$780,000 over the amount appropriated by the house bill. The increases are: For mountain, field and siege cannon and equipment and machinery for their manufacture at arsenals, \$290,000; for the erection and equipment of a powder factory and for seacoast cannon, equipment and machinery for their manufacture, \$395,000.

Will Nationalize Railroads.

Tokio, March 16. — The parliamentary majority in favor of nationalization of railways is reported to be increasing and there seems to be little doubt the project will be carried through. Work on the elevated railroad in Tokio, suspended during the war, has been resumed. Japan and Russia are planning to exchange imperial envoys to signify the restoration of peace.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

VOTERS CANNOT CHANGE.

Attorney General Says Original Registration Must Stand.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford is of the opinion that there is no authority for the changing of a voter's registration after it has once been made. He has not rendered a written opinion upon the subject, but after hearing the report that changes have been permitted in Linn county, he examined the statutes governing registration and said that the only change provided for by law is that which becomes necessary when a voter changes his residence from one precinct to another.

Mr. Crawford said that if a voter registers as a Socialist and then changes his registration so that it shows him to be a Democrat, this would be in effect a second registration, and more than one registration is expressly forbidden. If the clerk should make a mistake and write the word "Socialist" after a man's name, when the voter had announced himself as a Democrat, Mr. Crawford thinks it would be permissible for the clerk to correct the error, but where the party affiliation has been recorded as given by the voter, there is no authority for a subsequent change.

It has been many times asserted that in Marion county many Democrats are registering as Republicans in order to take part in the contest for the Republican primary nominations. Inspection of the registration books shows that this is not true, and that if any persons are registering improperly the instances are so few and so unimportant as to escape notice. The disposition here is for each to register his party affiliations honestly and fairly, if given at all.

Farmers Tired of Waiting.

Ontario — The farmers of Dead Ox Flat, tired of waiting for water from the various projects contemplated, have taken steps to organize an irrigation district under what is known as the Wright law.

A petition to the County court will be considered at a special session April 16. The proposed district includes about 10,000 acres of the best land on Dead Ox Flat, in Malheur county, just across the Snake river from Weiser, Idaho. When this district is organized and the means of watering it have been installed, there will have been added to Malheur county many thousands of dollars of taxable property. The success of the enterprise means much for the county.

Wallowa Bridge by July 1.

Wallowa—When the O. R. & N. Co. started to secure right of way in this county for an extension of their line it was not definitely known how soon the road was to be in operation. In a recent conversation with a gentleman who is in a position to know the activity of all projected railroads, it was learned that the extension to the O. R. & N. was expected to reach the Wallowa bridge by July next. With railroad accommodations so early, much of the crop raised in Wallowa county, as well as the surplus stock, will be shipped from that point.

Change Wool Sale Dates.

Pendleton—Owing to dissatisfaction with the schedule of wool sale dates recently announced for Eastern Oregon, the executive committee of the State Woolgrowers' association has made out a new one, as follows: Pendleton, May 22-23, May 29-30; Heppner, May 24-25, June 7-8, June 21-22; Condon, May 31, June 1, June 27-28; Shaniko, June 5-6, June 19-20, July 10-11; Baker City, June 25-26, July 12-13; Elgin, July 13. The sale for the Wallowa county wool has been set for Elgin instead of the town of Wallowa as previously arranged.

Closed Season To Be Enforced.

Oregon City—"A strictly closed season will be maintained on the Columbia river this year," says Deputy Fish Warden H. A. Webster, who has gone to the Lower Columbia. The closed season began on the 15th inst. and continues for a month, and in order that all illegal fishing may be prevented the authorities of Oregon and Washington will co-operate and maintain a thorough patrol of the river. Oregon this year has two patrol boats and Washington has one, and all three will do service on the Columbia.

Prospects Good in Sumpter.

Baker City—Conservative mining operators are of the opinion that during the coming summer greater results will be obtained from the mines of the Sumpter district than ever before. In an interview on this question I. E. Bellman, a well known operator and manager of the Crack Oregon, at Bourne, stated that this is assured by the fact that so many properties have been fully developed and are now on the verge of being placed among the regular producers.

FRUIT CANNERY FOR ALBANY.

Gardeners and Orchardists of Linn County Take Stock.

Albany—Active work looking to the erection of a cannery and packing plant in Albany has begun by the gardeners and fruitmen interested. The new company will be known as the Fruit-growers' and Gardeners' Co. Operative association, and will be owned by the men who sell their products to the company or by citizens of Albany. Stock in the new company is selling under a restriction that no one man could secure more than 25 per cent of the stock.

Besides packing, preserving and canning fruit and vegetables, the new concern will handle all kinds of produce, acting as a kind of distributing point where all produce for the local trade can be secured at a uniform price. In this way all stores will be able to keep up with the market, and the farmers will have no trouble in disposing of their product.

The plan is to start with a cannery, prune packery and elder and vinegar works. All of these industries have been needed very much in Linn county, because of the immense amount of small fruits and garden products grown here, and because the county had no such enterprises the development of the fruit and gardening industry has been much retarded.

Wool Sales at Condon.

Condon—An effort is being made by the Condon Commercial club to establish at this place wool sales days. The secretary of the club is in communication with the State and National Wool-growers' associations, and with the aid of the local woolgrowers' association, which it is expected will be organized, it is thought dates may be secured. Endeavors are also being made to secure a reduction in freight rates on wool from Condon to Boston, and also on local shipments of sugar, salt etc.

Beet Acreage Largely Increased.

La Grande—Manager F. S. Bramwell, of the sugar factory, has been in Cove, making contracts for the growing of sugar beets for this season's run, and reports having contracted for about 1,000 acres of beets in that locality. The sugar company expects to have a larger acreage this year than ever before. Heretofore the factory has never had more than 2,800 acres but this season is counting upon at least 4,000 acres.

Big Yield in Gilliam.

Condon — Crop prospects for a large yield are said to be better than ever before in Gilliam county. There is a greater acreage of wheat than ever seeded in this county before and conditions are unusually favorable at this time. The ground is wet to a depth of more than two feet. Range is improving rapidly, owing to the splendid growing weather of the past two weeks.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 66@67c; bluestem, 66@68c; red, 64@65c; valley, 70c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, \$27.50; gray, \$27 per ton.

Barley — Feed, \$23@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Buckwheat—\$2.25 per cental.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13@14 per ton; valley timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.50 per box; cranberries, \$12.50@14.50 per barrel.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 10@11c per pound; beans, 2½c; cabbage, 1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$2@2.25 per crate; celery, \$4.50@5; sprouts, 6@7c per pound; rhubarb, \$2.25 per box; parsley 25c; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 70@80c per sack; No. 2, nominal.

Potatoes—Fancy graded Barbanks, 50@60c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; sweet potatoes, 2¼@2½c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery 27¼@30c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16¼@17c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12¼@13c; broilers, 20@22c; young roosters, 12@12½c; old roosters, 10@10½c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; turkeys, dressed, 18@20c; geese, live, 8@9c; geese, dressed, 10@12c; ducks, 16@18c.

Veal—Dressed, 3½@7½c per pound.

Beef — Dressed bulls, 2½@3c per pound; cows, 3½ @ 4½c; country steers, 4@5c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8½@9c per pound; ordinary, 4 @ 5c; lambs, 8@9½c.

Pork—Dressed, 6@8½c per pound.

Hops — Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@10½c; prime, 8½@9½c; medium, 7@8; olds, 5@7c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c per pound; valley, 24@26c; mohair, choice, 25@30c.

MAY FORDE FIGHT.

Senate Committee Will Report Bill Repealing Timber Law.

Washington, March 14.—The senate committee on public lands is putting the finishing touches on a bill to repeal the timber and stone act and substitute therefor a new law authorizing the sale of mature timber on the public domain at no less than its appraised value, provision also being made for the sale of stone valuable for building purposes on an equitable basis. For six weeks the committee has been considering this bill, and has now agreed to its various provisions, merely waiting for the adjustment of minor features before reporting to the senate. Practically every member of the committee is favorable to the bill in its present form, believing it will cure most, if not all, of the evils that have been perpetrated under the provisions of the timber and stone act.

The future of this bill is somewhat in doubt. It seems quite likely that it will pass the senate, for there is a general sentiment in its favor. With few exceptions, the entire senate is convinced that the timber and stone act is iniquitous in many respects; in its enforcement, if not in its prescribed stipulation. But what will the house committee do to the senate bill?

It will be recalled that only a couple of weeks ago the house committee tabled a similar bill. By a vote of eight to five the house committee refused to even permit the house to consider the subject of repealing the timber and stone act. It was a wise move from the standpoint of the men opposed to reform in the land laws, for it is a sure thing that once the house has an opportunity to vote to repeal the timber and stone act, that law will go off the statute books with the sanction of a large majority of the house members.

WIN BY SUBTERFUGE.

Germany Wants a Neutral Force to Name Inspector General.

Algiers, March 14.—Success or failure of the Moroccan conference still depends upon Germany. When Germany in consequence of the almost universal disapproval which her position excited, appeared to concede the principle of the Franco-Spanish police, the delegates supposed an agreement was at hand and all menace of war vanished. Closer scrutiny of the Austro-German proposal for an inspector general, particularly in the light of Herr von Fadowitz's private description of this functionary, showed that Germany intended to demand the internationalization of Morocco.

It is expected that France's objection to such a scheme will finally induce Germany to abandon it, but it meantime the state of tension and uncertainty has been resumed. If many insist that the inspector general no settlement can be amicably effected, the French will not permit a substitute in the form of a supreme executive officer to enter Morocco with many behind him disguised as Sw Holland or Switzerland. To allow would be to allow the Kaiser to establish by a trick what he has been unable to achieve openly.

The neutral delegates are at that France shall not be unyielding to nonessentials, but realize that many's latest move looks like an attempt to attenuate the French position until the world will be unable to see it, while leaving it in substance as large as originally. It is doubtful if the Kaiser's negotiations will gain anything from this effort. The delegates do not relish the assumption the conference is lacking in discernment.

Sea Rushes Over Land.

Brussels, March 14.—Terrible havoc has resulted in North Belgium from the overflowing of the Scheldt river. Many farmhouses were completely demolished by the rush of waters and at Melleole ten children were drowned before the eyes of their parents, who were helpless to aid them. People have taken refuge on the roofs of houses, from which points they are now being rescued by soldiers in boats. Manufacturing establishments were destroyed and the loss is estimated at 2,500,000 francs.

Watch for Fitzgerald.

New York, March 14. — The New York American this morning says that General Louis Fitzgerald, ex-chairman of the Equitable Life Assurance society, who was desired as a witness by the Armstrong investigating committee, has returned to New York. He was in his home in Lexington avenue last night and a process server held vigil in the street near by.

High License Passes Ohio House.

Columbus, O., March 14. — The house tonight by a vote of 66 to 46, passed the Aiken bill increasing the Dow tax imposed upon saloons from \$350 to \$1,000. The passage of the bill is attributed largely to the recent slots in Springfield.

CAN NEVER AGREE

Germany Gives Up Hope of Moroccan Settlement.

LAYS ALL BLAME ON FRANCE

Kaiser's Spokesman Says He Will Yield No More—Hands of Delegates Are Tied.

Berlin, March 15.—German faith in an amicable settlement of the Moroccan conflict has given way to hopeless bitterness. A spokesman for the government today admitted that the situation has reverted to a critical point, with diminishing prospects of agreement.

When your correspondent on March 5 cabled that harmony was in sight, it reflected the firm confidence of the Kaiser and Prince von Buelow that a settlement was only a matter of hours. France's refusal to regard the German concessions as adequate surprised the Berlin authorities, who now insist that handing over police control of Casa Blanca, which is one of the seaports of Morocco, to the neutral powers is the German irreducible minimum.

The Foreign office's conception of the position of affairs at this hour is before except it is "plainer than ever" that if the conference breaks up, the blame will belong to France, and to France alone.

Cannot Move Step Forward.

Algiers, March 15.—The Moroccan conference has reached a peculiar stage. It is completely helpless to solve the deadlock which has arisen over the remaining details of the police and bank questions.

The sessions are temporarily suspended without knowing when they will be resumed. The French and German delegates are bound by their instructions, and therefore are unable to make any further concessions, and the conference, not having judicial or executive powers, cannot settle the differences by a majority.

The neutral delegates who have heretofore sought to secure an agreement between the parties which the conference could unanimously confirm, now recognize that if the conference is left to itself, it is incapable of getting out of the present difficulty, and it remains for the governments themselves to intervene for the purpose of reaching an agreement.

after due consideration by the consular officers of the United States at the port of departure in China, and bearing certificates duly vided by the office.

D. A. Tompkins, of Charlotte, N. C., representing the National Association of Manufacturers, said his associates had no desire to admit Chinese coolies. He said class distinctions were made in China and must be recognized by the United States. The coolie was so easily recognized that it was desirable for this country to say that all Chinese but the coolies may enter our ports. He urged that there was no desire among manufacturers to bring Chinese laborers here to compete with American labor, for, he said, intelligent labor, using improved machinery, excels Chinese cheap labor.

Utah Roads Demoralized.

Salt Lake City, March 15.—Railway traffic both north and south from Salt Lake has been badly demoralized. Trains from the north on the Oregon Short Line are 14 to 20 hours late. The train from Portland due at 7:40 last night did not arrive until this forenoon. Drifted west along the Columbia river and snowdrifts near Weiser, Idaho have caused most of the delay. Trains from Los Angeles on the Salt Lake route are detained by washouts. No trains have passed this point since Tuesday night.

Vote to Seat Hawaiian Delegate.

Washington, March 15. — By unanimous vote, the house committee on elections No. 3 decided today to recommend the seating of Delegate Katsinako, of Hawaii, whose seat was contested on the ground of fraudulent election methods.