

OHIO VALLEY FLOOD CAUSES BIG DAMAGE

Rise of Several Rivers Is Reported to Be the Highest in Many Years.

SUFFERERS FLEE TO THE HILLS.

Boat Invades Flooded Cornfield to Save Farmers and Stock—Sickness Follows Privation.

The flood throughout the Ohio valley, caused by heavy rains and melting snows, is reported to be the highest since 1876. Lives have been lost, homes, bridges and fences swept away, and crops and roads ruined. Hundreds of families have been flood-bound in the overtopped areas.

The Monongahela, Allegheny, Ohio, Wabash and smaller streams have all contributed to the destruction which has moved down the Mississippi toward the Gulf of Mexico.

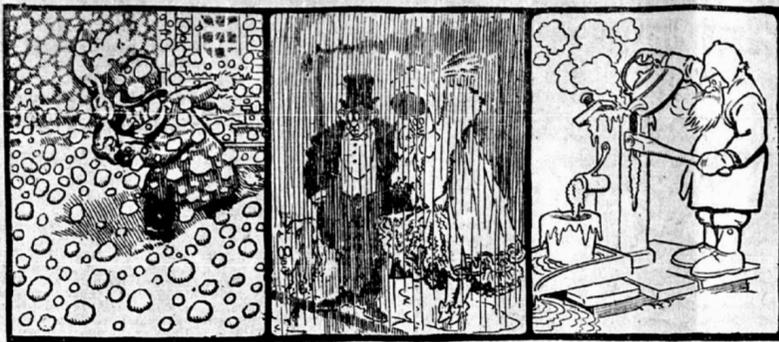
Pittsburg, perhaps, has been the greatest sufferer from the flood which has been sweeping down the Ohio valley. Any one acquainted with the location of the Smoky City knows why Pittsburg is annually, and sometimes several times a year, a victim of high water. The Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, uniting to form the Ohio, each flows through a narrow ravine and when the waters of the mountains and highlands come down in unusual quantities, owing to prolonged rains or persistent rains, the flood of necessity must overflow the narrow point between the ravines, thus inundating more or less of the city.

In the vicinity of the junction of the Ohio and Wabash rivers flood sufferers abandoned their homes to the raging waters and fled to the hills. Here they have been quartered in huts, sheds and deserted buildings and as a result of the exposure and privation pneumonia has become prevalent.

People along the lower Ohio River have prepared for the siege in store for them. Nearly a hundred families on the Indiana side, opposite Uniontown, Ohio, were removed. The big Ohio River steamer City of Spotsville cut across a cornfield and brought out several families, with 200 hogs, eighty mules and fifty cattle. The rescued flood victims had spent two nights in terror and fought incessantly to keep their stock from drowning. Residents at Shawneetown, Ill., are apprehensive, as the levee has been weakened by the excessive rain and the three floods of last year. A constant watch is being kept of weak places.

The Evansville and Terre Haute Railway Company has been anxious about the safety of its embankment which parallels White River, and thousands of bags filled with sand have been placed to strengthen it. This place is now known as the "Black Hole" because of the disappearance of a train

THE WEATHER THAT'S PROMISED AND THE WEATHER WE GET.



Fair and Mild.



Cold Wave.



Warmer Weather.



Rain and Warmer.



Snow and Colder.



Hot and Sultry.

JACKIES AS TARGETS.

Remarkable Test to Be Made by Navy Department.

The Navy Department has under consideration the most startling tests of the penetrating power of shells, danger to life, and the resisting power of armor that ever has been tried in any navy. The proposition is to have the moulter Arkansas fire a 12-inch shell weighing 850 pounds from a 60-ton gun a distance of two miles and have it strike the turret of a sister ship, the Florida, which is being placed in readiness for the trial.

The astounding part of the test is the proposition to have in the turret of the Florida at the time of the impact the full turret complement of twelve men. All paper figures, all statistics so far as weight of metal thrown, heat generated by impact, resisting power of armor, and other details would indicate that the men in the turret would come out unscathed except for the shock. Of course, there is no record in existence of a monitor, the turret protected by an 11-inch armor belt, being struck plumb by 13-inch shells of 850 pounds weight. All figures are purely theoretical.

The possibility of missing is infinitesimally small. All shots are now fired

STOESSEL FOUND GUILTY

Sentenced to Die for Surrender of Port Arthur, but Imprisonment Is Recommended.

HELD COWARD AND TRAITOR.

General Fock Reprimanded and Smirnov and Reiss Acquitted After Trial.

At St. Petersburg Lieutenant General Stoessel was condemned to death by a military court for the surrender of Port Arthur to the Japanese. General Fock, who commanded the Fourth East Siberian Division of Port Arthur, was ordered reprimanded for a disciplinary offense which was not connected with the surrender, and General Smirnov, acting commander of the fortress, and Major General Reiss, chief of staff to General Stoessel, were acquitted of the charges against them for lack of proof

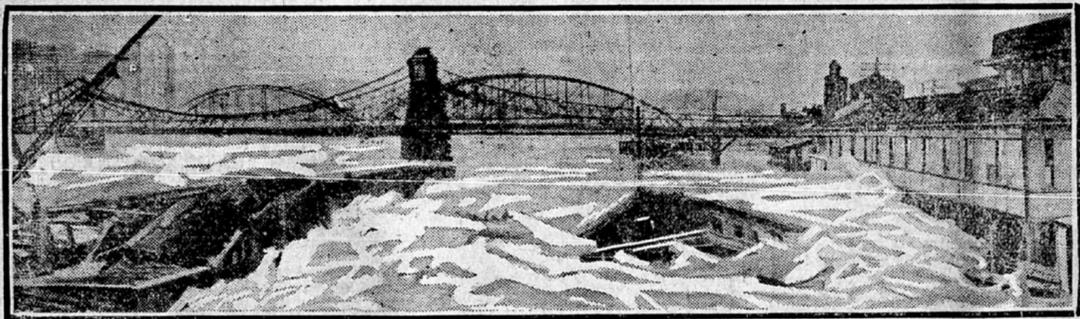
WASHINGTON'S HEIRS.

Discovery of Ohio Property Brings 5,000 of Them to Light.

Over 5,000 heirs-at-law of George Washington, father of the country, yet a childless man, have recently been found in different parts of the United States through the recent discovery that there is a large tract of land in Ohio which belongs to the first President of the United States, having been decided to him many years ago.

These heirs, through Lawrence Washington, who has a position in the Congressional Library at Washington, are preparing to make a fight for the property. Should they succeed through the courts, they will very probably deed the land back to the State of Ohio for a big national park to be known as Washington Park.

FLOOD RAVAGES PITTSBURG AND HUNDREDS ARE MADE HOMELESS BY SWELLING WATERS.



This picture of the February flood, which threw 20,000 people out of work and rendered thousands homeless in Pittsburg alone, shows the scene at the river's worst stage. On the right is the North Side B. & O. station. On the left is a coal tippie wrecked by ice and carried down the middle of the stream. A wrecked houseboat is shown in the ice floe.

some years ago. All efforts to fill this hole have been futile.

As a result of the heavy snowstorm throughout the Middle West, railway traffic has been greatly impeded and telegraph and telephone service crippled. Dispatches tell of several trains being snow-bound for many hours. The area of the storm is large, extending from Texas to the eastern boundary of the country, and north from Denver to New York. In several sections the snow is more than a foot deep on the level. Stock is reported suffering in the Western States and the loss is expected to be heavy. Drifts have made travel over country roads in wagons impossible in many places.

IMMIGRANTS SHOW DECREASE.

Greatest Falling Off in Percentage Is Shown by Japanese.

At the Cabinet meeting Wednesday Secretary Straus of the Department of Commerce and Labor laid before the President some significant figures as to immigration and emigration. The figures show that for January there was a large decrease in Japanese arriving in the United States. The total arrivals for both the mainland and Hawaii were 971, as compared with 5,000 for January, 1907.

As to the immigration from other countries, the total for January was, in round figures, 2,700, as compared with 5,400 in January one year ago. For the months of July, August, September and October the total immigration was 463,000, while the emigration for the same period was 190,000.

Belmont's Daughter Suffocated.
Mrs. William P. Garden, daughter of O. H. P. Belmont, was found dead in bed in her New York home, having been killed by escaping gas.

from a geometrical deduction and with machine precision. The shell will doubtless land just where aimed for, and then if the theory of the naval experts holds good, it will be deflected and the turret left uninjured.

Naval attaches from all parts of the world are anxiously scrambling for an opportunity to witness it, but the department has declined all applications; in fact, it is said the test will be made far out at sea, so that observations and deduction by foreign powers cannot be made. The chiefs in charge of the work to be performed by these two monitors have been instructed by the Board of Officers in charge of the experiment to say nothing to the press, and the result is to be kept solely for the information of the United States navy.

No Demand for Locomotives.

The Cooke and Rogers branches of the American Locomotive Works at Paterson, N. J., have recently laid off several hundred more men, so that of the 5,000 ordinarily employed at these plants, only half are now working, and these are mainly engaged in making repairs to old locomotives. The reason given at both shops is that no orders for new locomotives are coming in, either from domestic or foreign railroads.

The proceedings of the government looking to the dissolution of the Standard Oil Company were continued before Judge Ferriss at St. Louis. E. Dana Durand testified that in the case of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad shipments of oil were way billed at 11 cents per hundred pounds, while part of such shipments were carried at 8 1/2 cents per hundred, and part at 6 cents per hundred. All of the testimony brought out by Mr. Kellogg, counsel for the government, was designed to show that the Standard was enabled to obtain a monopoly of the petroleum business through a system of secret rebates paid by the railroads.

The court recommended that the death sentence upon Lieutenant General Stoessel be commuted to ten years' imprisonment in a fortress and that he be excluded from the service.

For his services in the campaign against the Boxers in 1900 Stoessel was made a lieutenant general and stationed at Port Arthur, where he began strengthening the works, little dreaming at the time that he would be called upon to defend the place against the assaults of the Japanese. In February, 1904, when the war broke out, Port Arthur became the center of the conflict. Cut off by land and sea, Stoessel and his men held out for nearly two years before he was compelled to surrender. At first he was given great praise by the Russians, Emperor Nicholas, conferred upon him the title of aid-de-camp to the Czar and the German Emperor gave him an order. Then his critics became busy and a commission appointed to investigate the surrender recommended that Stoessel be dismissed from the army and shot. His trial followed. General Stoessel's sentence, which is "without the loss of rights or honor," is generally regarded as intended to satisfy public opinion. It is expected he will be pardoned after a brief imprisonment.

Workshop for Unemployed.

At a meeting of fifty men interested in charitable movements of New York City it was decided to erect a \$200,000 building to be used as a home and workshop for the worthy unemployed, who are willing to work. It will make no appeal to the professional vagrant or tramp. Dr. Harvey Furbay, one of the founders, says that charity lodging houses are much imposed upon by the drosses of society. The new plan is expected to separate these from the earnest unfortunates. It is expected that the work will make the charity self-sustaining. The statement was made that out of 997 men of the better class of unemployed 80 were found to be college graduates.

CURRENT NEWS NOTES.

Three thousand miners employed in ten mines owned by the Pittsburg Coal Company went on strike Feb. 4, and it is feared that within a few days a general strike throughout the district will be declared. The cause of the strike was the enforcement of the rule that the miners must use smokeless powder instead of the ordinary black powder, which has been used exclusively heretofore. The mine inspectors and operators insist that their only object in ordering the use of smokeless powder is to prevent the mine horrors which have cost more than 700 lives in the Pittsburg district within two months.

youngest of the Washington brothers. He was born on the ancestral estate of Harwood, in Jefferson County, West Virginia, the birthplace of his mother, which was built jointly by George and Samuel Washington.

It was by act of Congress that the gift of the Ohio property was made to the first President of the United States. Whether or not he accepted it, or if he did, to what use he put it, is not known by the Philadelphia descendant; but he does know that the estate is very valuable now and would make a magnificent site for a mammoth park.

Timothy hay has sold in Chicago this season at \$21 per ton, the highest price ever paid there. The scarcity is due more to a shortage in cars than a shortage of the crop.

The Minnesota grain inspection department reports that more than 70 per cent of all wheat inspected by the State grain inspection department for the crop year ending Aug. 31, 1907, graded No. 2 or better.

A band of 23,000 sheep were driven from Roswell, N. M., to feeding grounds in Southern Arizona. They cleared off the vegetation of a strip a mile wide clean as a whistle in their progress through the country.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1400—Richard II., King of England, murders sailed from Cuba to invade Mexico.

1680—William and Mary enthroned in England.

1700—The British warship Ramillies, with crew of 700, sailed from Plymouth on a voyage that ended in a wreck and the loss of all on board except two.

1763—French and Indian war ended by treaty of Paris.

1775—Chatham presented his motion to Parliament for conciliation with America.

1779—Col. Pickens, with a force of Carolina militia, defeated the Tories west of Broad river.

1780—The British, under Sir Henry Clinton, began their attack on Charleston, S. C.

1781—Gen. Greene abandoned North Carolina to the British.

1801—John Marshall appointed chief justice of the United States.

1804—New Jersey Legislature passed an act for the gradual abolition of slavery.

1805—Russia declared war against Sweden.

1815—Fort Boyer, Mobile, surrendered to the British.

1818—Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle opened.

1844—William Williams of Pennsylvania became Secretary of War.

1836—President ordered dispersion of armed invaders of Kansas.

1863—Federal prisoners first confined at Andersonville, Ga.

1867—A civil service reform measure introduced in the House of Representatives.

1873—Abdication of King Amadeus of Spain and proclamation of a republic.

1876—First telephone patent granted to Alexander Graham Bell.

1879—Chair of the Senate occupied for the first time by a negro Senator, Blanche K. Bruce of Mississippi.

1880—Great fire at Brandon, Man., Constitution of Japan proclaimed.

1880—University buildings at Toronto burned.

1895—Chinese fleet surrendered to the Japanese.

1898—United States battleship Maine blown up in Havana harbor, with loss of 260 lives.

1899—President McKinley signed the peace treaty with Spain.

1900—Relief of Kimberley by Gen. French.

1902—Anglo-Japanese alliance announced.

1903—Great demonstration of London's unemployed in Trafalgar square.

1905—Northwestern States swept by severe blizzard.

NUBBINS OF FARM NEWS.

The Oregon potato yield is twice as large as that of last year and the quality is good.

The broomcorn crop of Texas county, Okla., alone will bring the farmers \$400,000 this year.

A RAGING BLIZZARD SWEEPS THE COUNTRY

Howler Starts Down in the Southwest and Paralyzes Railroad Traffic in Its Path.

ENTIRE WEST IS STORM-BOUND.

Chicago Has Greatest One-Day Snowfall in City's History—Several Lives Are Lost.

The worst blizzard in the weather history of Chicago, according to the records of the weather bureau, swept over the city Tuesday. The storm was general all over the West, extending over Missouri, Arkansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin and the northern portion of Illinois. Traffic on the railroads was severely impeded and on some lines made impossible by the huge drifts of snow. A number of lives were lost while the storm was raging its worst, and other fatalities were reported as due to the severity of the blizzard.

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The blizzard was felt throughout the entire middle West, the storm delaying trains, interfering with telegraph service, and, in some places, cutting off all traffic. The storm centers seemed to be in Nebraska and central Illinois, where the downfall of snow reached a depth of fourteen inches on the level and was piled in deep drifts by the high winds which accompanied the snow.

All train traffic in Nebraska was seriously affected. The Chicago-Deerfield express, west bound on the Rock Island road, was stalled in a drift near Prairie Home, ten miles from Lincoln. The east bound Rock Island passenger was tied up in the Lincoln yards.

The central Illinois towns were placed in the grip of the blizzard, and the network of interurban lines which traverse that section were practically put out of business for a time. The drifts were extremely deep on all of the country roads and the rural mail service was badly crippled for a few days, as the drivers found it practically impossible to get over their routes.

When the blizzard abated in the States west of the Mississippi, further discomfort was in store for the inhabitants, as the temperature, which was near a freezing point during the storm, dropped rapidly, while the high winds continued in force.

POLITICS and POLITICIANS

Representative Hobson introduced a bill "to provide a navy adequate for national defense."

The Mississippi Legislature elected John Sharp Williams, minority leader in the House, to the United States Senate.

Secretary Taft made it plain, in his speech before the Young Republicans at Kansas City, Mo., that he approved most heartily of the recent special message of the President.

Attorney General Jackson of New York State, commenting on his experience when investigating embarrassed banks, says: "I never met so many men who ought to be in jail."

William J. Bryan, speaking at Danville, Ill., declared in his belief that Joseph Cannon would be the Republican candidate for President and that he himself would oppose Mr. Cannon.

Three miles of signatures, representing the desire of some 160,000 voters to pass upon the merits of the Sunday saloon question, have insured the appearance of a little ballot bearing the question at the spring election in Chicago.

Frank S. Black, former ex-Governor of New York, in a speech before the Home Market Protection Club at Boston, without the direct mention of names, denounced in the most emphatic manner the policies of the present administration and the influence in control of the Republican party.

Congressman Robert G. Cousins of the Fifth Iowa district, chairman of the House committee on foreign affairs, has announced that he will not be a candidate for re-nomination. He has been in Congress sixteen years. Cousins says that he has opportunities to do something for himself and he has accepted them.

The committee in charge of the plans for the Republican national convention at Chicago next June have practically completed arrangements for the big meeting. The convention will assemble in the Coliseum, the scene of many historic gatherings, which was designed and erected with special reference to the needs of a political convention.

The aggressive New York advocates of the candidacy of Gov. Hughes for President have now formed the Hughes League of the United States, much on the plan of the Independence League, with branches in every State.

Every county in Ohio went for Taft in the Republican primaries called for the express purpose of determining the party's choice for President, the election boards certifying the Taft delegates elected without opposition in counties where primaries were not held. In only two counties did Foraker men put up candidates, and these were defeated.

E. Benjamin Andrews, chancellor of Nebraska university, who has favored the nomination of Gov. Hughes for President, has transferred his preference to Secretary Taft. Dr. Andrews says he believes that Taft and Bryan will be nominated by their respective parties.

In his maiden speech in the House, Mr. Kimball of Kentucky, with Henry Watterson seated by his side, predicted Democratic success all along the line at the next election. Bryan, he said, would be President. Champ Clark of Missouri, however, said the terms of credit will be shortened, the limit being from sixty to thirty days.

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