

ROADS ARE BLOCKED

Blizzard and Snow Ties Up Middle West Traffic.

TEMPERATURE GETS NEAR ZERO

From Manitoba Through Minnesota and West to Montana, Gale Carries Clouds of Snow.

St. Paul, April 2.—A terrific gale is blowing here today and is bearing a cold wave down from the Northwest, according to the United States weather bureau. The cold wave will cause a drop in temperature to about 10 degrees above zero.

Very low temperature prevailed today at most places in Manitoba and territories. It was two degrees below zero at Medicine Hat today and four below at Prince Albert.

A dispatch from Grand Forks, N. D., says:

"A heavy snowstorm, accompanied by wind, caused delay to trains in North Dakota today. The east bound Oriental limited of the Great Northern arrived four hours late and reported that the storm raged all the way from Great Falls, Mont. All trains from the East were from half an hour to two hours late this morning.

The snow is drifting and it is believed traffic will be tied up west of Grand Forks. About a foot of snow has fallen here in the last 24 hours. It is reported that the Soo line from Ardock west to Kenmare is badly tied up."

In the Grip of a Blizzard.

Crookston, Minn., April 2.—The entire Red river valley has been since last night in the grip of the worst blizzard of the winter.

PORTLAND'S ROSE CARNIVAL

Great Preparations Being Made for Floral Event.

Portland, Or., April 2.—This week the management of the Portland Rose festival, which will give a \$50,000 celebration during the first six days of June, inaugurated a campaign of publicity throughout all sections of the country. The campaign consists of the sending out by mail of 250,000 beautifully colored and artistic advertising "inserts," in which plan all the wholesale and retail houses, hotels, restaurants, public schools, drug stores, etc., have been enlisted. Great demand has been made for these attractive inserts a ready and they will be sent out regularly until the festival opens June 1.

One of the fine features of the big jubilee will be the grand water carnival to be held one evening during the week. Every individual, firm or corporation that owns a pleasure or business craft that plies in the waters of the Northwest has been invited to enter some craft in the magnificent decorative and illuminated aquatic pageant.

Capt. J. C. Speier, harbor master of this port, chairman of the water carnival committee, has been in communication with many associations along the streams and rivers of this section that are interested in water sports and most of them have assured him that they will be glad to participate in that event.

Quite a number of towns and cities of Oregon, outside of Portland, have come to the front to help make the festival a huge success. Some have appropriated as high as \$500 and \$600 to defray the expense of building a fine decorated and illuminated float for the splendid night parade "The Spirit of the Golden West."

Work on these floats is already under way and new committees are being heard from every few days. The time is short, so the management urges those towns that desire to take part in the demonstration to communicate with the festival management at once.

Commercial bodies from all parts of California will come here for two or three days of the festival. A special business men's excursion under the auspices of the California state board of trade, which will embrace organizations from all the leading cities of that commonwealth, has already been arranged for.

Avoid Venezuelan Question.

Washington, April 2.—For an hour and a half yesterday, Secretary Root discussed with the senate committee on foreign relations treaties resulting from The Hague conference. The committee decided to favorably report the general treaty providing for the pacific settlement of international disputes. The committee also heard Mr. Root's views on the two treaties providing for the regulation of contracts and establishment of prize courts. Contrary to expectations, the Venezuelan question was not touched upon.

Buffalo Bill Breaks Down.

Chicago, April 2.—Colonel William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) is seriously ill here at the Stratford hotel, suffering from a general nervous breakdown.

UPPER COURT TO DECIDE.

Ruef Asks That Judge Dooling Be Forbidden to Try Him.

San Francisco, April 2.—With the views of Judge Maurice T. Dooling, as announced from the bench, that an immunity contract is non-existent in law, illegal if entered into by a district attorney and unenforceable by a defendant, indicating a probable adverse ruling on the objection of Abraham Ruef to further proceedings against him because of the promise of immunity made him by the prosecution but afterwards repudiated, Ruef, through his attorneys, today made application to the State Supreme court for a writ of mandate and petitioned for a writ of prohibition. The application and petition are identical with the ones denied yesterday by the District Court of Appeal. The Supreme court is asked to prohibit Judge Dooling from continuing the trial of Ruef, and to issue a writ of mandate ordering him to transfer the case to another department of the Superior court.

Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney this afternoon replied to the argument of Frank J. Murphy, who raised the question of the immunity contract before Judge Dooling this morning and contended that through Ruef's reliance upon the promise made him, his constitutional rights were invaded when he testified before the grand jury and that he was entitled to be placed back where he could attack the validity of the indictments.

PRACTICE NEARLY OVER.

Vessels at Magdalena Bay About to Coal and Clean Ship.

San Diego, Cal., April 3.—Wireless reports received from Magdalena bay state that the record target practice of 1908 for the Atlantic fleet is practically at an end. The Vermont, the last of the "Big 16" to go upon the ranges, completed the firing of her 12-inch guns yesterday and today was completing her record with the rifles in the secondary battery. Most of the ships also have completed their torpedo practice, so that little remains to be done at Magdalena bay but to coal and clean ship.

It is said that all of the vessels will take on sufficient coal to carry them to San Francisco. In this way the ships will be open to visitors every day of their stay at the various ports on the coast. During coaling days all ships of the navy are barred to visitors and practically all of the officers have to remain on board.

The Connecticut, which brought Admiral Evans to San Diego yesterday afternoon, and which cleared again for Magdalena bay at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, was 240 miles south at noon today and will rejoin the fleet late tomorrow afternoon.

The weather at Magdalena bay is reported as cloudy and threatening, these conditions having prevailed for some time. No rain has fallen in the bay, but a few miles inland it is said there have been heavy showers. White uniforms were expected to be worn, but blue has been the prescribed color nearly every day.

CONDEMNS ALL PENDING BILLS.

New York Chamber Advocates Commission on Currency System.

New York, April 3.—None of the currency legislation now before congress, with the exception of the Levering bill, which provides for the appointment of a commission to investigate the currency and banking systems of the United States, will have the approval of the New York chamber of commerce. This was the decision today when the chamber adopted the report of its special committee to investigate and report upon pending legislation. It is the belief of the committee that there is little chance of any currency legislation being enacted at the present session of congress.

The committee's report recommends the enactment of a law providing for the appointment of a commission to investigate the currency and banking systems of the United States and other leading commercial nations and to report such measure "as may be found necessary to place our currency and banking system on a sound basis, which is absolutely essential for the permanent welfare and progress of the country."

Moves to Start Mines.

Indianapolis, April 3.—The first official act of President Lewis, of the United Mineworkers of America, in assuming his office today, was to send telegraphic invitations to the operators of the competitive field, consisting of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, to attend a meeting in this city Monday, April 6, with representatives of the miners, to make an effort to agree upon a call for an interstate wage convention and, if necessary, to decide upon a general resumption of mining operations in the field.

Anarchy Rules in Hayti.

Paris, April 3.—A dispatch received here today from Port au Prince, Hayti, says that the situation there is extremely grave and that complete anarchy prevails. The dispatch further declares that American warships are preparing to land marines.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

PLAN BIG FRUIT WAREHOUSE

Growers Get Architect's Drawings—Soon Start Work

Milton—Plans for the new warehouse and cold storage plant to be erected by the Milton Fruitgrowers' union have been received from the architect, F. E. Finkenbinder, of Walla Walla, and preparations are being made to begin work. The building will have 18-foot walls, with a full basement. The second story will be used as a box factory and for storage purposes. Half of the basement will be used for cold storage, the remainder for storage of fruits and berries awaiting shipment.

The plans are now to construct the building of concrete. Large shipping platforms will surround it on two sides and one end. The building will be 40 feet wide and 100 feet long, with freight elevators at each end. It will have a capacity of handling \$500,000 worth of fruit during a season.

PAYS \$25,000 FOR ORCHARD

Dr. F. C. Page, of Medford, Buys 258 Acres in Ashland District.

Ashland—The papers have been drawn at Ashland in what is believed is the biggest orchard sale yet consummated in the history of the Rogue River valley. The property involved is the orchard and farm of County Commissioner Joshua Patterson, located in Talent precinct, four miles north of Ashland. Two hundred and fifty-eight acres was the acreage involved in the deal, 130 acres being young orchard of four and five-year-old apple trees in fine condition, the remainder being farm lands suitable for fruitgrowing, but unplanted to trees. The consideration in the deal was \$52,000.

Cuts Freight Rates.

Salem—The Oregon Railroad commission has rendered its decision in the O. R. & N. distributive rate case, ordering a reduction in rates between Portland and points east of The Dalles. The reduction amounts to 3 cents a hundred on first-class freight to Biggs, 7 cents to Arlington, 13 cents to Pendleton, 18 cents to La Grande and Baker City, and 19 cents to Huntington, with proportionate reductions to other points and on other classes of freight. Rates to The Dalles are already low enough, owing to water competition. All the commissioners concurred in the decision.

Shear Sheep With Machinery.

Arlington—Sheep-shearing will begin at Smythe & Smith's plant, five miles south of here, this week. Sixteen shearing machines will be used, the power being furnished by a six-horse power gasoline engine. Forty thousand sheep will be sheared at this plant this season, and an average of 2,000 head daily is expected. Sheepmen report that the sheep are in good condition, but that pasture is getting scarce. This has been one of the most successful lambing seasons known, but few lambs being lost from any cause.

The Dalles Makes Good Brick.

The Dalles—Mr. Litherland, a Portland brick expert, whose opinion was sought by the architect of the city hall, now in process of construction, regarding brick lately burned here by The Dalles Brick & Tile company, has made a report after a careful examination and declares the brick equal to any made in this state. Some of the casing brick delivered in this city by mistake had been rejected by the architect, which led to the examination.

Seeking Coal Near Dalles.

Dallas—Hon. W. C. Brown will begin the work of drilling for coal on his property in the northern part of this city within a few days. Several good specimens of lignite coal have been found in recent excavations, and the contour of the land at that place indicates the presence of a large deposit. Mr. Brown is convinced that the project will pay, and will lose no time in making the preliminary excavations for sinking a shaft.

University Data in Bulletin.

University of Oregon, Eugene—A new bulletin has just been issued from the university office containing a brief historical sketch of the institution, the names of all regents and their terms of service, a similar chart of the officers of administration and instruction and the names, residences and occupations of all the alumni.

Seek for Oil.

The Dalles—Articles of incorporation by the "Beavis-May Oil company" have been filed with the county clerk here. The incorporators are George R. Beavis, Anna May and Dr. Harry F. McKay. The capital stock is \$50,000. The company purposes to engage in developing oil lands in the vicinity of Dufar, Or., at which place the head office is to be.

MILLS RESUME IN BAKER.

Improvement in the Lumber Market Start Wheels Turning.

Baker City—One of the largest industries in Baker City that was affected by the recent panic is soon to begin operations again and will give employment to several hundred men. The South Baker Lumber mills have been idle for the last few months, but the wheels will be set turning as soon as enough logs can be brought down to insure a steady run. At the time of closing down, the Oregon Lumber company had a large supply of finished lumber in the yards, and owing to the lessened demand for lumber there has been no necessity to run the mill.

The Stoddard Brothers Lumber company has been running its mill in this city all winter, turning out about 40,000 feet of finished lumber each day. The mill of the Oregon Lumber company at Austin has been running steadily all winter, turning out a like amount of the finished product. Lumber conditions are beginning to improve noticeably.

Learn to Farm at School.

Albany—Pupils of the seventh and eighth grades of the Albany public schools will devote their spare time this spring to growing vegetables and flowers. They will engage in practical work in connection with the new study of agriculture now required in the seventh and eighth grades of the public schools of the state and will be stimulated to active efforts by a series of prizes offered through the arrangements of Superintendent A. M. Sanders, of the local public schools.

To Examine Soils.

Klamath Falls—Through the joint efforts of the Klamath Water Users' association and the Klamath chamber of commerce, and the personal requests of citizens of this section, a soil survey of the Klamath basin will be made by a corps of soil experts of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is very urgently desired by the people that the survey be made this summer, and assurances have been received from Secretary Wilson that it will be undertaken as soon as possible.

Big Batch of Steelhead Eggs.

Oregon City—Superintendent Henry O'Malley, of the United States bureau of fisheries, reports that prospects are good for a take of 2,000,000 steelhead eggs at the Rogue river station, which he has just inspected. Superintendent O'Malley has just received 100,000 Rainbow trout eggs from the government station at Baird, Cal., and these will be hatched and liberated from Clackamas station.

Baking Powder Plant at Portland.

Portland—Portland is to be made the manufacturing and distributing point for the Northwestern territory of the Hunt's Perfect Baking Powder company, of Minneapolis. The plant will be built during the summer. William C. Rigg, of Minneapolis, vice president of the company, is at the Hotel Portland, and is making all arrangements to locate a branch of the concern here.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 83@84c; bigstem, 85@86c; valley, 83@84c; red, 81@82c. Barley—Feed, \$26 per ton; rolled, \$28@30 per ton. Oats—No. 1 white, \$27@28 per ton. Corn—Whole, \$33.50; cracked, \$34.50. Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$19@20; clover, \$14@15; cheat, 15c; grain hay, \$14@15; alfalfa, \$12@13. Fruits—Apples, \$1@3.50 per box, according to quality; cranberries, \$8@11 per barrel. Vegetables—Artichokes, 75@90c per dozen; asparagus, 8@10c pound; beans, 20c pound; cabbage, 1 1/2@1 3/4c pound; cauliflower, \$2; celery, \$4.50@5 per crate; parsley, 25c per dozen; peas, 15c pound; peppers, 20c per dozen; radishes, 30c per dozen; rhubarb, \$2.50 per crate; spinach, 85c crate; sprouts, 10c per pound, squash, 1@1 1/2c pound. Onions—Oregon, \$4@4.25 per hundred. Potatoes—50@60c per hundred, delivered Portland. Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@30c per pound. Poultry—Average old hens, 14@15c per pound; mixed chickens, 12@13c; spring chickens, 16@20c; turkeys, live, 15@17c; dressed, choice, 16@20c; geese, live, 8@10c; ducks, 16@17c; pigeons, 75@81c; squabs, \$1.50@2. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 16c per dozen. Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8@9c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 6@6 1/2c. Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 7@7 1/2c; packers, 8@8 1/2c. Hops—1907, prime and choice, 4@5c per pound; old, 1@1 1/2c per pound. Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 12@16c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 16@18c, according to quality; mohair, choice, 25c per pound. Casaca Bark—3c per pound.

PATIENCE IS EXHAUSTED.

Senate Likely to Take Drastic Steps Against Castro.

Washington, April 1.—The long expected correspondence between America and Venezuela respecting pending American claims against the latter country was submitted to the senate yesterday, and is almost certain to create a profound impression. It will be difficult to digest the mass of material which Secretary Root has placed before congress but even a cursory inspection of the documents makes it evident that negotiations have reached a critical phase. The president's realization of the fact is shown by his transmission of the matter to the senate without any comment regarding the correspondence, and especially Secretary Root's strong presentation of the American case, as sufficient instantly to enlist the attention of congress.

All the correspondence and documents were referred to the senate committee on foreign relations. Mr. Root will appear before the committee today, ostensibly to discuss some of the treaties negotiated at The Hague, but it is expected he will take up the Venezuelan affair and suggest some action.

Those members of the committee who have already familiarized themselves with the situation have arranged tentatively a program which consists of three propositions, as follows:

Place a prohibitive tariff on Venezuelan coffee, the exports of which constitute 45 per cent of the entire foreign trade, and 90 per cent of the coffee being taken by the United States.

Exclude all importations of asphalt from Lake Bermudes, the product of which is taken almost entirely by the United States.

Authorize the president to exercise the general power vested in him to take whatever steps he may consider necessary to treat with Venezuela in the future.

JUDGE SAYS HE CAN DECIDE

Thinks He Has Right to Say Whether Rates Are Just.

Kansas City, Mo., April 1.—Judge Smith McPherson, in the Federal court here today, decided that he has full jurisdiction over both the maximum freight and the 2-cent passenger rate cases, in Missouri. In other words, he holds in favor of the railroads and against the state on the question on jurisdiction.

Last year the legislature passed the 2-cent law, and a minimum freight law reducing existing freight rates about 25 per cent. All of the main line railroads in Missouri joined in an application for an injunction last June from the Federal court at Kansas City to prevent the state officials from enforcing the law. Months ago a truce was arranged between the railroads and the attorney general, under which the roads were to put the 2-cent law in force.

The railroads agreed to give the 2-cent law a test for three months, and asked Judge McPherson to give them that much time to see how the law would affect their revenues. For seven months the railroads have sold tickets at 2 cents. Now comes the court with a decision holding that in enjoining the state officers, he is not enjoining the state itself; that he has a perfect right to go into the question of whether the rates fixed by the statutes are remunerative.

MESSAGE BY PRESIDENT.

Far Reaching Legislation Against Anarchists Recommended.

Washington, April 1.—Police and government war on anarchy will receive a great impetus if the present program of President Roosevelt goes through, and there is little room for doubt that it will. The president will send a message to congress urging far reaching legislation.

Under the present Federal law all criminal aliens who have not been in the United States three years may be deported summarily.

It is expected by the department of commerce and labor that there will be wholesale deportations within a short time.

The legislation will be designed to bring within the Federal jurisdiction citizens of the United States who propagate anarchistic theories.

Many Banks Fail.

Tokio, April 1.—Today's banking statement shows that during March 10 banks have closed their doors. The Japanese government is exerting itself to the utmost to relieve the country's financial situation. The markets seem to have been literally wrung financially dry. Failures, which were at first confined principally to the banks and larger commercial houses and industrial companies, are now occurring daily among the smaller tradesmen. March has been the worst month since the stringency began.

Organize for Boycott.

Hong Kong April 1.—The boycott against Japanese goods, instituted as a result of the Tatsu Maru incident, is spreading. Forty firms in Hong Kong announce that they will not sell Japanese goods. All along the West river the boycott is being organized and meetings are being convened to discuss the matter.

WEST MUST UNITE

Important Legislation Pending at National Capital.

TEAM WORK WOULD CARRY DAY

Dry Farm Homestead Bill, in Which West is Greatly Interested, Among Measures.

Washington, April 4.—There are several important bills pending before senate and house, or in their committees, of great interest to the West, any one of which can probably be passed if Western senators and congressmen will get together and make a united effort. Most conspicuous among them at the present time is the 320-acre dry farm homestead bill, a measure that means a great deal to the states west of the Missouri river, in many of which settlement is practically checked because the best lands have passed to private ownership, and what remains cannot be successfully entered under the existing homestead law.

Another most meritorious measure hanging in the balance is the Borah bill, providing funds for building schools, installing sewer and water systems and making other municipal improvements in towns established on government irrigation projects. This bill proposes to donate to such towns all moneys derived from the sale of town lots, a fund which, in most instances, will be ample for the purpose.

Experience has shown that towns on government projects have been slower of development than towns on Carey act projects. The latter have grown rapidly. Large schools have been erected; adequate water and sewer systems have been installed, streets have been improved, etc., whereas in towns on government projects the citizens have been obliged to go down into their own pockets to provide and maintain schools and property holders have been compelled to bear the entire expense of all civic improvements.

The national drainage bill, which contemplates the reclamation of swamp and overflowed lands in all parts of the United States, stands little chance of passing this session. Though it is a measure of great merit, there does not seem to be that interest that is essential to force through a bill of such magnitude and importance. It is difficult to explain this lack of interest, too, for there is scarcely a state that has not some lands that would be benefitted by a national drainage law.

There is one bill that congress will certainly not pass this session, yet one that should have been enacted long ago—a bill repealing the timber and stone act and substituting some more practicable statute providing for the disposal of government timber. It has been amply demonstrated that the timber and stone act is vicious and unjust.

POPULISTS NAME TICKET.

Watson and Williams Their Choice for National Officers.

St. Louis, April 4.—For president of the United States, Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia.

For vice president, Samuel W. Williams, of Indiana.

This ticket was nominated yesterday by the Peoples' party convention after two stormy sessions, throughout which the Nebraska and Minnesota delegations, working in the interests of W. J. Bryan, strove desperately to bring about an adjournment till after nominations had been made by the Democratic and Republican parties. Hopefully outnumbered, and without any chance whatever of gaining their object, the Nebraska men fought desperately to the last, and, when Jay A. Forrester, of Albany, N. Y., mounted the platform to place Mr. Watson in nomination, they withdrew from the convention, attended by the Minnesota delegation.

Confer With Governors.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 4.—John Mitchell, ex president of the miners of the country, is one of the five Americans selected by President Roosevelt to be special guests of the big conference of state and territorial governors to be held in Washington May 13. This conference, which will last three days and the sessions of which will be held in the east room of the White House, will be presided over by Mr. Roosevelt. It will be the first meeting in the history of the country of Federal and state and territorial executives.

Will Fight Two-Cent Law.

Chicago, April 4.—A combined attack on the 2-cent passenger rate is promised by the railroads that operate in Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri. It is probable that the suits will be filed next week. The call for a conference to meet, at which officials of the Illinois roads will be present, was issued today, and plans for the fight will then then be laid.