

IN GRASP OF STORM

Ice King Reigns in East and Middle West.

MANY SUFFER FROM SEVERE COLD

Fatal Snow Slides in Colorado, Bizards in Michigan, and Sleet Storm in Illinois.

New York, Feb. 6.—Large districts of the East and Middle West are suffering from a cold wave of unusual severity. Reports from many localities are to the effect that the extreme cold is coupled with a fall of snow of sufficient depth to interfere with transportation facilities, while several fatalities have occurred. A sleet storm in the Middle West has added to the general discomfort.

All of the charitable institutions are over crowded and many homeless men, to keep from freezing, have been forced to huddle around fires in the open streets. The whole state is in an icy grip, the mercury falling to a record of 45 degrees below in the vicinity of Ballston.

Other fatalities are reported from Colorado, where numerous snow slides have occurred in the mining districts.

Weather conditions throughout New England are the worst of the present winter. The cold snap is general in that section, although no fatalities have as yet been recorded. Northfield, Vt., reports the coldest weather in New England, with the mercury registering 34 degrees below zero.

The lake region is also feeling the cold. Michigan is in the grasp of a severe blizzard, in which zero weather is combined with a blinding storm. Railway traffic is completely paralyzed in many parts of Michigan and the storm shows no sign of abatement.

Chicago last night experienced one of the worst sleet storms in years. There was much suffering from the icy blasts and traffic on the electric lines was almost completely demoralized, although steam trains were operated.

In Central and Eastern Pennsylvania snow fell to a depth of more than a foot. It was extremely cold throughout the mountainous regions, the mercury dropping as low as 15 degrees below zero. Service of both steam and electric lines was crippled and there was considerable suffering.

PUBLIC PRINTER REMOVED.

Is Accused of Many Irregularities in Government Office.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Just as the president's action in suspending Public Printer Stillings and appointing William S. Roser to perform his duties was being announced today, a committee of labor leaders of this city, accompanied by Representative Gary, of Wisconsin, called at the White House and presented to the president a resolution adopted by the Central Labor union here, charging Mr. Stillings with violations of the eight-hour law in the government printing office, and added: "It is difficult at this time to get witnesses against Mr. Stillings, for the reason that many of them are employed in the government printing office and directly under his charge. We hope, however, to follow up our oral statement with affidavits, if necessary."

The president informed the committee of the action he had already taken in the case.

Resolutions by numerous labor organizations in various cities charging violation in the government printing office of the eight-hour day, discrimination against veteran soldiers and the widows of soldiers and violation of the civil service law have been submitted to congress and the president.

Mr. Stillings is from Boston and was appointed public printer in 1905. He had been general manager of his father's printing firm in New York and at various times manager of the Printers' Board of Trade of that city and of New York. Mr. Roser also came from Massachusetts and had business connections in New York and Washington before assuming office in the census bureau in 1890.

Destructive Prairie Fire.

Fort Worth, Tex., Feb. 6.—More than 1,000,000 acres of prairie have already been swept by a fire which is passing over Lubbock, Crosby and Garza counties in Western Texas. It is estimated that there is already \$500,000 damage done. Ranch houses, corrals, livestock and crops have been destroyed by the fire. A few of the ranchers, whose places were in the path of the blaze have managed to save their property by burning the dry grass in that neighborhood, but most were unable to check the flames.

Wisconsin Ready April 1.

Washington, Feb. 6.—On April 1, next, the battleship Wisconsin will be placed in commission at the navy yard at Puget sound. Her commanding officer has not yet been selected.

FAIR BILL PASSES.

Senate Stands by Seattle With Almost Unanimous Vote.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The Seattle exposition bill went through the senate yesterday by a practically unanimous vote. Burkett, who threatened to do all manner of things to defeat it, made a vicious attack and thundered loudly for half an hour. When he concluded, several senators spoke in behalf of the bill, and, when Piles moved its passage, barely a voice save that of Burkett was heard in opposition.

Burkett's antagonism really strengthened the bill, for he is generally disliked in the senate, and his onslaught created sympathy for Piles, who was pressing the bill.

The house committee will now take up and report the senate bill, instead of that introduced by Congressman Humphrey.

In the discussion before the vote was taken, Burkett opposed the bill, as he said he had opposed every other bill for that purpose since he had been in congress. He said the proposition to hold the exposition did not originate in Alaska.

"It has been put forward," he said, "by a lot of boomers of Seattle, who purpose to boom their real estate and their private interests."

Burkett read a list of expositions in the United States showing that \$20,960,727 had been expended by congress in aid of them.

Tillman supported the idea of expositions, saying the Charleston exposition had brought many people from the North to be "civilized there."

Carter believed the idea of equity should influence congress in appropriating for an exposition in the Far West, as so little had been done in aid of that section.

MAY ADJUST RATES.

Northwestern Mill Interests Confer With Railroad Presidents.

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 7.—As the result of a conference held this morning, between President Louis W. Hill, of the Great Northern, and President Howard Elliott, of the Northern Pacific, on the one side, and President Jacob Fourth, of the Puget Sound National bank and Frederick Banesman, representing the commercial bodies of the Pacific Northwest, hope is expressed that the controversy between the lumber interests and the railroads concerning the rate question may be amicably settled. Nothing definite resulted from the conference, but there is to be another one within a day or so.

At the close of the conference Mr. Furth made the following statement:

"Mr. Hill and Mr. Elliott, at our invitation met Mr. Bausman and myself this morning to discuss the possibility of bringing about a settlement of the rate controversy between the lumber and shingle men of the Pacific Northwest and the railroads. Both the railroad officials appeared to be willing to receive proposals from us, acting for the commercial organizations of the cities of the Northwest."

URGES HALL'S ACQUITTAL.

Webster Makes Earnest Argument for His Client.

Portland, Feb. 7.—Able and with intense earnestness Judge Lionel R. Webster yesterday advocated the cause of John R. Hall, ex-United States attorney, before a jury in the United States court. Counsel was unable to conclude before court adjourned at 5 o'clock and will resume this morning at 10 o'clock. Although his argument was confined to a review of the testimony almost exclusively, Judge Webster pleaded loyally and eloquently in behalf of the man who for years had been his faithful and intimate personal and political friend.

Judge Webster prefaced his address with a brief discussion of the responsible duty of a juror together with a definition of the charge of conspiracy on which Hall is being tried. At the outset of his remarks, counsel for the defendant took issue with Mr. Heney, who, in his opening argument Wednesday, asserted that the failure of prosecuting officials to discharge their duty and to enforce the laws was rotting and decaying the very foundations of a republican form of government.

Keep Japs Out.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 7.—The immigration bill framed on the lines of the Natal act, which provides that all immigrants who cannot write and read English language of Europe will be refused landing, was passed by the British Columbia legislature this afternoon and will be referred at once to the lieutenant governor for assent. Preparations have been made to carry the regulations of the bill into effect at once, provincial immigration officers being appointed for this purpose if it should be approved.

May Go Dry Forever.

Charlestown, W. Va., Feb. 7.—A joint resolution was passed by the house today providing for an amendment to the constitution which gives the right to voters to decide whether or not liquor or the manufacture of liquor will be prohibited forever in the state.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

HOLDS WHEAT RECORD.

Condon is Largest Primary Distributing Point in Country.

Condon—The latest estimate of the amount of grain already shipped and that remaining to be shipped from Condon is 1,300,000 bushels. According to this showing, Condon is the largest primary grain shipping point in the United States and, as far as can be learned, in the entire world. The point which has heretofore claimed the honor of being the largest primary grain shipping point in the world is Ritsville, Wash., its supremacy being claimed on the basis of shipping 1,250,000 bushels.

From figures obtained from the best authorities on the subject 1,100,000 bushels of wheat and barley have already been received by the warehouses and mill here. And to this must be added the large amount that is yet scattered over the country waiting to be hauled to town before spring. It is safe to say that there remains in Condon's territory 200,000 bushels yet to be brought in, making a grand total of 1,300,000 bushels to be shipped from Condon alone.

No less remarkable is the estimated output of grain in every section of Gilliam county, the total of the estimates of the different stations exceeding the amount to be shipped from Condon. It must also be taken into consideration that many thousands of bushels of grain harvested along the borders of the county are shipped from nearby railroad points in the adjoining counties. The total of the number of bushels shipped from these points added to the amounts shipped from different stations in Gilliam county places the enormous output of Gilliam county at 2,750,000.

Josephine Goatmen Organize.

Grants Pass—The Southern Oregon Angora Goat Breeders' association has been organized with C. E. Harmon, president and Charles Meserve, secretary. The association will have a regular meeting in March. The raising of goats has become one of the prominent industries of Southern Oregon. As well as being profitable for the wool, they are looked upon as a valuable adjunct in clearing new land, in keeping down the undergrowth. It is calculated that there are about 5,000 or 6,000 of the animals scattered among the ranches in this district, some of which are imported stock.

Grain Sacks at Reduced Figures.

Pendleton—Umatilla county farmers will share in the purchase of 1,000,000 wheat sacks made by the Farmers' Co-operative union at Walla Walla. Over 200 farmers were present at a mass meeting at which contracts for the purchase of 1,000,000 sacks from the J. Z. Smith company and the Kerr-Gifford company of Portland at a uniform price of 7½¢, was made. As the same quality of sacks sold last year at from 10 to 11¢ each, the farmers have made a great saving in purchases for this year by asking for bids.

Paisley Wants the County Seat.

Silver Lake—W. H. McColl, of Paisley, is authority for the statement that Paisley wants to bring to a vote at the June election the question of the removal of the county seat from Lakeview to Paisley. Paisley, Summer Lake, Silver Lake, New Pine Creek and North Warner voters would probably favor the move. Paisley is many miles nearer the geographical center of the county than Lakeview.

Platting New Townsite.

Oregon City—The Oregon Iron & Steel company has a force of surveyors at work platting its property beyond the Tualatin river, near Willamette. The company has about 3,000 acres there and it is believed that the construction of a railroad connecting the territory with Portland is a surety in the future, as the land is being platted into tracts of two and one half, five and ten acres.

Demand Flat 2-2 Cent Fair.

Salem—A committee of the Traveling Men's association has arranged with the railroad commission to file a complaint against all roads doing business in Oregon and asking for a flat 2½-cent rate on mileage books. The rate now is about 2½ cents, and the books sold are not mileage books, but are coupon books, each coupon representing 5 cents.

Adds Course in Italian.

University of Oregon Eugene—A course in beginning Italian has been announced by the department of modern languages. Dr. Timothy Chlozan is at the head of this department.

Cannery Puts Up Beef.

Brownsville—The Brownsville cannery has been experimenting in the canning of beef and it will probably put up a large amount in the near future.

OREGON GIVEN PROMINENCE

Joint Passenger Tariff Mentions 200 Points in State.

Oregon receives considerable prominence in the joint tariff issued by the Union Pacific giving the one way colonist rates to the Pacific coast from Union Pacific territory. The tariff has just been issued and makes the rates effective March 1 to April 30, inclusive. The tariff sets forth the rates in detail as they have been announced already in the newspapers. The low colonist rate is good to any station in Oregon and about 200 points in this state are mentioned individually in the tariff. The rate is \$30 from Council Bluffs, Omaha, St. Joseph, Leavenworth or Kansas City to all main and branch line points on O. R. & N. east of Portland, including points north of Umatilla and Pendleton, via Granger, Ogden and Huntington, via Denver, Granger or Ogden and Huntington, or via Denver, Grand Junction, Ogden and Huntington.

The same rate obtains to Portland and all main and branch line points on the Southern Pacific south thereof to and including Ashland, as well as all points on the Astoria & Columbia River railroad, via Granger or Ogden and Huntington, via Denver, Granger or Ogden and Huntington, via Grand Junction, Ogden and Huntington and via Denver and Billings.

WANT CHEAPER GRAIN SACKS

Growers at Athena Working Through Association.

Athena—C. A. Barrett, president of the Inland Graingrowers' association, says that the principal object of the organization at present is to reduce the price of sacks. The association declares that the prices the dealers ask for sacks are unreasonable. They say that they made a good, substantial saving last year by means of the association, and that they will be able to make a far greater saving this year. Mr. Barrett estimates that the farmers of this county will be able this year to save \$40,000. The Inland Graingrowers' association is a corporation and buys its own sacks direct thus making a great deal better bargain than the dealer can make.

Another purpose of the association is to force the O. R. & N. and Northern Pacific railway companies to arrange to shift cars from one line to the other without removing the goods from one car to another. Another object the association has in view is to reduce freight rates on large grain shipments.

Fuel Down at Pendleton.

Pendleton—An exceptionally mild winter has combined with the recent financial panic to create havoc with the fuel situation in this city, as viewed from the standpoint of the fuel dealer. Coal has dropped from \$11 to \$7 per ton, and though the wood price is being kept up temporarily by the sheer force of the local combine, the bottom is sure to drop out of it shortly.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 82c; bluestem, 84c; valley, 82c; red, 80c.
Oats—No. 1 white, 28c; gray, 28c.
Barley—Feed, \$27 per ton; brewing, \$32; rolled, \$29@30.
Corn—Whole, \$32.50; cracked, \$32.50.
Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$20 @21; clover, \$14@15; chest, \$15; grain hay, \$14@15; alfalfa, \$12@13; vetch, \$14.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@35c per pound.
Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12@13c; spring chickens, 13@14c; roosters, 10 @12c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 14@15c; dressed, choice, 16@17c; geese, live, 9@10c; ducks, 18@20c; pigeons, 75c@81c; squabs, \$1.50@2.
Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 26@27c per dozen.
Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 9@9½c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 8@8½c.
Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 7@7½c; packers, 5@6c.
Fruits—Apples, table, \$1.75@2.50; cooking, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, 48@51 per barrel.
Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets, \$1.00 per sack; cabbage, 1½c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.75 @2; celery, \$3.50@4.50 per crate; onions, 16@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peas, 10c per pound; peppers, 17½c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1½c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach, 6c per pound; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1½c per pound.
Onions—\$2.50 per hundred.
Potatoes—40@60c per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, \$3.25 @3.50 per cwt.
Hops—1907, prime and choice, 5@7½c per pound; olds, 1@2c per pound.
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 13@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 18@20c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@30c per pound.

NO TARIFF REVISION.

Task Will Be Taken Up Next Winter House Leaders Say.

Washington, Feb. 5.—The present congress will not appoint a tariff commission. Revision of the tariff will be undertaken next winter, in the short term. These announcements, in substance, were made today by Chairman Payne, of the house committee on ways and means, in the presence and with the tacit approval of Speaker Cannon, the occasion being a call upon those leaders by a tariff revision delegation from various parts of the country, comprising representatives of many of the biggest manufacturing and industrial concerns in the United States, and headed by James W. Van Cleave, of St. Louis, president of the National Association of Manufacturers; ex-Governor N. J. Bachelor, of New Hampshire, and H. E. Miles, of Racine, Wis., chairman of the tariff committee of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The delegation spent more than an hour presenting its case and listening to replies by the two foremost Republican leaders in the house, which, while they were cordially couched, were practically a refusal of all that the delegation had journeyed to Washington to plead for.

CLEETON IS CHOICE.

Oregon Delegation in Congress Unites on District Attorneyship.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Thomas J. Cleeton, of Portland, a close friend of Senator Fulton, is slated for United States district attorney for Oregon. Senators Fulton and Burnes and Congressman Ellis united in recommending him; the recommendation was placed in the president's hands last night, and it is expected that Mr. Cleeton's nomination will be sent to the senate today.

The obsequies were held over Chris Schuebel's nomination yesterday afternoon. Mr. Bourne was the only mourner, but the ceremony was behind closed doors and there was none but his colleagues to witness his last tearful tribute to his friend. Mr. Bourne frankly admitted to them that it was useless for him to press Mr. Schuebel's nomination further. He said that he was satisfied that to do so would be to court a turndown by the senate, for his careful canvass of the situation had satisfied him that, if the nomination was pressed, not only the subcommittee but the entire judiciary committee would vote adversely and the senate would support Mr. Fulton in his opposition.

FULTON WILL RETURN.

Comes to Oregon to Answer Charges of Attorney Heney.

Washington, Feb. 5.—Senator Fulton has decided to go back to Oregon, meet the charges made against him by Francis J. Heney, and square himself with his constituents. The full text of Mr. Heney's speech was received here last night. After reading the full report, the senator decided to make his answer on the ground rather than by letter from here, and says his answer will be complete. He will probably take the 3 o'clock train today. The senator last night said:

"I shall leave for Oregon tomorrow. I would have left today, but for the fact that it was necessary to arrange, so far as possible, for matters pending in which the state is interested. I had not contemplated another trip to Oregon during the present campaign, being perfectly willing to leave the matter of selecting my successor to the people without suggestion from me, so long as the campaign should be conducted along decent lines."

Turkey Menaces Russia.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 5.—Recent advice received from the Caucasus indicates that the Russian inhabitants are greatly alarmed over the concentration of Turkish troops in Armenia and it is believed is designed as a reply to any attempt at a demonstration on the part of Russia. Under the cover of Turkish tribesmen the Turks are reported as massing infantry at Bayazid and other strategic points near the frontier in such strength as to dispose of the probability that the movement is intended solely against non-militant Persia.

Dom Miguel Acts Carefully.

Vienna, Feb. 5.—Dom Miguel de Braganza, the pretender to the throne of Portugal, has curtailed his stay in Viareggio, Italy, and is now on his way back to Austria. This step, it is believed, is taken on the advice of relatives of the pretender, that he avoid any action that could under these circumstances in any way be misconstrued.

Storm Demoralizes Traffic.

Durango, Colo., Feb. 5.—The worst snow storm of the season has been prevailing in Southwestern Colorado today. The storm began last Sunday and has been growing in intensity ever since. Railroad traffic is demoralized and telegraph and telephone wires are down in all directions.

SURE OF CONVICTION

Prosecution Confident Hall is Found Guilty.

JURY DELIBERATES THREE HOURS

Interprets Speedy Agreement to Indicate Conviction, in View of Judge's Instructions.

Portland, Feb. 8.—At 1:30 o'clock this morning the jury in the Hall conspiracy trial announced that it had reached a verdict. The verdict was sealed in an envelope, under instructions given by Judge Hunt last night, and will be returned to the court and opened at 10 o'clock this morning. In view of the charge given by Judge Hunt and the fact that the jury deliberated only three hours, having retired at 10:20 o'clock last night, the prosecution is confident the verdict is guilty. Under the Federal statutes, conspiracy such as that charged in the indictment on which Hall was tried, is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$10,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding two years.

Portland, Feb. 8.—At last night's session, which convened at 7:45 o'clock, Judge Hunt delivered exhaustive instructions to the jury, the charge requiring two hours for its delivery. At 10:12 o'clock, after Judge Webster for the defendant had interposed objections to practically every instruction of the court, the jury retired to deliberate on a verdict. The jurors were instructed by Judge Hunt that if a verdict should be reached during the night, they were to seal it in an envelope and repair in the custody of the bailiffs to their rooms, the verdict to be returned at 10 o'clock this morning to which hour the court then adjourned.

Judge Hunt's instructions were far more elaborate than in any of the preceding land fraud or conspiracy cases. They consisted of a learned exposition of the law as applied to conspiracy charges and a lucid interpretation of the statutes pertaining to the fencing and homestead acts and the statute of limitations.

When the instructions had been given, Mr. Heney expressed his satisfaction with them, but Judge Webster, for the defendant, submitted exceptions in a general way to the entire charge.

REFORM POSTAL SERVICE.

Commission Recommends Changes in Interest of Economy.

Washington, Feb. 5.—In a preliminary report of the postal commission authorized during the last congress, the main recommendation will be to the effect that the office of the fourth assistant postmaster general shall be done away with and that an executive officer appointed by the president for a long term be installed as the active head of the department, who shall act under the direction of the postmaster general and hold the same relation that a superintendent of a railroad holds to a railroad president and directorate.

The examiners found that politics too often interfered with the systematic running of the department and that the heads were seldom installed for any length of time before being retired or placed elsewhere.

Under present conditions it is necessary for a mail bag broken on an Alaskan route to be transported the entire distance to the Mississippi valley before it can be mended. To do away with this and other impracticable methods, the commission proposes the formation of divisions with full power to administer offices within their boundaries. Said boundaries shall not necessarily follow state lines.

Of the 62,000 postoffices run by the government it is thought that fully 30,000 can be operated in such a manner as to become non-accounting offices and do away with the too frequent issuance of stamps and many intermediate reports.

Mexico Grants Coaling Station.

Mexico City, Feb. 8.—The concession by Mexico to the United States granting the privilege for the establishment of a coaling station at Magdalena bay is now in force and it is expected that the two barges provided under the concession will be anchored in the bay before the arrival there of the fleet. Further negotiations are pending for a large target range and permission to land marines for small arms practice. Previous requests of like nature were not favorably received by Mexico, but this one may be granted.

Smuggles Arms into China.

Hongkong, Feb. 8.—Chinese imperial customs officials this afternoon seized a Japanese steamer near Macao, which was landing arms on Chinese territory. It is alleged that the arms were intended for revolutionists under Dr. Sun Yet Sen, the leader of the revolutionary party in China.