

THE WEATHER.

Tonight and Tuesday—Cloudy and possible rain. Sunday's Temperatures—High 51, low 36, range 44.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION Full Leased Wire Report.

The only paper in the world published in a city the size of Medford having a leased wire.

FOURTH YEAR.

MEDFORD OREGON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1910.

No. 294.

AVALANCHE SWEEPS 500 TO DEATH

LITTLE TOWNS OF MACE AND BURKE THOUGHT TO BE BURIED DEEP IN SNOW

Wires Over Northwest Are Down and Late Reports Regarding Second Slide Cannot Be Confirmed—Mace Buried Beneath Tons of Snow. Dirt, and Debris—Every Able Bodied Man in Wallace, Armed With Picks and Shovels Are Rushed to Scene of Disaster to Assist in Rescue Work.

WALLACE, Idaho, Feb. 28.—With the towns of Mace and Burke buried deep under a double avalanche of snow, ice and debris, and 30 dead bodies already recovered, hundreds of rescuers are working desperately this afternoon in the hope of saving the lives of scores, imprisoned beneath their collapsed houses, who still may be alive.

The heroic work is being carried on against tremendous odds and the men who are struggling against the great weight of snow are in constant danger of being entombed by a third slide.

After the first avalanche had smothered the town of Mace and crushed the slight frame structures of the little mining camp as if they had been made of pasteboard, scores of persons from the adjoining towns began the work of rescue, continuing their labors through the night.

At daylight a great mass of snow and ice that had overhung the town of Burke gave way and with grinding, road rush, swept down the mountainside, burying the camp under tons of rocks, trees, earth and stone. The men who were attempting to rescue the imprisoned victims of the first slide fled in terror, as the mass impending over Burke began to move.

Most of the men of Burke had responded to the call for volunteers when Mace was buried and these beheld the destruction of their homes and the probable death of the wives and children of those who were married.

WALLACE, Idaho, Feb. 28.—At least 500 persons are thought to have been swept to death by an avalanche, which after threatening the little town of Mace for two days, last evening tore itself loose and with a deafening road hurled itself upon the town. Hundreds were swept to death. A number escaped death, having been warned that the avalanche was apt to descend at any time.

Later today the destruction of Burke, a mining town adjacent to Mace, was reported. A second avalanche is said to have buried it. Burke is simply a continuation to Mace, and it is feared that the second avalanche reported may have endangered some of the Mace rescuers.

Weather conditions throughout the northwest have resulted in a prostration of wires and the second snowslide cannot be positively verified this morning.

Every able bodied man in Wallace is at the scene this morning helping to rescue those buried beneath the snow. Hardware stores today opened their doors and gave out picks and shovels and two relief trains were immediately dispatched to the scene.

Warning had been issued to the little towns that an avalanche was to be feared, but little attention was paid to the report.

The little town of Mace lies between two precipices, a straggling line of buildings in the creek bottom, with scarce a dividing line between the towns of Black Bear, Gem, Mace and Burke, form a long string of houses for a distance of six miles along the valley. Mace has a population of 1500, mostly miners. Three box cars, containing 50 Northern Pacific section men, were standing on the sidetrack when the slide came. All of these are supposed to have been killed.

At the Mace boarding house the snow is 30 feet deep and all the flats from the boarding house to the east end of the town are buried beneath the slide. Rescue trains began arriving here from adjacent towns to answer the frantic appeals from the scene of the disaster. As fast as it was possible to handle the crowds with the poor equipment of the little ore car railroad line to Mace the men were rushed to the entombed camp. Large quantities of dynamite were taken to the scene, as the enormous masses of frozen earth and rock could at once be removed by the use of explosives.

The rescuers, however, were afraid to resort to blasting, for fear that persons still alive under the debris would be killed by the concussion. Word reached here that 18 bodies had been recovered at Mace and that 12 persons were killed on the outskirts of Burke by a second slide. The known victims from the Burke slide were not buried and were easily recovered.

It is feared here this afternoon that the final report of the disaster when the details become known will show that at least 100 lives have been lost. It is impossible, however, to make

a positive or authoritative estimate of the loss of lives.

No one can tell the exact number of persons who were in the two towns.

Many are believed to be alive in their houses. While excavations so far made show that the houses crumbled like paper, there is no doubt that the walls of many of the stronger structures at least partially withstood the weight of the slide.

Therefore the miners here predict that the rescue work will show that many persons are imprisoned in their buried houses and are still alive under from 20 to 30 feet of snow and debris.

The fact that the majority of the 800 inhabitants of Burke were not caught in the second slide was the result of the warning given by the old time miners after the first slide. Scores of persons fled from the town during the night and camped out on the higher ground, while most of the men went to the scene of the first slide to aid in the work of excavating.

Burke, another little canyon mining camp, reported under snow, was almost wiped out by a landslide on February 1, 1896. Never since has a coeur d'Alene town been so stricken as Mace.

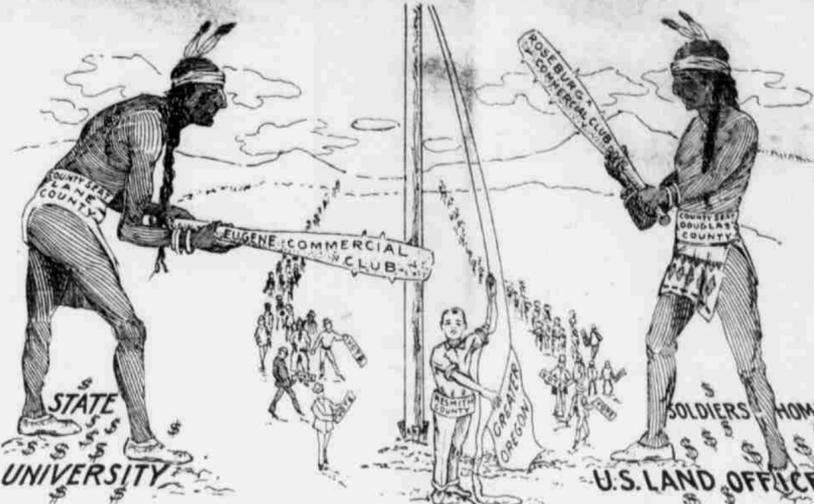
Warnings were issued to the canyon towns that conditions were favorable for another bad slide, but no one seems to have paid any attention.

In the little canyon between the Coeur d'Alene mountains just below Burke the mining camp of Mace is isolated from the outside world except for the railroad that winds its way up the steep mountain grade to Wallace.

Burke is the end of the spur which

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NESMITH FAVORS SECESSION ALSO



The residents of the proposed new county of Nesmith to be carved out of Douglas and Lane counties, are making a great effort to win their fight. Neglect of their section led them to advocate a new county. The above cartoon represents the reasons why they would secede from the old counties.

MAYOR FINDS A NEW PAVEMENT

Returns With Report That "Granitoid" is Superior to Bitulithic But Still More Expensive—Is Said to Be More Durable.

Mayor Canon and Councilman Merrick have returned from a trip to Spokane, Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, where they inspected pavements in various cities and interested paving companies to bid on the nine miles of pavement to be let next week. Said Mayor Canon:

"We found a new pavement, called 'Granitoid,' manufactured by the R. S. Blome company, superior even to bitulithic, but still more expensive. It is composed of a five-inch concrete base and an inch and a half surface of crushed rock and cement. It is said to be the most durable of any pavement laid, and is guaranteed for five years by the contractors.

"We expect bids for paving will be made by the Barber Asphalt company, by the Warren construction company, by Fairchild, Gilmore & Wilton company of Los Angeles for asphalt paving and by the oil macadam contractors, and as well as for Granitoid by the Blome company."

PROBABLY ANOTHER BUSINESS BLOCK

Property at the Corner of Fourth Street and Central Avenue Sold for \$12,000—Building to Go Up.

T. E. Pottenger has sold his property on Central avenue at the corner of Fourth street to Eugene D. Summy of Seattle for \$12,000.

The property fronts 200 feet on Central avenue and runs west 100 feet on Fourth.

Mr. Summy has not announced his full intention as to the disposition of the property, but gives the impression that a business building will go up on the corner this season.

As it is only a little over a block from the site of the new passenger depot, the location is a first-class one for a business building.

The home maker's thoughts are greatly centered, these days, on furniture—on the things that are needed for the periodical "renewing" of the home. So that the furniture ads are especially "live reading matter" just now.

COMMITTEE NOT IN LINE FOR TAFT

Only Four Members Favor President's Plan in Connection With Interstate Commerce Court—May Yield to Taft.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 28.—Chairman Mann of the house committee on interstate commerce declared today that only four members of his committee are in favor of the interstate commerce court advocated by President Taft and included in the interstate commerce bill that forms an important item and the administration's executive program.

Mann was positive in his declaration that only members of the committee are strongly in favor of the court. His statement made it plain that the bill is destined to meet with serious opposition in committee. He qualified his declaration, however, by intimating that there is a possibility that these recalcitrant members may be brought to a different frame of mind.

Despite Mann's views and his assertions, a sentiment has developed that the members of the committee will yield to what they know are the president's wishes, and report the bill intact.

CARNEGIE DENOUNCES PUGILISTS AND FIGHTS

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., Feb. 28.—"San Francisco is hurt seriously by its reputation for such things as prize fights, and the sooner her better people realize this and act upon the realization the sooner she will assume her rightful place among American cities," was the arraignment of San Francisco's citizens of fitians voiced by Andrew Carnegie, who is in this city today.

"Los Angeles permits 10-round boxing matches, I understand," the steel king continued. "That is very well. Manly sport is manly sport, but when people are permitted to enter a ring and batter each other for the greater part of an afternoon, while thousands of others howl their approval the time has arrived when radical measures are necessary."

While Carnegie made no specific reference to the encounter between Battling Nelson and Ad Wolgast on Washington's birthday, his inference was unmistakable.

He declared that people have "grown away" from such things, and that they should be stopped when the first principles of humanity showed that interference was necessary.

Strong belief in such a course is sure to find expression in strong condemnation of the fight.

PRESIDENT MAY BE A WITNESS

His Private Utterances on Conservation May Be Introduced as Evidence in Ballinger-Pinchot Controversy.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—Shall President Taft's private utterances on the conservation of national resources in the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy be introduced as evidence?

Attorney Vertrees representing Secretary Ballinger of the interior department raised this question when he objected to Gifford Pinchot's introducing a conversation he had had with President Taft on April 20, 1909. The committee today are pondering on the new phase of the case. When the investigating committee reassembles it is freely asserted that the committee will open the subject. It is held that Taft already rendered himself liable to summons before the committee by engaging in the controversy.

Your 'today's store' should find a lot of new friends for your store—people who haven't heretofore, had any special conviction that your store could serve them.

BUY HALF INTEREST IN NOTED ORCHARD

Elmer Shanks Takes Two Partners in His Fruit Farm Down Rogue River Valley.

GRANTS PASS, Feb. 28.—The famous Elmer Shanks orchard, formerly known as the Eismann property, one of the best orchards in the lower Rogue river valley, has attracted the attention of two gentlemen of means and business ability of Grants Valley, this state. They are Samuel H. Barker and Charles A. Backley. The former is the member of the Citizens' bank and the other vice president of the same institution at that place. They have purchased from Mr. Shanks a half interest in the property which consists of 85 acres, 35 acres of which is in bearing and 50 acres more which will be in bearing the coming season; thus making 55 acres of choice apples. The old orchard the past season produced a \$12,000 crop and it was the worst year in the history of fruit growing in this valley. The price paid for the half interest was \$35,000, a figure seeming

SATURDAY IS WALK-OUT DAY

Labor Leaders Hold Meeting and Formulate Plans for General Strike in Philadelphia to Effect 125,000 Union Men.

BUSINESS MEN PLEAD WITH COUNCIL FOR AID

Thought Now That Nothing Can Avert General Strike—Few of the Leaders Oppose Plan.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Feb. 28.—Developments in the street car strike today indicated that the threatened walkout of 125,000 union labor men of this city actually will take place next Saturday.

The underlying current of political maneuvering shows that the city council, to whom the people of this city have appealed for a cessation of hostilities, is bound to the interests of those favoring a continuation of the street car strike.

The council is dominated, it is declared, by State Senator James P. McNichol, who, it is asserted, could force the council to arbitrate and end the strike.

McNichol, however, is a political co-worker of State Senator Clarence Wolfe, vice-president of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit company.

The strikers declare that Wolfe is responsible for the discharge of 500 union men, thereby forcing a strike.

Labor leaders held a meeting this afternoon at which plans were formulated for the general strike. These will be put into execution as soon as hope of a compromise is abandoned.

A few of the leaders have taken a stand against the proposed strike on the ground that working agreements with employers in other trades would be violated in other trades.

A majority, however, look upon the present situation as a crisis in the affairs of union labor here, and are insisting that the question be settled for all time.

Two minor clashes were reported today.

Business men, ministers and others of this city are today calling upon the mayor and council to urge the prevention of a general call-out of all union men in this city, which is threatened unless the street car company gives in to the demands of the striking employes for flat wages of 25 cents an hour and a recognition of their union.

The rioting continued Sunday and resulted in the fatally wounding of two persons and the injuring of 75 others.

The company today claims that they have 1000 cars in operation. The men operating them are protected by having police guards and are carrying but few passengers.

Plant Resumes Operations.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Feb. 28.—The Bethlehem steel plant resumed operations today, guarded by big squads of troops and deputy sheriffs, who prevented the strikers from approaching the gates.

ly below the real value. The purchasers of this half interest are friends of S. F. Williams, who formerly lived in Grants Valley, and it was through him they came on a visit to this section. The sale was made by J. W. Lucas, who has been associated with Mr. Shanks in the real estate business since last summer. Mr. Lucas is an energetic young business man and has proved himself a valuable addition to Grants Pass boosters.

60 PERISH IN CHANNEL STORM

Terrific Gale Sweeps Over English Channel—Does Huge Damage to Shipping—Two Steamers Last—Many in Danger.

SIXTY KNOWN TO BE DEAD IN THE GALE

France Swept by Heavy Rains and High Winds—Thought Another Flood is Imminent.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Sixty lives are known to have been lost in the terrific gale which swept the channel last evening. Two large vessels are lost and it is feared a score of smaller ones have sunk.

The storm came up suddenly and before warnings could be given.

Today the shore near Dover is inundated with wreckage. Although the storm has lost some of its fury, rain is still falling.

PARIS, France, Feb. 28.—A heavy rain is being experienced today over southern Europe. The storm came up suddenly yesterday afternoon.

Unless the storm abates soon a repetition of the severe floods in this city is feared.

WILL OPPOSE SCHEME FOR TWO NEW SHIPS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 28.—Representative James A. Tawney of Minnesota, chairman of the house appropriations committee today quietly commenced the organization of opposition to the administration's naval program as outlined to the committee by Secretary of the Navy Meyer.

Tawney forecasted the attitude of the opposition last evening in a caustic statement arraigning the naval program.

He foresaw "Bankruptcy for the government" if such plans are adhered to and shared their agitation to a "conspiracy of the ship-building interests."

"I read of the government's tentative naval program with profound astonishment," the representative said. "It involves an enormous additional appropriation without furnishing a worthy basis for the expenditure. Neither is the wish for more naval strength based upon defence necessities."

"If our naval policy is to be determined by our ability to compete with European nations in the matter of construction and in numerical strength strength, then it should be carried out without reference to our needs."

ASQUITH'S EXPLANATION FAILS TO EXPLAIN

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Premier Asquith's long awaited explanation of the government's legislative program failed to day to clarify the political situation.

Asquith outlined his program in the house of representatives this afternoon but his explanations proved more of a puzzle than of his any former actions.

The premier made no direct reference to the budget on which depends the routine life of the government, but asked the commons to authorize a consideration at next week's sessions of "borrowing measures" to meet the country's deficit.

Referring to the veto bill which is the most dangerous question before the parliament, the premier, promised that after the Easter recess