

## 200 FROM STEAM SEALER NEW FOUNDLAND LOST IN ICE OFF CAPE RACE

### SEAL HUNTERS OF TWO SHIPS LOST IN STORM

Red Cross Ship Florizel With Fifty Corpses Aboard Sends News by Wireless—170 of Crew of Whaler Southern Cross Reported Dead.

Confusion in Messages Renders Details Hazy—Worst Disaster in the History of Whaling.

MONTREAL, Que., April 2.—Latest wireless despatches indicated today a deathroll of at least 200 seal hunters of the fleet caught in the ice off Cape Race in the blizzard which has been raging for the last three days.

The New Foundland, all reports agreed had gone down with most of its crew of 150 and it was considered almost certain that the Southern Cross was lost with 170 more. Probably there were still more drownings, for there were 20 ships in the fleet and it was considered unlikely that many could have escaped without losing men in such a storm.

The blizzard was raging today and wireless reports were exceedingly meager and conflicting. The New Foundland and the Southern Cross were commended respectively by Captain Wesley Kean and John Clark.

CURLING, N. F., April 2.—More than 200 men from the steam whaler New Foundland were either dead today or lost on the ice floes off Cape Race as a result of the blizzard which swept the coast Tuesday and Wednesday.

The news reached here by wireless from the Red Cross ship Florizel, passing the Straits of Belle Isle with fifty of the corpses on board. The message did not say definitely whether or not the New Foundland was sunk, but the impression was gathered here that the men were on the ice seal hunting, that the storm came upon them suddenly and that they were unable to regain the ship.

#### Fears for Southern Cross

An earlier account from St. Johns was interpreted to the effect that the New Foundland had reached that port with a report of the loss of nearly 170 of the crew of the steam

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### CURTIS ORDERED ACQUITTED AFTER WEST TESTIFIES

PORTLAND, Or., April 2.—Circuit Judge McGinn today took the prosecution of Frank H. Curtis on a charge of attempted extortion from the jury and ordered them to return a verdict of acquittal. A few minutes later Curtis had resumed his place as chief criminal deputy for Sheriff Word, which he resigned when indicted on the attempted extortion charge and a charge of accepting a bribe. The latter charge was dismissed by Judge McGinn.

The directed verdict followed testimony by Governor West, Colonel B. K. Lawson, superintendent of the penitentiary, and Sheriff Word.

Governor West testified that Curtis was appointed superintendent of the penitentiary after Superintendent James had been let out because of the prison finances had become deficient \$11,000 during the eleven months of James' office holding. He said that Curtis had taken the place at a salary of \$1600 a year, which he had been drawing as warden and had turned the extra \$400 a year to which he was entitled over to the state to help make up the deficiency. He said Curtis had never collected the money due him under that arrangement.

### \$1,000,000 LOSS ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA, BLAZE

Courthouse and Dozen Hotels Among Destroyed Buildings—Flames Start in Kitchen of Hotel Florida at Day-break and Spread Rapidly.

Guests Escape, Scantily Attired—Confusion and Excitement Frightful—Oldest Structure Destroyed.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., April 2.—Fire did at least \$1,000,000 damage today here. At noon it was believed the flames were under control. Federal troops were held in barracks ready to act if looting should begin.

The burned area at that time covered everything between Charlotte, Treasury, Hipolita and St. George streets.

The buildings destroyed included the courthouse and the Claremont, Vedder, Magnolia, Munson and Florida hotels. The city lighting plant was also put out of commission.

#### Unidentified Woman Burned

So far as known, the only casualty case was that of an unidentified woman who jumped from a third-story window in the Florida hotel, broke her back and at last accounts from the hospital, was dying.

It was in the Florida's kitchen that the fire started just after daylight today. As it spread the guests from the other hotels poured into the streets, many of them scantily attired. Many had snatched up money and jewelry which they carried in their hands. As many of them as possible were cared for at the Ponce de Leon and the other large hotels, all of which, it was believed, would be saved.

The confusion and excitement, however, were frightful and it was in the fear attempts at a wholesale robbery of the refugees under cover of the commotion that steps were taken to secure military aid promptly in case it should be needed.

#### Historical Landmark Destroyed

Of the buildings destroyed, aside from their cash value, several were of historical interest. The Hotel Vedder was one of the oldest in America. Among the destroyed buildings were the Central and Atlantic hotels, Lynn building, Geneva theater and Joseph apartments. The Magnolia house, another well-known hotel, was on fire several times, but was finally saved. Through the housekeeper's presence of mind scores of valuable racing boats, which the keeper cut loose from their docks and turned adrift, also were saved.

Headquarters for the fire refugees' relief fund was opened at the Old Slave market.

### MESS BOY ADMITS \$30,000 THEFT

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., April 2.—David Williams, aged 24, an English sailor from Sydney, confessed today to the theft of checks and money orders representing about \$30,000 from the registered mail pouch on board the steamship Ventura three days before the vessel arrived in San Francisco from Australia. Williams shipped at Sydney as firemen's messboy. His duties took him all over the ship, so it was an easy matter for him to get into the mail room. He chose 2 in the morning and the registered mail pouch from Tutuila, Pago Pago, for the theft. He found no coin, he said, but a large sum in money orders and paymasters' checks from the naval station at Tutuila. Some of the papers which he thought he would have difficulty in negotiating, he threw overboard, together with the rifled mail sack. Then he sneaked back to his bunk.

### LEADERS AND SCENE IN ENGLAND'S HOME RULE FIGHT!



ULSTER VOLUNTEERS DRILLING AT NEWTOWN STEWART RESIDENCE OF THE DUKE OF ABERCORN

### RAILROADS FLYING S. O. S. SIGNAL FOR INCREASED RATES

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania, notified the members of the interstate commerce commission at today's hearing of the application by eastern railroads for a 5 per cent increase in rates, that unless the gap between the receipts and expenditures was lessened the Pennsylvania would have to begin to retrench.

"I would not create the impression," said Rea, "that a 5 per cent increase is necessary to the maintenance of the Pennsylvania's dividends, but any general idea that the Pennsylvania is so strong that it does not need additional revenue is incorrect. If the railroads are crippled there is swept away much of the economic foundation for national progress."

President A. H. Smith of the New York Central said declining earnings were impairing the credit of railroads and asserted that after paying dividends no surplus was left.

### SEGEL FIRM TO PAY CREDITORS IN FULL OF ACCOUNT

NEW YORK, April 2.—After a conference here today with attorneys representing Henry Segel and Frank Vogel, the largest stockholders in the defunct Segel Stores corporation, District Attorney Whitman gave out the following statement: "If these two men pay their creditors in full and plead guilty to one of the indictments charging violation of banking laws, I will urge court clemency."

### FIND HUMAN HEADS AND BODY IN PICKLE

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., April 2.—Workmen engaged in repairing a Filmore street building, occupied last November by the San Francisco polyclinic, were horrified today, on accidentally upsetting a pickle vat, to see four human heads and a child's body roll out. Thinking they had found the victims of a quadruple murder, the workmen hurriedly notified the coroner's office. An investigator sent from there to the polyclinic's new location was told the vat containing the heads and body in preserving fluid, had been left behind by mistake.

### DOUGLAS SUCCEEDS FRENCH IN COMMAND

LONDON, April 2.—General Sir Charles Douglas was appointed chief of the imperial general staff and first military member of the army council today as successor to Field Marshal Sir John French, who resigned as a result of the controversy over Irish home rule. It was understood King George probably would dismiss several attaches of his court as a mark of his displeasure at having his name dragged into the affair.

### LIND FORCED BY POOR HEALTH TO SAIL FOR HOME

WASHINGTON, April 2.—President Wilson announced today that John Lind is about to return to the United States. He will sail for Galveston tomorrow on the hospital ship Solace. The president insisted his emissary was not recalled but was returning merely to recover his health, which has become impaired by his stay in Vera Cruz. The executive added that Lind would go back to Mexico if necessary as soon as he is physically able. From Galveston he will go to French Lick Springs for an indefinite stay.

### WILSON DOES NOT EXPECT FILIBUSTERING IN SENATE

WASHINGTON, April 2.—President Wilson told white house callers this afternoon that he did not expect any filibustering during the debate on the canal tolls bill.

### CLUB ENTERTAINMENT AT PAGE

On account of the arbitrary refusal of the city electrical inspector to permit an exhibition of moving pictures in the Medford hotel dining room, because the provisions required for moving picture theaters could not be complied with for an hour's exhibition, it has been decided to postpone the Commercial club banquet feature scheduled for Friday night until later in the month, and instead give the moving picture show and local vaudeville performance on Friday evening at the Page theater, Manager Gordon having donated the use of the theater. There will be no admission charge and the general public is invited to attend, especially ladies. The banquet will be held later in the month in connection with the "Natural Attractions Development" meeting being arranged by the club for Jackson, Josephine and Klamath counties. Friday night at the Page theater Game Warden Finley will show the state game commission's excellent

### PLENTY OF WORK ON HIGHWAY FOR ALL WHO COME

Contractor J. W. Sweeney, who is constructing the Pacific highway grade over the Siskiyou mountains appeared before the county court Thursday and stated that he wanted men to work on the highway.

"I want men willing to work, good workers, and will give all who come a trial," said Mr. Sweeney. "I pay a minimum of 25 cents an hour, and if a man proves that he is worth more, he will get it."

Train 13 on the Southern Pacific will hereafter stop at Steinman, so that anyone that wants work can easily reach the camp.

Work has been delayed by recent storms. The teams are idle on account of being unable to work in the wet sticky. As soon as weather conditions improve, it is expected have 300 men at work. A second camp has been established at Barron and work is being pushed from both ends of the road.

### TORREON STILL DEFYING VILLA SAY FEDERALS

Reinforcements Enter City and Nothing More Feared From Rebels, Declare Mexican Officials—Rebels Tell Different Tale.

Carranza Converses With Villa, Who Reports Only Two Federal Bodies Still Resisting.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—That federal reinforcements had entered Torreon was asserted in a telegram received today by Mexican Charge d'Affaires Algara from the Mexican consulate at El Paso. The garrison, said the message, was still holding out, while from Villa, his force expended and exhausted by his efforts, nothing more was to be feared.

JUAREZ, Mexico, April 2.—Following a two hours' telegraphic conversation between General Carranza and Villa, rebel officers here today declared that to all intents and purposes Torreon has been in Villa's hands since last Tuesday afternoon. Only two remnants of the federal garrison were still holding out, they said, and it was momentarily expected he would capture these.

Carranza and Villa had their talk last night. The former, with the members of his cabinet, took complete possession of the main telegraph office here, excluded everyone, operators included, with the exception of their own private telegrapher, and went thoroughly into the situation. Later Carranza's chief of staff outlined the conversation.

Of the two federal bodies which were still resisting the rebels at Torreon, it was stated that one occupied a fortified adobe structure in the southwest part of town, where, Villa expressed it, as "offering an unexpected defense."

The rest of the garrison, according to the rebel general's account had succeeded in getting outside the town itself and in reaching a strongly fortified position a few miles southward, where it was fighting stubbornly.

It was explained that Villa had been as far as possible suppressing the news of his successes because he did not want to frighten off any federal reinforcements who might be on their way to Torreon.

### DENY INJUNCTION AGAINST CUTTING U. PACIFIC MELON

NEW YORK, April 2.—Justice Greenbaum of the state supreme court denied today the Equitable Life Assurance society's application for an injunction restraining the Union Pacific railroad from cutting its \$80,000,000 melon for the benefit of common stockholders. The preferred stockholders are entitled, according to the decision, to 4 per cent and nothing else, except in cases where a company's affairs are being wound up. The Equitable will appeal.

### PRICE MOVEMENT IN MARKET UNCERTAIN

NEW YORK, April 2.—The price movement at the market's opening today was uncertain. Fluctuations were about evenly divided between small gains and losses, although most of the speculative leaders were slightly lower. Studebaker lost a full point. St. Louis & San Francisco preferred gained 2. Bonds were steady. The market closed strong.