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# MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

THE WEATHER.  
Tonight and Saturday —  
Cloudy. Thursday — High  
61, low 40, range 51.

FOURTH YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1910.

No. 268.

## DREAD DRAGON OF DISEASE BARES ITS FANGS IN PARIS

### FLOOD REACHES ITS CREST BUT GREATER DANGER IMMINENT

#### BREAKS IN SEWERS HAVE BEEN SO FREQUENT THAT ALL HOUSES FLOODED ARE CONTAMINATED

Stench From Sewers is Increased and Danger of Spread of Disease from Foul Gases is Greater—Hundreds of Doctors Are Working Day and Night in Battle to Stop Spread of Pestilence.

PARIS, Jan. 28.—Rearing its ugly head out of the polluted waters of the flood, the horrible dragon of disease bared its fangs in the face of Paris today and the stricken city hesitated in its rejoicing at the arrival of the crest of the flood with a sickening sensation of the new peril.

The health officials are sending out placards giving the people warning of the death that lurks in the waters befouled by the broken sewers. The newspapers publish in big type instructions to the citizens, and every means within the resources of the crippled municipality is being employed to battle with the peril.

The soldiers and police have positive orders not to allow the people to move back into houses that have been flooded after the waters begin to recede.

Inspectors reported that breaks in sewers have been so frequent that it will be necessary for the officers to bury all clothing, bedding, carpets and other materials which absorb water. All the flooded houses must be fumigated and the walls must be scraped before the occupants can safely return to them.

With the higher temperature today the stench from the sewers was increased and the danger of the spread of disease from the foul gases was correspondingly greater.

The hospitals are being taxed with numbers of patients far greater than they could accommodate properly under ordinary circumstances. With the lack of heat and light and the danger of a failure in supplies, the doctors are facing a most critical situation.

Hundreds of doctors have been working under most adverse circumstances day and night. The heroic deeds that have marked the dark days of the flood have not all taken place upon the water front in the actual struggle with the great tide, but the bravery of the doctors and nurses who have met the situation without flinching ranks with the spirit shown by the famous leaders of the Red Cross society in times of war.

Forty miles above Paris toward the headwaters of the river Seine the floods today are beginning to fall and the assurances of engineers that the rising tide practically has reached its crest here are being received with hysterical joy.

The Seine became almost stationary by 9 o'clock and, although the swirling waters had ceased to rise, the flood was at its most dangerous point.

It was expected, however, that the waters would begin to recede soon. The extent of desolation they will reveal remains for the flood itself to disclose.

Believe Death Liest Great. Although every effort has been made to rescue thousands of marooned citizens, it is not certain that all escaped with their lives.

Scores of persons in the poorer sections of the city are known to have hidden in their homes. It is hoped that they escaped, but the authorities fear that bodies will be found in the oozy debris.

Couriers today report that the river Marne is receding to its channel and that the waters are falling.

Buildings May Collapse. The danger of buildings collapsing as the result of their foundations being undermined will be greater than ever when the water begins to recede, according to the government engineers today, as at present the resistance of the flood filling the excavations is believed to be actually giving support to many of the weakened walls.

So far it has been impossible to make a complete estimate of the damage done to the vast underground network which in places has been washed out until the surface crusts have collapsed. The engineers believe, however, that throughout the

Paris Joyful. In all the river towns above Paris practically the entire population turned out to celebrate the passing of the crest of the flood.

The full extent of the damage in the rural districts and in the small towns cannot be determined as yet, as the people in those sections have thrown themselves hysterically into the demonstration.

Tremendous Loss. As apprehension of further danger from the rushing waters was alleviated during the afternoon the people of Paris began to realize the enormous loss the city has sustained.

The rejoicing at the quick recession of waters was lessened by the pitiful scenes in the sections where the refugees have congregated.

(Continued on page 2)

#### 400 LIVES LOST IN GALES ALONG EUROPE'S COAST

Shores of English Channel Dotted With Wreckage—Channel Today Whipped by Worst Storm It Has Known in Years.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—From reports received today from various points on the west coast of Europe and the shores of the English channel, it is believed that between 300 and 400 lives have been lost at sea in the series of terrific gales that have swept the Atlantic from Gibraltar to the Danish peninsula during the last three days.

The shores of the channel are dotted with wreckage and many bodies have been washed in by the mountainous seas. Hundreds of craft undoubtedly have gone to the bottom.

The channel today is being whipped by one of the fiercest storms that have visited it in many years. Additional death toll undoubtedly will be demanded.

The steamer Laura foundered early today off Corunna, Spain, according to advices received here, and her crew of 30 drowned.

The Italian steamer Gimpuseo was swallowed by the waves in the bay of Biscap, near Bilbao, Spain, today. Several sailors were washed overboard before lifeboats could be lowered.

A British torpedo-boat destroyer which broke from its moorings near Dover last night, is a total wreck on the beach. Its crew of 40 men was rescued.

The building of extra dykes along the Seine at the most dangerous points was continued today as rapidly as heretofore. Even though the flood is believed to have reached its highest point, it will be many days before all danger is passed.

Engineers worked all night in their efforts to save the Louvre, Sainte Chapelle and other world famous structures which have been constantly threatened by the floods.

Glad Flood is Lowered. Reports received today from the upper Seine and Marne rivers say that the people wept with joy when informed that the flood had reached its highest points and the waters were receding.

Town criers passed through the streets announcing the joyful news through megaphones, and drum corps formed to celebrate the occasion.

Hundreds of flood sufferers in the various little towns fell in line behind the drum corps and marched in triumphant processions singing the Marseillaise.

ASQUITH SURE OF HOLDING ONTO PREMIERSHIP

LONDON, Jan. 28.—Premier Herbert Asquith is reported as being so sure of having a working majority in parliament that today he has completed arrangements to continue in the premiership. It is asserted that Asquith is further strengthened in his belief by an alliance with John Redmond, the Irish leader. Reports of this alliance were confirmed today.

Explosion Kills Three. RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 28.—Three men were killed and a number seriously injured today in an explosion of dynamite which destroyed the new and magnificent courthouse at Silver City, N. C.

### COMET-A '10 STARTLES WORLD

#### Comet Increases in Brilliance and Length of Flight—Is Largest Foreign Body in Solar System Since Dawn of History—Astronomers Over Entire World Are Startled.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 28.—The residents of this section of the state will climb to the highest places tonight to view "Comet A, 1910," a celestial vagrant that has appeared in the western sky.

The visitor was first sighted by a lucky accident a few nights ago. Last night the comet had increased in brilliance and length of flight so that thousands were able to watch it until it disappeared under the western rim of the horizon.

The visitor at first is somewhat difficult to locate, as it begins slowly to come into view, owing to the light of the sun and its own brilliance. As the sun's rays recede and the sky grows darker, however, the comet, first appearing as a faint star, begins to shine of its own light. The tail gradually grows longer and brighter until by 6 o'clock in the evening its full proportions are seen. Then it is noted that the tail reaches nearly two-thirds up the arch of the sky toward the zenith.

Largest in History. "The huge comet," says Edgar Lucien Larkin, the astronomer, "now on display north of the sun at sunset is the largest foreign body ever in the solar system so far as is known since the art of writing was discovered. From the beginning of Chinese records, B. C. 2000 and Chaldee, no such colossal comet has been mentioned. To comet proper at this writing, 8 o'clock p. m., January 26, 1910, is not the largest on record, but its attendant mass of luminous matter is wider in area than can be conceived of by vivid imagination.

The area of the sun is about one-fifth square degree, but the area of the luminous sheet of matter high above and far to the south of the comet is not less than 1000 square degrees. The comet at sunset was roughly 25 degrees in length. The length was vertical, but the stem was not less than 10 degrees in width, leaning toward the south. North of the comet's length the sky was normal, but far and away toward the south for 20 degrees and toward the zenith 60 degrees even to Saturn, the entire sky was covered with brilliant matter. No such thing is recorded in the history of man. This comet is magnificent beyond all powers of description. The nucleus is of enormous diameter and we are now making history that will endure for ages."

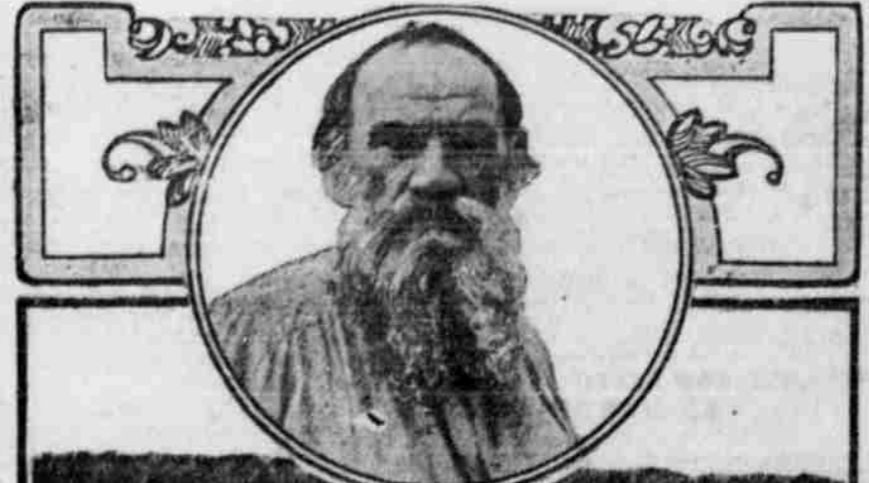
Astronomers Puzzled. Astronomers are as much puzzled over the visitor as are ordinary folk. They cannot predict how long it will be on exhibition here, for the reason that they do not know the comet's orbit and are not certain but nearly sure that it has passed back of the sun and is swinging away from old Sol.

The vagrant body of the sky is not so brilliant as Venus, its nearest planetary neighbor, but it lights the heavens with its own and the reflected light of the sun, and has the appearance of a great searchlight sweeping the heavenly vault.

TTACOMA HAS RAISED PRICE FOR AVIATORS

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 28.—Tacoma business men have raised the \$15,000 guarantee demanded by Promoter Dick Ferris for the proposed aviation meet here, an ideal site on the open prairie just south of the city, has also been secured and today the committee is awaiting word from Ferris as to the dates. Any dates Ferris may select will be acceptable to Tacoma.

### COUNT LEO TOLSTOY, PHILOSOPHER, WHOSE HEALTH IS RAPIDLY FAILING.



The recent illness of Count Leo Tolstoy, the Russian philosopher, novelist and reformer, is more serious than any of the many attacks he has undergone in the last few years. It is believed that the grand old friend of mankind is nearing his end. He celebrated his eighty-first birthday anniversary on Aug. 28 last. He is confined to his bed, but is able to do a few hours' work each day on the novel which he has in hand by dictating to a stenographer. His brain is as clear as it ever was, but he is physically weaker than he has ever been before. Count Tolstoy was born at Yasnaya Polyana, Russia, near where he now lives, in 1828.

### POMOLOGIST DENIES TALE

#### Government Pomologist in Washington Names Report from Yakima Regarding Rogue River Fruit a Lie—Box Was in Splendid Condition Which He Examined.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—To the Medford Mail Tribune, Medford, Or.: Any claim of the Yakima fruit growers that Rogue River apples were found diseased by this bureau must be a canard. I personally examined the only box of Rogue River apples which could have been in question and found them exceptionally fine in both appearance and quality. So far as I know, there is nothing in the report.

The apples were submitted to M. B. Wait, pathologist, who reported that he found the fruit without disease. We want it distinctly understood that the bureau of pomology is not circulating a report that the prize apples were diseased. (Signed) W. A. TAYLOR, Pomologist in Charge of Investigations.

Such, then is the unmistakable terms in which W. A. Taylor, pomologist in charge of field investigations, denies the report sent out Thursday from Yakima discrediting the prize winning car of Rogue River fruit. The affair has developed as predicted—it was simply a case of trying to "queer" the product of Rogue River, whose fruit topped that of Yakima when offered in competition.

When the first intimation was received in Medford Thursday of the attempt in the form of a dispatch to the Medford Mail Tribune, steps were immediately taken to learn of the matter from Washington direct, and the foregoing dispatch was the result.

Since a car of Rogue River fruit swept everything before it at the nation apple show in November efforts have been made to discredit Rogue River fruit, but all attempts have exploded as has this.

### COMMITTEE SELECTED FOR ORGANIZATION

#### Representative Fruitmen of the Valley Will Lay Foundation for Union of Growers.

The following is the committee selected by Professor P. J. O'Gara in accordance with the resolution passed at the Horticultural society meeting in December, to act with C. E. Whistler, ex-officio chairman, in formulating plans for the foundation of a union of the fruit growers of the whole Rogue River valley.

The committee will organize at the meeting to be held February 4, at which time Mr. Whistler will make his report of the trip east:

C. H. Gillette, E. V. Carter, C. D. Schell, Ashland; Captain Gordon Voorhies, Talent; G. A. Hoyer, Phoenix; C. E. Whistler, R. H. Parsons, W. A. Smuner, F. H. Cowles, J. A. Westerlund, Medford; J. W. Merritt, Central Point; L. K. Haak, Eagle Point; Horace Pelton, Gold Hill; G. A. Hamilton, C. E. Selleck, Grants Pass; H. E. Gale, Merlin.

Christy Gets Girl. ZANESVILLE, O., Jan. 28.—The court today awarded Howard Chandler Christy, the artist, possession of his 12-year-old daughter, Natalie, for which he and his wife have waged a desperate legal battle for more than two weeks.

### MAY REMOVE CAR OF TREES

#### N. S. Bennett Only Had 5000 Trees in Car and Explains How It Was Car Shipped in His Name—Says Stock Was Ordered and Shipped in Good Faith.

In response to a telegram sent by N. S. Bennett, G. D. Threlkel, representative of Silva & Bergholdt, the Newcastle nurserymen, whose car of apple trees was condemned by Commissioner Carson, has arrived in Medford and will meet Commissioner Carson in regard to the shipment and decide on the future disposal of the car. It is said that a portion of the trees are all right and may be passed.

While the car was consigned to N. S. Bennett, the local nurseryman, only 5000 of the trees it contained were for him, other nurserymen receiving trees by the same car in order to take advantage of the rate. In speaking of the car, Mr. Bennett stated:

"Less than 5000 of the trees in the car were intended for me, though the car was billed to me and I had no knowledge that it was to be sent to me till I received the bill of lading. The greater part of the car was made up with orders taken by a Mr. Franklin, a transient agent, representing the Silva & Bergholdt Co., and were shipped under sight drafts to L. E. Hoover of Medford, D. D. Sage of Central Point, L. B. Warner of Medford, Brown, Holmes & Ingie of Eagle Point, W. M. Holmes of Medford and C. F. Laneing, proprietor of the Quaker nurseries at Salem.

"By shipping these several lots together all shared the benefits of our rates. However, the car was sent in my care.

"Professor O'Gara did not see the car till after Commissioner Carson came on the afternoon train. Mr. Carson came to pass on a legal matter coming up by the California shippers asking that all stock that did not come up to our standard of excellence be packed and returned to them.

"In justice to Silva & Bergholdt Co., I will say that they are among the leading nurserymen of the Golden State and the stock was both ordered and shipped in good faith.

"I wired the firm and their representative is now here, so I have nothing more to do with the shipment whatever. When you get stock from the Eden Valley Nursery it is all right, or I make it all right. I have culled out trees and put them on the brush pile after the inspectors had passed the stock, and told the inspectors when we first opened the car that there was stock in the car that I would turn down, even if passed by them.

"I have a good trade and appreciate it and will do all in my power to merit the continued patronage of the planters."

CHICAGO, Jan. 28.—It was learned today that one of the first matters to be investigated by the grand jury in connection with the beef trust will be the refrigerator car line monopoly which the packers, it is alleged, now maintain. United States District Attorney General Sims, it is said, already has in his possession evidence tending to show that the California fruitgrowers chose to let their fruit rot in certain instances rather than to pay the heavy charges for icing refrigerator cars during shipment east.

It is understood that this phase of the operations of the beef trust has been investigated in advance and that it will be brought forward as one of the most definite and apparent features of the alleged monopolistic methods of the packers.

It is charged that by the absolute control of refrigerator car lines which must be used in the successful shipment of meats and other perishable foodstuffs, the trust has been able to control the movement of those necessities.

### BEEF TRUST HURTS COAST FRUIT MEN

#### By Their Control of Refrigerator Cars, Trust Causes Great Losses to California Orchardists.

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