

HEAVIEST SNOW OF THE SEASON

Fiercest Storm Since the Great Blizzard of 1888 Sweeps New York.

THE WHOLE CITY IS SNOWED UNDER

Street and Steam Car Traffic Seriously Affected—Mails on All Trains Several Hours Late—The Snow Blockade Complete in the Shopping Districts—Several Department Stores Closed at 4 O'Clock—Four Thousand Men at Work Cleaning the Streets—Several Steamers Off Sandy Hook Awaiting a Chance to Come Into Port—Great Fall of the Beautiful at Atlantic City—State, Towns and Cities Snowbound—On the Pocono.

St. George, the island itself was completely snowed under and the movement of trolleys or trains was brought to a halt. Even sleighs were unable to make their way through the great drifts. In the afternoon a few trains were not through on the north shore by using the big freight engines of the Baltimore and Ohio road. Derailed trains stopped all traffic on the south shore line. The conditions of traffic were in every respect worse than in the great blizzard of 1888.

There is a sameness about the reports from the various towns. Anywhere from four to eighteen inches of snow, wind blowing at a hurricane rate, drifts from six to, in one instance, twenty-five feet deep are among the features. While there is iteration and reiteration of delayed trains, impeded or wholly abandoned trolley service, and impassible country roads.

Two steamers, which arrived during the night, struggled as far as quarantine, where they came to anchor. Several steamers are supposed to be off Sandy Hook, waiting for the storm to abate before attempting to enter the port.

The Chicago mail, due at 4:30, did not get in until 7:35 a. m., and the Washington mail was an hour and a quarter late. The local deliveries of mail were hampered by the difficulty of driving the wagons through the snow-encumbered streets.

Mails on the New York Central were from two to three hours late, and all mail service between this city and all points on Long Island was practically suspended. The trains on all the lines terminating in Jersey City were hours behind time, during the morning, but towards evening the schedules were more nearly maintained.

Four thousand men were set to work to clear the streets and Manhattan early in the afternoon. Of these, half were engaged in opening crosswalks, while 2,000 men and 300 trucks were employed to work all night in carting away the snow from the main streets.

On the elevated lines there was considerable delay in the early hours, but by the evening rush hours all trains were running on time, although enormously overcrowded, owing to the interruption of the surface lines.

Brooklyn Bridge Clear. The Brooklyn bridge was kept clear of snow from the time the storm began. From the elevated and trolley cars were crowded to their utmost capacity, although many thousands of Brooklynites preferred the perilous passage of the ferries to participating in the crush on the bridge.

Throughout Brooklyn the blockade was even more general than in Manhattan and little progress was made by the street cleaning department beyond opening crosswalks on the principal streets. Coney Island, Fort Hamilton and Canarsie were completely cut off from all communication over the Brighton Beach road, where half a dozen trains were hopelessly stalled at one time. During the day not over 60 per cent. of the cars of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit system were in operation and thousands were compelled to make the way on foot to the ferries.

Staten Islanders suffered more than the residents of any of the boroughs of Greater New York. The ferry boats were all much behind time and no effort was made to keep schedule time. The main trouble being due to the great masses of ice packed in the slips at

RULE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Governor Taft Explains His Plans for Governing the Islands.

SHOULD WORK ON THE PROGRESSIVE PLAN

Qualified Suffrage, with Gradual Growth in Popular Government. Local Legislature, One Branch Elective, One Appointive—Representatives in Washington—Independence at This Time Would Be an Evil.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Governor Taft, in his testimony before the senate committee on the Philippines today, explained his theory, which is, he said, also the theory of the Philippine commission, of what congress should do in the way of supplying the Philippine people with a form of government. His plan is:

First—A qualified suffrage, with a gradual growth in popular government, as education in the English language progressed and knowledge of American institutions was acquired.

Second—The institution, within a reasonable short time, of a local legislature, to consist of two bodies, one to be chosen by vote and the other to be appointive.

Third—Permission for the islands to send two or three representatives to Washington.

In reply to questions Governor Taft said he agreed with General Funston that the establishment of a popular assembly would give opportunity to demagogues to stir up the people, but that he did not include in that designation all persons who are opposed to the same.

To grant independence would have the effect of consigning the 90 per cent. of uneducated people in the islands to the same servile position they held under Spanish rule. There should be a declaration on the part of the United States of its intention to hold the islands indefinitely with the understanding that when they are suitable for such a condition they may give an absolute independence. Such a pronouncement by this country would be welcomed by many and would do much good.

Many of the common people do not know the difference between independence and dependence and many of the better informed have not followed the agitation for independence to its last analysis. Some of the agitators seem to count on a protectorate by the United States. If the government of the islands should at this time be turned over to the islanders themselves, they would be left with an absolute oligarchy. They have no idea of civil government.

BELL ACCUSED OF FORGERY. A Honesdale Man in Jail on Charge of Planting a Bogus Check.

Honesdale, Feb. 17.—George H. Bell was indicted by Herman Schenherholz, a justice of the peace here, on a charge of forging a check for \$75, requesting the difference in cash. As it was after banking hours the check was taken and he was given \$25 in cash and credited \$15 on his account. After his departure, some doubt arose as to the signature on the check. The bank officials were seen and they pronounced it a forgery. A telephone message to Messrs. Rieter at Tanner's Alley, confirmed the fact. They held in the employ of Messrs. Rieter and they did not owe him. After Bell received the money his whereabouts were not known until Saturday evening when Mr. Schenherholz received a telephone message from Bell, who was in Honesdale to send him \$15 on account. The case was put in the hands of Constable Neary, of Carbondale, who arrested Bell and brought him to Honesdale on the noon train on Monday. He was held in the city jail and his name was taken before Squire William H. Ham who committed him to the county jail.

SENATE RATIFIES DENMARK TREATY

The Resolution Adopted Without Division or Amendment in Any Particular.

UNEXPECTED HAPPENS IN THE LOWER BRANCH

The House by Unanimous Vote Passes the Bill to Repeal the War Revenue Taxes—What Promised to Be an Exciting Contest Has Been Ended in a Quiet Manner—A Bill Extending the Charters of National Banks Is Passed in Senate.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The senate in executive session early today ratified the treaty with Denmark ceding to the United States for a consideration of \$5,000,000 the group of the Antilles known as the Danish West Indies. The treaty was ratified without amending it in any particular.

Senator Bacon proposed an amendment eliminating the paragraph in the treaty giving authority to congress to fix the civil and political rights of the inhabitants, but it was voted down by a viva voce vote. Senator Cullom then explained the provisions of the treaty in detail. The resolution to ratify was adopted without division. In open session after an extended debate the senate passed the bill establishing a permanent census office. The discussion related principally to the collection and publication by the director of the census of statistics respecting the production of cotton.

Mr. Allison vigorously opposed the provision, maintaining that the cotton statistics gathered by the department of agriculture were complete and accurate and that no necessary existed for their duplication. Despite his opposition the provision was inserted in the bill.

Several other bills on the calendar were passed, among them one extending the charters of national banks. Mr. Aldrich, chairman of the finance committee, explained that the measure extended no new privileges to national banks but simply enabled those whose charters were about to expire to renew them.

House Passes Revenue Bill. The unexpected happened in the lower house today, when the bill to repeal the war revenue taxes was passed unanimously without a word of debate. This action was the outcome of a challenge thrown down by Mr. Richardson of Tennessee, the minority leader, after the adoption of a strict party vote of a special order for the consideration of the bill which permitted debate until four o'clock tomorrow afternoon, but cut off all opportunity to offer amendments except such as had been agreed upon by the majority and means committee. The adoption of the bill had been preceded by a stormy debate, in the course of which the Democrats protested against the application of the "rule" which Mr. Hay, of Washington, charged was unconstitutional. Mr. Dinkell, of Pennsylvania, secured a point against the minority by recalling the time under Democratic control of the house when 649 amendments to the Wilson tariff bill had been forced through without being read. When the rule was adopted by a vote of 128 to 120, Mr. Richardson, to emphasize the fact that debate on the bill could accomplish nothing and that deliberation on it would be fruitless, asked unanimous consent that the bill be placed upon the calendar at that time. Mr. Dinkell, of Pennsylvania, secured a point against the minority by recalling the time under Democratic control of the house when 649 amendments to the Wilson tariff bill had been forced through without being read.

General Funston Has Recovered. Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 17.—General Frederick Funston has entirely recovered from the operation performed upon him here two weeks ago and will, it is stated today, be discharged from the hospital tomorrow.

DEATHS OF A DAY. Quincy, Ill., Feb. 17.—Wood was received here today by the Great Northern, and the factory of incubators and lay presses, said last night at Quincy, Arizona, on a train while en route to Phoenix. Later he had known worse and was being brought home to die. The deceased was born in Germany seventy-two years ago. He had amassed a large fortune through his inventions.

Gambler Robbed of \$2,000. Clinton, Iowa, Feb. 17.—A daring robbery was committed here early today by two masked men, as the point of revolver, held up Flanagan's gambling establishment and robbed the twelve inmates of money and valuables, amounting to \$2,000. There is no clue.

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WEATHER FORECAST. Washington, Feb. 17.—Forecast for Tuesday and Wednesday, eastern Pennsylvania, fair, Tuesday, except snow in the mountains, and Wednesday, slight snow, Wednesday fair, but high northwest winds.