

Forty-third Year. Daily—Eighth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1914.

NO. 263

\$5,000,000 LOSS IN CALIFORNIA'S WORST STORM

Eight Lives Lost in Floods—Long Record of Damage and Loss of Life—Traffic Interrupted—Unprecedented Snow in High Sierras.

Lowlying Portions of Fresno, Stockton and Other Cities Under Water, But Cold Weather Checks Danger.

The Dead At Santa Barbara—Louis Jones, millionaire banker, and Mrs. Jones. At Monrovia—Hugh S. Havens, retired capitalist. At Los Angeles—William Clark, 11. At Santa Ana—Frank Rios 60. At El Monte—Jose Rodriguez, 40. At Fresno—W. P. Monohan and an unidentified woman.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 27.—California was recovering today from one of the worst storms in its history. Reports from everywhere were encouraging. The storm left in its wake, however, a long record of damage and loss of life. A conservative estimate of the monetary loss suffered throughout the entire state was fixed here today at \$5,000,000. Eight persons were known to have met death. Related reports from isolated districts may increase the fatalities.

Traffic over the Southern Pacific main line was resumed today. No regular trains were scheduled early this morning to Los Angeles, but it was said the Owl train would start for the south at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Unprecedented snow in the high Sierras caused paralysis of traffic.

Road Beds Washed out

Roadbeds were washed out and scores of bridges and culverts were swept away. At noon yesterday there was twenty feet of snow at Summit. In scores of places the snow was banked over the tracks from the crest of the mountain to Sparks, Nev., from three to ten feet deep. Large gangs of men were put to work and at 11 o'clock last night they succeeded in clearing the track sufficiently to allow the first of twenty stalled trains to pass through.

No trains attempted to get below Watsonville Junction on the Southern Pacific's coast division yesterday. A slide in the Feather River canyon blocked traffic on the Western Pacific. Pelting rainstorms prevented workmen from clearing the tracks and traffic was still tied up today. The Western Pacific has not started an overland train in either direction for a week.

The only main line which was open

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GOETHALS ANXIOUS TO BECOME POLICE CHIEF, NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Colonel Goethals replied as follows today to a query from a New York newspaper concerning his attitude in reference to Mayor Mitchell's offer to him of the Gotham police commissionership: "Assuming that I were free to choose, after completion of the Panama canal, I would accept the police commissionership of New York, providing a change in the existing law could be secured so as to vest the right of removal of his subordinates in the commissioner's hands. "I have served 34 years in the United States army and the president can authorize an officer's retirement after 30 years service. I hope the president will grant this when I request it."

MILLION DOLLARS LOSS BY STORM IN ORANGE BELT

Half a Hundred Trains Stalled—Traffic Paralyzed—Highways and Bridges Washed Out—Damage, \$500,000—Several Drowned.

Rivers Reach Highest Point in Years—Capitalist Dies in Flooded Gutter—Orange Crops Uninjured.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 27.—One million dollars was the conservative estimate today of the damage done to Southern California by the three days' storm that swept through the entire state south of the Tehachapi. The skies were clearing today, and it appeared that the backbone of the storm was broken. Several persons are believed to have been drowned and scores have been compelled to abandon their homes. Much livestock was lost. In half a dozen counties rivers and streams are out of their banks. Towns are flooded and orange groves and ranch lands worth millions of dollars are awash.

Fifty Trains Stalled

Half a hundred trains are stalled in the interior, and four thousand passengers are being housed and fed by the railroads.

Street car traffic here is paralyzed and thousands of telephones are out of commission.

Highways in Los Angeles county suffered to the extent of half a million dollars, according to the estimate of highway commissioners. Scores of small bridges were washed away and many miles of roads under construction were ruined.

Roads in Ventura county were damaged so badly that it will cost more than \$200,000 for repairs. Much damage was done there to crops.

Santa Barbara perhaps suffered the severest damage. The loss there is estimated at \$200,000, with a further loss in the surrounding county.

All Traffic Lines Blocked

At daybreak the Santa Fe, over a branch line from Colton to Fullerton and thence to Los Angeles, was carrying all possible traffic for the three transcontinental lines that enter southern California. The Santa Fe was blocked to points east of San Bernardino by slides in Cajon Pass.

The Southern Pacific's coast and valley lines were still out of commission. There was little likelihood that the coast line would be cleared for several days. San Francisco passengers leaving Los Angeles last Friday were still stalled at Santa Barbara. Many trains were reported dead at San Luis Obispo.

Officials of the Southern Pacific road were considering plans to charter a steamer to be sent to Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo to remove stormbound passengers.

Electric Service Crippled

The Pacific Electric interurban service was crippled to almost all of the hundred points it touches. Hundreds of men were working today on the lines.

The flood that separated the business and residence sections of Venice yesterday was subsiding today and water in the basements had lowered a foot. The canals, however, remained over their banks. Schools will be reopened tomorrow.

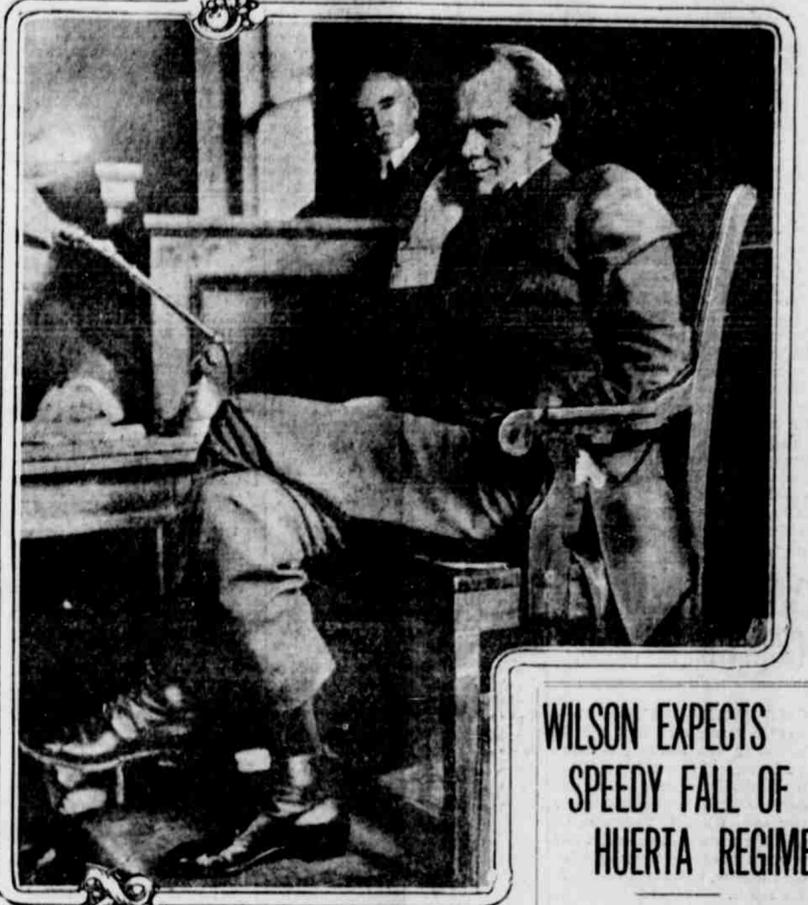
Six bridges were washed away in Santa Monica canyon. A score of small fishing boats were wrecked on the beach, but no other damage was reported there.

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CASE AGAINST WEST DISMISSED BY COURT

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 27.—Because Attorney General Crawford failed to make any showing of damages sustained by the state in the suit today, Circuit Court Judge Kelly today dismissed the case against Governor West to recover \$50,000 alleged to have been illegally spent from the revolving fund of the state penitentiary.

DEPOSED GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK STATE GIVES VERSION OF MURPHY WAR



WILLIAM SULZER AT YESTERDAY'S HEARING.

Mr. Sulzer waived immunity and testified that Charles F. Murphy drove him from the office of governor of New York state because as governor the witness refused to stop investigations of grafting in state offices, particularly the highways department.

CARRANZA SAYS HE WILL NAME NEXT PRESIDENT

CULIACAN, Sonora, Mex., Jan. 27 (via Nogales, Ariz.).—"If there is to be a provisional president in Mexico I shall name him."

This declaration was the outstanding feature of a public address here today by General Venustiano Carranza, leader of the Mexico constitutionalists. Three thousand persons heard the general make his first public remarks since leaving the American border, where he conferred with William Bayard Hale.

Carranza broadly intimated that Americans suffering financial loss in Mexico cannot expect reparation if the constitutionalists are victorious. He charged that the American government has needlessly prolonged the present struggle, causing heavy and unnecessary loss of life, and that, as a result, they should not expect unusual consideration from his party.

Regarding the proposal that a provisional president acceptable to all Mexican factions be named until permanent government may be established, Carranza, after declaring his position, added:

"Governments and individuals have been ready always with suggestions as to the conduct of affairs in Mexico, but never ready with the tangible aid they might give. I shall wage a war of extermination upon the Huerta forces. Our success is inevitable, and therefore I shall listen to no peace program."

NEGRO MURDERER LYNCHED, OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA CITY, Jan. 27.—Ben Dickerson, a negro, murderer of W. A. Chafin, a traveling salesman, was lynched early today at Noble, 25 miles south of here. A mob of white men overpowered the jailer, hanged Dickerson to a telephone pole and then riddled his body with bullets.

Weather Forecast Oregon—Unsettled tonight and Wednesday, probably rain or snow; westerly winds.

SUPREME COURT APPROVES BONDS CLATSOP COUNTY

SALEM, Or., Jan. 27.—The validity of Clatsop county's \$400,000 bond issue for good roads was established by the supreme court today in an opinion written by Justice Charles L. McNary. The county, of which Astoria is the principal city, may now proceed to sell its bonds and expend the proceeds as contemplated on three of its main highways.

F. L. Parker attacked the validity of the bond issue on the ground that the sum of \$400,000 exceeded two per cent of the assessed valuation of property in the county, and because the election was held under the provisions of the bill registration law, later declared unconstitutional.

FITZ PERMANENTLY BARRED FROM RING

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Supreme Court Justice Seabury today upheld the order of the state boxing commission prohibiting Bob Fitzsimmons, former heavyweight champion of the world, from boxing Soldier Kearns at the Garden Athletic club. The former champion was barred on account of his age. The decision means that Fitzsimmons is permanently barred from the ring so far as New York state is concerned.

HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARS TRUST BILLS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The house judiciary and interstate commerce commissions met separately here today and started hearings of tentative trust bills. Prospect of joint hearings was considered remote as both Chairman Clayton of the judiciary committee and Chairman Admson of the interstate commerce commission are opposed to the plan.

WILSON EXPECTS SPEEDY FALL OF HUERTA REGIME

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Officialdom here today believed President Huerta's downfall was in sight.

President Wilson was understood to have told the members of the senate foreign relations committee last night that that was his opinion and the general opinion in administration circles was that he was right.

However, as a means of hastening the end, the president was expected to announce soon the removal of the embargo which has hampered the rebels hitherto by preventing them from getting American arms and ammunition across the border into Mexico. It was believed this would speedily settle the matter, since General Carranza has had a quantity of weapons and millions of cartridges under option in the United States, ready to rush across the border as soon as the embargo was raised.

Japanese Relations

Besides the Mexico situation, the president and committee members discussed Japanese-American relations.

Neither would tell today what was said, but it was reported that the president was displeased by Japanese Foreign Minister Baron Makino's recent utterances in parliament concerning the United States and by the obviousness of the efforts on the part of Japanese naval officers visiting in Mexico City to win President Huerta's favor.

The expectation was that the administration would take cognizance of these two things in some way very shortly.

It leaked, too, this afternoon that the president let the committee members into information which had reached him from confidential sources, showing a much worse state of affairs in Mexico than they had previously realized existed. On the strength of it, it was understood that several who have hitherto objected to the raising of the embargo on arms changed their minds.

Senators Surprised

Some of the senators privately admitted today that they were surprised to learn how much strength the rebels had shown and how much territory has fallen under their control.

Finally there was a question of Panama tolls, and while there was no definite announcement of it, there seemed no question that an agreement was reached to repeal the exemption of American coastwise vessels, clearing the way for a treaty with England.

SENATE CONFIRMS PINDELL AS RUSSIAN AMBASSADOR

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The senate confirmed this afternoon the nomination of Henry M. Pindell of Peoria, Ill., to be ambassador to Russia.

CUT OUT FREE SERVICE TO GET RATE INCREASE

Interstate Commerce Commission Tells Railroads That No Increase in Rates Will Be Authorized Until Services Rendered Paid For.

Industrial Lines and Tracks Owned by Various Concerns Must Be Made to Pay for Services Rendered

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—The interstate commerce commission served notice on the railroads today that it will authorize no increase in freight rates unless assured that the companies are insisting on full payment for all their services—that is to say, that they are performing no services free or for less than the services are worth.

The management must show, as the commission expressed it, that they are requiring "a reasonable contribution to their revenues for every service they perform and that, even with this full exaction, their revenues are shrinking."

The commission also found fault with the eastern railroads' rules relative to "industrial lines"—short railroads or tracks owned by various industries and connecting their plants with the regular railroad companies' tracks.

Charge for all Services

Service over these "industrial lines" said the commission, would add millions annually to the railroads' incomes—"if charged for."

"No substantial part of the well-informed, reflecting public would deny to the owners of railroads a reasonable return on their investment," continued the report. "Nevertheless, before they may fairly ask the general public to share further in carrying their burdens, it is manifest that the railroads must themselves properly conserve their sources of revenue by making every service rendered by them contribute reasonably to their earnings."

"This having been done, the commission, upon adequate showing of the need of additional revenue, will not shrink from the responsibility of sanctioning such measures, including even a general advance in rates, as may be required to bring reasonable prosperity to the railroads, so far as this may be accomplished under rates and charges that are reasonably just alike to shippers and carriers."

Most Important Ruling

"But if further burdens, through an increased scale of rates, may justly be imposed on the general public, all must agree that unlawful concessions, rebates and preferences to the interest of a small proportion of the shipping public ought to be eliminated from the practices of the carriers."

"The commission's ruling was considered by experts here as one of the most important it has made in years. It laid down the principle that service by the railroads beyond a reasonably convenient terminal was entirely a shipper's service and ought to be charged for as such. The custom of rendering it free was denounced as giving an unfair advantage to concerns owning "industrial lines."

POTTS UNDER ARREST FOR WIFE MURDER

CANYON CITY, Or., Jan. 27.—C. E. Potts, formerly of Canyon City, is under arrest today in Los Angeles charged with the murder of his wife, twelve miles from here on the night of July 13.

Evidence adduced at a coroner's inquest last Saturday was responsible for the arrest, the jury bringing in the following verdict: "The verdict of the coroner's jury is that the deceased came to her death by strangulation or suffocation at the hands of her husband."

Potts, accompanied by his eight-year-old son, left for California the day after the funeral, it is said. The body of Mrs. Potts was exhumed Saturday and three physicians made an examination.

CONSPIRATORS AGAINST HUERTA SECRETLY SLAIN

General Gonzales and Others Suspected of Being Implicated in Plot to Capture Dictator Through Aid of Police, Murdered by Chief.

President Had Extremely Close Call—Plans Completed, Arms and Ammunition Ready.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 27.—That Fernando Gonzales and five others suspected of having been implicated with him in the plan to assassinate President Huerta had been secretly executed here was reported today.

Huerta himself was said to have ordered the execution and that of everyone else concerned in the conspiracy.

Today's developments indicated that the president had an extremely close call. He was up all night directing his men and receiving reports. The conspirators had all their plans completed, arms and ammunition ready and only waited the signal for their coup.

Colonels Zavala and Robles, the latter chief of police of Mexico City under the late President Madero, who were said to be the leaders of the conspiracy, which was unearthed, were sent to the fortress of San Juan de Ulua, at Vera Cruz, whence prisoners seldom emerge alive.

General Eugenio Rascon, the Catholic party's vice-presidential candidate at the last election and a former close friend of Huerta, also was among the prisoners.

It was said Robles planned to give Rascon and Zavala control of 4000 policemen to attack the national palace to capture Huerta, who was to have been killed, it was understood, as was Madero.

The police, for some reason, have been anti-Huerta from the start but that Rascon should have been numbered among the conspirators was a general surprise both on account of the friendly relations which were supposed to exist between him and the president and for the fact that the Catholic party has been more or less favorable to the dictator, despite having had a nominal presidential candidate in the field against him.

RADIUM PLANT OFFERED FREE FOR GOVERNMENT USE

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 27.—An offer of a well equipped plant for the public reduction of radium-bearing ores was telegraphed today to Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane by Stephen T. Lockwood, who ten years ago in an experimental plant here extracted the first radium in this country. Lockwood's telegram said:

"To aid the government in preventing a monopoly in radium, I offer you the use of the reduction plant here free of charge for any reasonable time. The plant is fully equipped for the reduction of 30 tons of corrotite ores or concentrates a month. Dr. Holmes, chief of the bureau of mines, has made a personal examination of it. It was shut down in 1910 because we could not at that time obtain corrotite ores in a sufficient quantity to keep it in profitable operation."

"We also have a large quantity of radium containing sulphate residues which contain three to four milligrams of radium to every 100 pounds, which are free to anyone who will bear the expense of refining and will devote the resultant radium to science."

BATTLESHIP MINNESOTA ARRIVES AT VERA CRUZ

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27.—Dispatches received here by the naval department reported the arrival at Vera Cruz, Mex., today with forty marines aboard of the battleship Minnesota.