

GREAT DAMAGE BY FLOODS

Dwellings and Stores are Swept Away Along Susquehanna.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS LOSS.

Bridges Destroyed—Ice Piled 20 Feet High on Railroad Tracks and Traffic Almost Stopped.

From all points along the Susquehanna river reports of damage by floods and ice surges are coming in. There can be no real estimate of damage done, though it is safe to say that the loss to railroad companies, mines and other industries in the Wyoming valley alone will reach \$1,000,000. On the west side of the river at Kingston, Dorchester, West Pittston and Wyoming the aftermath shows a condition of affairs that has never been surpassed by any previous flood. The Northumberland bridge at Sunbury was destroyed.

The Pennsylvania railroad put a force of 3,000 men at work to clear the tracks of ice from Kingston to Fairmount. The rail from Columbia to Port Deposit will not be open for several days. From the upper end of Washington borough to Safe Harbor there are from 10 to 50 feet of ice on the tracks, and the situation below Safe Harbor is but little better.

The Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company posted notices at its collieries suspending operations. Dr. Paul A. Hartman, representative of the state board of health in Harrisburg, has been commissioned by Dr. Benjamin Loe, secretary of the board, to investigate conditions in the flooded portions of Middletown and to report promptly to the state board. Precautions will be taken to prevent an outbreak of smallpox among the flood sufferers in the lowlands.

Late reports from Catawissa, Blomberg and Berwick report the conditions slowly improving. The Pennsylvania railroad Company has a force of 300 men removing the ice from the tracks of its branch road between Wolfertown and South Danville. Very little progress was made and traffic will not be resumed over this branch for some time.

At Safe Harbor nine dwellings were demolished and a number of others damaged by the flood. The general stores of John Triple and William Rowe, with stocks valued at \$4,000 each, were swept away and everything lost.

The big four-arch stone bridge of the Port Deposit railway at the mouth of the Conestoga creek crumbled before the ice. The large county bridge at the upper end of Safe Harbor was demolished, as was also the bridge over the mouth of Pequea creek.

THRASHED BY JUDGE.

Fines for Contempt of Court Failed to Quell Disturber.

After twice fining Arthur Hirsch, president of the Independent Steel Company, for contempt of court, and the offender showing no indication of mending his ways, Justice John R. McDonnell, of Chicago, left the bench and assaulted Hirsch.

The justice did not bother to adjourn court. Constables policemen and witnesses were paralyzed for a few moments. McDonnell Mr. Hirsch was in his dress.

He had been "hooked" on the jaw and manhandled in the "33" and was almost "out." Then two policemen seized the justice and escorted him back on the bench. "Call the Nest case," he said to his clerk.

McDonnell once fought three rounds with John L. Sullivan.

BOTH SIDES SUFFERED.

Seventy-four Men Killed and Twenty-five Wounded.

A semi-official letter received from San Pedro de Macoris, Santo Domingo, dated February 23, giving details of the bombardment of San Pedro de Macoris February 27 by the Dominican warships Presidente and Estrella. The captain of the Presidente, a Spaniard, said 60 men on board were killed, only six of the crew escaping without injuries. In all 74 men were killed and 25 were wounded on the two ships. The insurgents lost 26 men killed or wounded.

FOUR MILLION ACRES BOUGHT.

E. H. Harriman Said to Be Interested in Mexico's Biggest Land Deal.

The largest land deal ever made in Mexico is reported from Lower California, where a soil tract of 4,000,000 acres of grazing and agricultural land, comprising the Flores Hato estate, has just been sold to a syndicate of New York men. E. H. Harriman, president of the Southern Pacific Railroad, is said to be interested. The new owners have made application to the Mexican Government for concessions for the establishment of large irrigation and other industrial works on the land.

Steamer Sunshine Burned.

The steamer Sunshine, plying between Memphis and Cincinnati, was destroyed by fire near Tiptonville, Tenn. The crew escaped, but both boat and cargo were lost. The boat was the property of the Memphis and Cincinnati Packet company and was valued at \$20,000. The Sunshine was built eight years ago at Pittsburg and was one of the staunchest boats in the packet trade.

Trust Company Closes Doors.

The doors of the Standard Trust company of Butler, Pa., were closed and a typewritten statement was posted to the effect that by order of the board of directors the institution was closed temporarily and that all depositors would be paid in full. The Standard Trust company is capitalized at \$125,000, the stock being held by Butler and Pittsburg parties. Clinton D. Greenlee is president and Charles A. Bailey is cashier of the concern.

SIX KILLED IN COLLISION.

Head-On Collision on the Alabama Great Southern.

Six persons killed, three fatally hurt, two less seriously injured, and a limited express train and a freight train partially destroyed by fire, comprise the results of a head-on collision on the Alabama Great Southern railway near Kowanes, 17 miles north of Meridian, Miss.

The dead are: Engineer P. H. Larkin, of the express train, Birmingham; Robinson Riess, mail clerk, Chattanooga; D. D. Nicholson, mail clerk, Chattanooga; Henry Banks, colored, fireman on express train, Birmingham; Mail Weigher Davidson, Chattanooga; colored fireman on freight train, name not given.

The trains involved were the southbound limited on the Queen & Crescent system, and a northbound Southern railway freight, both trains using the same tracks between Meridian and York. The express train was late and running 60 miles an hour. The wreckage took fire, the mail car, combination baggage and express car, smoker and six freight cars being destroyed. Both engines were totally wrecked.

COSACKS COMMIT OUTRAGES.

Women Are Assaulted and Then Murdered by Russians in Northern Korea.

The London Daily Telegraph publishes a dispatch from Tokyo dated March 7, saying:

"It is reported that the Japanese fleet engaged the Russian Vladivostok squadron at sea yesterday. The result of the engagement is not announced, but it is believed that the Russian ships were destroyed or captured."

News has reached Osaka of an engagement between Russians and Japanese a hundred miles from Vladivostok. The Russians fled, abandoning arms and stores.

A telegram was received at the Imperial Korean palace, Seoul, stating that several hundred Cosacks plundered the small North Korean town of Kang-Kao, seized all the grain, hay and provisions they could find and assaulted and murdered a number of women. The local Korean soldiery exchanged shots with the marauders, then retired. Several Koreans were wounded.

SAFEFLOWERS' RICH HAUL.

Postoffice Safe Robbed of \$1,000 in Cash and Valuable Papers.

Safeblowers made a rich haul in the town of Chester, N. Va., opposite East Liverpool, O., gaining entrance to the postoffice unobserved. The safe, containing over \$1,000 in cash was completely shattered with dynamite. Postmaster W. C. Johnston made an estimate of the losses and gave them as follows:

Stamps, \$737; money order department, \$95.24; postal funds, \$132; money held for Mrs. Russell Williamson, \$13.15; funds of the Eva Hart lodge, \$23. Added to these amounts were 200 money order blanks upon which \$25,000 could be realized, it being possible to convert each blank into an order for \$100.

The postmaster also lost many valuable papers, being a justice of the peace and having in his possession numerous legal documents. The door of the First National bank, of Chester, was found open next morning, giving rise to the suspicion that an attempt was made to loot it.

FARMERS HOLD GRAIN.

Report by Department of Agriculture for Month of March.

The March report of the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture shows the amount of wheat in farmers' hands on March 1 to have been about 152,900,000 bushels or 26.8 per cent of last year's crop, as compared with 24.3 per cent of the crop of 1902 on hand on March 1, 1903, and 22.2 per cent of the crop of 1901 on hand March 1, 1902.

The corn in farmers' hands is estimated at about 829,000,000 bushels or 37.4 per cent of last year's crop, against 34.4 per cent of the crop of 1902 on hand on March 1, 1903, against 41.9 per cent of the crop of 1902, on hand on March 1, 1903, and 29.2 per cent of the crop of 1901 on hand on March 1, 1902.

Of oats there are reported to be about 273,700,000 bushels or 24.9 per cent of last year's crop still in farmers' hands, as compared with 23.9 per cent of the crop of 1902 on hand on March 1, 1903, and 20.6 per cent of the crop of 1901 on hand on March 1, 1902.

CURRENT NEWS EVENTS.

A soft-coal strike, involving 250,000 men, is expected to begin about April 1.

Mayor Maybury of Detroit, warned the management of a local burlesque house that they must not allow Mrs. Kate Seffel to appear on the stage. The Mayor stated that the penalty would be forfeiture of the theater's license.

Wireless Tests in the Navy.

The Navy Department has made arrangements for the trial of several wireless telegraph systems between the New York Navy Yard and the station at Navesink Highlands, N. J. The system which produces the best results will later be tested between shore stations and ships and between ship and ship. The other day the Minneapolis, at Guantanamo, made connections with the Yankee, 80 miles away.

Collision Delays Target Practice.

A portion of the United States Atlantic squadron which was to have joined in the target practice at Pensacola has been detained at Guantanamo owing to the court of inquiry being held to determine who is to blame for the recent collision between the Missouri and Illinois.

Field Marshall Alfred, Count von Waldsee, commander-in-chief of the allied armies in China, died at Hankow.

JAPS SAID TO BE VICTORS

Reported Defeat of Russians on Korean Soil.

PORT ARTHUR SHELLED AGAIN.

Disabled Russian Warship Retzivan Repaired and Said to Be in Fighting Train Again.

A dispatch from Wei-Hai-Wei, dated March 9, says: "It is reported on good authority that a collision between Japanese and Russian troops has occurred near Hai-Ju, Korea, 54 miles northwest of Chemulpo, which resulted in the defeat of the Russians."

The Japanese are now reported in Manchuria, where they are said to have taken Feng-Wang-Cheng, 50 miles north of the Yalu. The news comes from several sources, and the Russians are reported falling back, with some loss in the skirmishing. Washington news and the Japanese advance from the commander of the United States gunboat Helena, at Yingkow, the port of Newchwang. He adds the information that the Japanese landed at Takushan, west of the mouth of the Yalu river.

Heavier fighting is expected when the invaders get closer to Liao-Yang, where several thousand Russian troops are concentrated. There is an unconfirmed report of a renewal of the bombardment of Port Arthur and Dalay on Tallenwan bay, by Admiral Togo's squadron. Tokio has no definite news of the movements of Admiral Urei's ships and the Czar's Vladivostok squadron.

The hois in the hull of the Russian battleship Retzivan, which was made during the first attack by the Japanese, has been repaired and the battleship has been refitted. She is now anchored in the inner roadstead alongside the Czarovitch. The garrison at Port Arthur is 40,000 strong, and there are provisions enough to last two years. Trains on the Manchurian line are running regularly in triple sections, at 20 minute intervals.

POSTAL VIOLATIONS.

Bristow's Report in Response to House Resolution.

Another chapter in the postoffice investigation of last summer was revealed when Chairman Overstreet, of the House Committee on Postoffices and Postroads, laid before the House of Representatives a closely printed document of 218 pages recounting the instances on file in the Postoffice department in which members of the Senate and House of Representatives have used their "influence" with the officials of the Postoffice department, with more or less success, to secure increase in salaries of postmasters, additional clerk hire and advantageous leases of buildings for postoffice purposes. The report is made by the unanimous vote of Mr. Overstreet's committee in response to a resolution calling for the information introduced by Representative Hay of Virginia. As the information accompanies the report the committee recommends that the resolution lay on the table.

Some of the transactions involving members of Congress recorded in the reports are held to be technical violations of the statute, others are pronounced by members who have read the report as clearly censurable, while in the majority of cases it is held that members in making their recommendations to the department expected nothing not in harmony with the rules and practices of the postmaster.

Three cases are set forth in which members of Congress own buildings which are leased to the government for postoffice purposes. The first is that of Mr. Overstreet, who is reported to have leased a building to the government for postoffice purposes. The second is that of Mr. Overstreet, who is reported to have leased a building to the government for postoffice purposes. The third is that of Mr. Overstreet, who is reported to have leased a building to the government for postoffice purposes.

RUSSIAN TACTICS.

Official Intimation That They Will Repeat the Strategy of 1912.

It was recently officially intimated at St. Petersburg that the Czar's military advisers had recommended recourse to "the strategy of 1912" in all back battles the Japanese army and by waste Manchuria. The enemy being cut off into the interior, would finally be overwhelmed by the immense forces Russia will be able after a time to bring against them. Thus the tragedy of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow would be re-enacted and Japan would be prostrated by the loss of its best army. Russia, it was suggested, is not prepared at present to resist the attack of the enemy at points accessible from the sea, but must temporarily retire to the interior. This policy involves the abandonment of Port Arthur and Vladivostok, or rather the attempt to hold them as isolated fortresses, the main body of the Russian forces withdrawing to Harbin, where the trans-Siberian railway branches—one branch leading to Port Arthur, the other to Vladivostok.

Crazed by Religion.

James R. Kennedy, a well-known farmer near Bayard, O., was taken to the Massillon asylum, a raving maniac. His condition is attributed to the revival and the attendant excitement and brooding over the belief that his friends were not saved. Andrew Frankum, of East Rochester, once an asylum patient, is reported to the probate court as unbalanced from the same cause. The church trustees have ordered the revival services closed.

Dewey, Taylor and Loomis in Jamaica.

Admiral Dewey, Rear Admiral Taylor, Assistant Secretary of State Loomis and others of their party, arrived in Port Antonio, Jamaica, on the Elliot group of islands, on February 23. The Russians continue to push southward along the coast from Fossil bay, towards Song-Ching, the correspondent continues, and the Vladivostok squadron apparently is covering their communication with Vladivostok.

MANCHURIAN LINE MINED?

Japs Intend Destroying Whole Railway, Says American.

"The Russian trans-Siberian railroad from Port Arthur to Lake Balkhal has been honeycombed with mines for more than a year," declared Charles Klohn, assistant inspector of customs at Shanghai, who has arrived in New York on the Cunard liner Ivernia.

"What the bribing of the Russian foreman did to the Japanese did through their best engineers, working as common coolies in the construction gangs."

"As a result it would be folly to call it a railroad. Its rails are so light that they will not support more than five cars; its cars are so light that they will not carry a heavy gun; its engines so light that they will not draw five cars more than 17 miles an hour."

The sleeping, loose and springs, unseasoned, put along the line of the route, untrimmed and unbarbed, are thrown under the 24-foot rails three (more often two) to every 20 feet of rail; and the rails are barely held together by single rivets, without fish plates.

"Not only have the disguised engineers worked at the wrecking of the enemy's road, but they have formed espionage corps among the mandarins and peasantry of Manchuria and have surrounded the Russians in Port Arthur. Russia can safely send troops to Port Arthur, but the Port Arthur troops cannot utilize the road to retreat. For as soon as they embark the line will be blown up by the Chinese allies of the Japanese and the Russians will find themselves attacked front and rear without a line of communication."

"Even if they are allowed to reach the Balkhal lake they will be driven into it before assistance can reach them."

"Five cars, holding 500 men altogether, traveling at the rate of 20 miles an hour, could never escape from such a mobile force as the Japanese. Even in the event of the mines not operating, such trains could be smashed by shells before they got out of range."

"The mining of the road is nothing more than Russia could have expected. But with colossal stupidity she thought herself wonderfully clever in pushing her line, in time of peace, to her war camp at Port Arthur."

"From the time of the starting of that road, the Japanese were alert awaiting its approach to the danger line. Then they threw their corps of engineers, educated at the schools of Yale, Harvard and Columbia Universities, into the gangs of laborers and began to build up their network of espionage and plan the mines along the lines. Every military plan of the Russians became known to the Japanese. They were everywhere as servants, coolies, slaves, humble and obedient. The coolie frequently was the son of an honored member of the Mikado's Council."

"Already the effectiveness of the mining has been tested at Dalny, where a bridge was blown up mysteriously."

NEWS NOTES.

A 2-year-old son of Theodore Wallis was burned to death at his home, near Hebron, O.

Mrs. Gustave Stanson, of Elgin, Ill., shot her husband and son and then killed herself.

Twenty bodies have been recovered from the wreck of Darlington Hotel building, in New York.

The cold in Northern Italy is so intense that the Tosa falls, near Simpson, probably the grandest among the Alps, are frozen hard.

Foster Bowers, 33 years old, died at South Park, Pa., from a rifle shot wound accidentally inflicted by a companion.

Over a million dollars worth of property has been destroyed in the Wyoming valley. Masters, Pennsylvania, and 2,000 families rendered homeless.

An unknown colored tramp, sleeping on the corner owned at Rosstone, near Uniontown, Pa., was run over by a dinky car and killed.

A broken flange wrecked a freight train at Jamiesonville, Pa., on the Besenator and Lake Erie railroads. The train crew escaped injury.

"Matt" Kramer, of North Industry, O., nearly died from a dose of ammonia taken by mistake for a prescription left on the same shelf.

Philip McCormick, 16 years old, of East Liverpool, O., was shot twice in the shoulder, the wounds being inflicted, it is alleged, by an Italian boy during a fight.

H. C. Price, a Baltimore and Ohio railroad engineer, is dead at his home in Cumberland, Md., from injuries received in jumping from an engine which was running away.

The Grand Trunk railroad shareholders ratified the agreement with the Canadian Government for the construction of a grand trunk line to the Pacific.

The Kansas Republican State convention nominated the following ticket: Governor, Edward W. Hoch; Lieutenant Governor, David W. Hanna; Secretary of State, J. R. Burrows; Auditor, Seth G. Wells; Attorney General, C. C. Coleman; Treasurer, Thomas T. Kelly.

Among the sidelights of the Smith testimony it has been developed that nine Mormon apostles have a total of 27 wives; that Smith has 21 male children and an equal number of females by his five wives; that his net income is \$75,000 a year and the expenses of his five families are \$20,000 annually.

MOB RULES OHIO TOWN

The Governor Calls Out Militia to Restore Order.

NEGRO MURDERER IS LYNCHED.

Enraged Whites Take Further Violence on Colored Denizens by Firing Buildings.

Richard Dixon, a negro, was shot to death at Springfield, O., by a mob for the alleged fatal shooting of Police Sergeant Charles Collis. Dixon came from Cynthiana, Ky. The mob was composed of 2,000 men, but those who killed Dixon formed a number far smaller than that, probably not more than 250, most of whom entered the county jail at 11 o'clock to-night, dragged Dixon to the outside of the building, fired a number of shots into his body, killing him, and then tied a rope about his neck and hung him to a telegraph pole, where the body was further riddled with bullets.

The mob gained an entrance to the jail by forcing in the east doors with a railroad iron.

All attempts of the sheriff and officers to prevent the action of the mob were in vain and to save others from injury, and death they gave the prisoner up.

The lynching of the negro Dixon by a mob seemed to inflame a certain part of the white populace, and before daylight there were disquieting rumors in the air. Crowds on the street corners uttered threats against the blacks, and almost imperceptibly a plan of assault on "the Levee," the tough negro settlement grew ugly and seemed to be waiting for the whites to make the first overt act.

The mob set fire to some buildings in the levee settlement and excitement ran high. At 12:30 o'clock the fire was under control and the mob had become quiet.

The mayor and sheriff, to be prepared, wired, asking Governor Herlick for six companies of troops. Governor Herlick ordered six National Guard companies to hurry to Springfield. The governor also ordered schools closed.

Two companies from Dayton, one from Piqua and one from Miamisburg arrived at 12:30 a. m. The mob is quiet and orderly and no further trouble is feared. The fire was practically under control at 1 a. m.

REED SMOOT TRIAL.

Testimony Brought Out by Senate Investigating Committee.

One of the most interesting and important features of the investigation of the Senator Reed Smoot case before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections was brought out in the testimony of E. R. Critchlow, formerly an assistant United States attorney in Utah, who told the story of the Moses Thatcher episode. According to his version, which was borne out by official records, Apostle Thatcher persisted in continuing as a candidate for the Utah valley. Senate against the wishes of a quorum of the apostles, and on that account was held to be "not in harmony with his quorum."

The history of the campaign he made against the wishes of his fellow Mormons, of his defeat and his subsequent trial before a commission of church officials, was given in detail, and then Thatcher's submission to the will of the United States, as to the consent of the church to the investigation. Thatcher recanted in spirit and bowing absolutely to the mandates of the church in that the consent of an officers' quorum must be obtained in order that he may continue in good standing.

The purpose of the testimony was to show that it was necessary, according to the rules of the church, for Reed Smoot to have obtained the consent of the church before he could have become a candidate for the Senate.

The committee brought out a variety of testimony, of which the most sensational was given by Francis M. Lyman, president of the Twelve Apostles of the Mormon Church and the man chosen to be the successor of President Smith. His admissions were similar to those previously made by Mr. Smith pertaining to the church and his testimony, though not materially differing, caused several of the apostles present to shake their heads at the witness for the purpose of compelling more discretion in answering questions.

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IRON AND STEEL IMPROVED.

Trade Conditions Generally Show Improvement—Pig Iron Statistics Encouraging.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: More reasonable weather has brought increased activity in business, normal conditions existing for the first time this year at many points, and there is evidence of an effort to recover lost ground and prepare for a large spring trade. Collections are also improving, and structural operations revive with the higher temperature, stimulating the markets for building materials and increasing real estate transfers. There has been great damage from floods, although the severe winter has caused unusual preparation for troubles of this nature. Manufacturing returns are favorable as to steel and footwear, but textile mills are not active, and a further curtailment of cotton spinning is probable. Settlement of several important labor controversies has been accompanied by new strikes and soft coal miners have not yet reached an agreement with the operators. Further delay has occurred as to the iron ore agreement, upon which another conference will be held April 1. Traffic congestion is still very bad at some points, but on the whole the situation has improved, and railway earnings for February were only 7 per cent less than last year. There is much encouragement in the pig iron statistics just issued by the "Iron Age."

Retailers and jobbers report an improved demand for reasonable footwear. Cotton mill production is being held back by the disturbing influence of violent inflation of the raw material, and it is stated that much machinery will become idle when present stocks of cotton are exhausted. Prices are unchanged and demand slow at first hands. Woolen goods are without feature, but Japan silks are 5 to 7 1/2 per cent higher. Failures this week numbered 259 in the United States, against 239 last year, and 22 in Canada, compared with 22 a year ago.

Bradstreet's says: The progress of the season has apparently helped the iron and steel markets. Increased activity and fewer prices are noted for the order forms, continuing the large buying by leading interests last week. Finished products are also more active and increased business is reported.

The situation in iron and steel pipe, wire, wire nails and structural iron is reported a strong one at Pittsburg. Practically the same report comes from Chicago, where larger sales of small lots of pig iron rails and railway shop supplies are noted. From all over the country come reports of special activity among agricultural implement concerns.

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