EVERYBODY 14 PAGES READS IT.

The Topeka State Journal.

EVERBODY 14 PAGES NEEDS IT.

LAST EDITION. FRIDAY EVENING. TOPEKA, KANSAS, APRIL 30, 1909. FRIDAY EVENING. TWO CENTS.

DEATH AND RUIN.

Heavy Loss of Life and Property All Over West

As Result of Wind, Snow, Tidal Wave and Flood.

BLIZZARD IS RAGING

On the Great Lakes and Snow Plows Are Out

In Most of the States of the Northern Tier.

Chicago, April 30.—In the middle west the following are the most spectacular happenings among thousands of accidents which have dealt death and ruin on every hand.

A tornado has blown down 600 feet of the west wall of the northern Indiana state prison at Michigan City and troops were mobilized to prevent trouble with prisoners.

A tidal wave in Lake Michigan has done great damage in Waukegan and Kenosha.

Scores of dwellings in Chicago's suburbs have been demolished or unroofed and their occupants injured.

Towns have been flooded and cut off from all communication with the world.

Trains have been damaged and their progress halted by the falling of telegraph poles across the track.

In the height of the storm a child was born in a basement in the southern part of Chicago and carried by its mother, Katharine Murphy, a long distance to a refuge, the woman being knocked down repeatedly by the winds but always falling in such a manner that the babe escaped unhurt.

On farms barns have been rolled over, exposing the stock to the fury of the elements.

Six persons have been killed and many hurt in the country surrounding Memphis.

Four lost their lives in a tornado at Golden, Mo., and another tornado in Arkansas caused loss of life and heavy property damage.

A blizzard is raging on the great lakes and snow plows are out in the northern tier of states.

Little improvement in conditions are expected during the next 24 hours.

Wire Service Crippled.

Showers and thunderstorms, turning to snow flurries and colder with a westerly gale are predicted for the next 24 hours. Telegraph companies expect to have their lines repaired in that time but the lack of communication with many points in the middle west leaves the extent of the damage in doubt. That destruction has been widespread, involving the loss of scores of lives and much stock and other property is shown by reports from the south and the southwest. Stories of deaths in Tennessee and Arkansas, in what is known as the "cyclone belt" have been reported. Wires are down in Iowa, Missouri and Kansas and in central Illinois and the northwest.

Telegraph service between the great news centers is still hampered and early improvement is problematical. South of Louisville, conditions are particularly bad.

In the south snow has held up train service and the gale on the lakes has hampered shipping to a considerable extent. Inquiry at the general offices of the Illinois Central as to the report that the town of Horn Lake, Desoto county, Miss., had been wiped out by the storm elicited the information that the company had no way of ascertaining the truth or falsity of the report, as all their wires were prostrated. There were no wires for the dispatching of trains, early, although hope was expressed that a patch work service might be restored before night.

The Chicago & Alton, two of whose trains were stalled last night, reported traffic being handled on a normal basis today, although their wires had suffered.

Several Killed by Tornado.

Louisville, Ky., April 30.—Several persons are reported killed in last night's tornado near Franklin, Tenn., and the town of Hillsboro, a few miles from there, is said to have been blown away, much damage is reported at Centerville, Tenn., and other nearby towns.

Freezing Weather in Nebraska.

Omaha, April 30.—Freezing weather prevails today over a large portion of the state, the temperature ranging as low as 24 above zero at North Platte.

Six Killed in Chicago.

Chicago, April 30.—Six persons were killed and 50 injured in Chicago and environs during the storm last night according to reports received today by the police and coroners.

The list of injured includes only those whose names were officially reported. Probably as many more received private attention.

Cold in the Panhandle.

Kansas City, April 30.—A 20-mile an hour wind from the north with the temperature at 40 degrees above zero were the conditions that prevailed generally in western Missouri and throughout Kansas today. The local weather bureau also reported a freezing temperature in the Panhandle of Texas. In this portion of the southwest the damage by wind appears to have been confined to numerous telegraph and telephone poles blown down.

Snowing at Colorado Springs.

Colorado Springs, Colo., April 30.—Indications point to a continuation today of the snow and wind storm which set in yesterday afternoon, and which has raged intermittently since. No damage of consequence has been reached, although the temperature dropped to 30 degrees above zero during the night. The sunshine yesterday was 52 per cent of possible.

Fruit Is Damaged.

Pueblo, Colo., April 30.—Snow, rain and sunshine alternated here today. Freezing temperature last night did much damage to fruit and farmers kept smudge fires to save the blossoms and buds.

Steamer Believed to Be Lost.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., April 30.—While it is the general opinion in marine circles today that the Corrigan line steamer, Aurania sank yesterday in White Fish bay, nothing definite has yet been learned. A furious storm is raging today over the upper lake region and it may prevent any boats getting down from White Fish today.

If so there may be no confirmation of the boat's identity nor details of the accident for 24 hours. Blinding snow accompanies the gale which is blowing.

Down Toward Zero.

Denver, Col., April 30.—Temperatures as low as 28 above zero are reported from the fruit regions around Grand Junction, Col., this morning and much damage has undoubtedly been done. Hundreds of fruit raisers are using smudge pots to protect their trees.

Cold weather extends all over the mountain region and down into the Texas Pan Handle. At Denver it was 19 above this morning at Cheyenne, Wyo., 10 above. A high north wind prevails and the weather bureau predicts heavy frost tonight. More than a foot of snow has fallen at Telluride, Col.

More Than a Score Dead.

Atlanta, Ga., April 30.—Between 20 and 30 persons dead in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, and scores of injured, were the toll last night of a series of tornadoes in those states. The storms which wrought this havoc, appear to have been little out-riders of the big disturbances which simultaneously were sweeping through the north. Although more fatal to life than the northern storm, these southern tornadoes covered only a small area of a few acres or a few square miles. They struck at widely scattered points at intervals throughout yesterday and last night.

The death list as received here up to an early hour today was as follows:

Youngs Crossing, Tenn., 5.
Medina, Tenn., 2.
Horn Lake, Miss., 12.
Forest City, Ark., 2.
West Marion, Ark., 1.

During the night, telegraph wires went down all over the south, except in the South Atlantic states. On both sides of the Mississippi for hundreds of miles it was a threatening night.

Three More Die.

Chicago, April 30.—By death of three men in the hospital today the list of fatalities due to the unroofing of the Grand Crossing tack factory in the storm last night was brough up to four. The first death occurred instantly when the roof collapsed.

Sleighing at LaCrosse.

LaCrosse, Wis., April 30.—One of the heaviest snow storms of the winter is raging today. Four inches of snow has fallen and the storm seems likely to continue all day. The snow is now heavy enough for sleighing.

Blizzard at Superior.

Superior, Wis., April 30.—The blizzard which started yesterday is still raging. Snow is being driven by a wind ranging from 40 to 55 miles an hour.

Snowing in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia., April 30.—Northern Iowa is experiencing today a severe snow storm. During the night three inches of snow fell at Fort Dodge. The snow is still falling. Webster City has an inch while Mason City and Algona report that much wind is accompanying the snow. Telegraph and telephone wires are working badly and fruit is endangered by the freezing weather.

Live Stock Suffers.

Cheyenne, Wyo., April 30.—A cold wave accompanied in many parts of the state by heavy snow prevails all over Wyoming, the temperatures in the Yellowstone park region being reported as low as four above zero. Much loss to live stock will probably result.

SENT TO THE SENATE

One of Roosevelt's Tennis Cabinet Among the Nominations.

Washington, May 30.—President Taft today sent to the senate the following nominations:

To be associate justice of the supreme court of Arizona, Ernest W. Lewis of Arizona.

To be associate justices of the supreme court of New Mexico, Alford W. Cooley and Merritt C. Meecham, both of New Mexico.

To be first assistant commissioner of patents, Cornelius C. Billings of Vermont.

To be assistant commissioner of patents, Frederick A. Tennant of Ripley, N. Y.

Mr. Cooley was formerly an assistant attorney general of the United States, was one of President Roosevelt's closest personal friends and a member of his famous "tennis cabinet." Mr. Cooley was from New York originally. He gave up his official duties in this city and removed to New Mexico because of impaired health.

TOPEKA MAN HONORED.

Dr. William Maclay Lyon President of Missouri Homeopathists.

Kansas City, April 30.—A Kansas City man was honored by the Missouri Institute of Homeopathy last night in annual session at St. Louis by the election of Dr. Maclay Lyon of this city as president. The contest was lively between the St. Louis and Kansas City delegations. Kansas City was also secured for the next meeting of the institute in April, 1910.

Dr. Lyon was formerly a newspaper reporter in Topeka and his parents live here.

CAUGHT IN A TRAP

Two Men Arrested on Charge of Blackmailing the Spreckeleses.

San Francisco, April 30.—Two men have been arrested by detectives on a charge of attempting to blackmail Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Spreckels.

George De Martini, was caught in a trap set by the officers and later Benjamin Soule was captured. The men are accused of having sent threatening letters demanding $6,000 from the millionaire.

TRIPLE LYNCHING

Three Negroes Hanged by a Mob for Killing an Officer.

Fort Worth, Tex., April 30.—A mob lynched three negroes early today at Marshall, Texas. The negroes had killed a deputy sheriff.

The negroes were Creoe Mose, Pie Hill and Mat Chase.

They were charged with firing upon and killing Deputy Sheriff Mark Huffman and wounding Constable Alex Cargill, a few days ago, for raiding a crap game. No arrests have been made.

MANY TORNADOES

One 20 Miles Wide Sweeps Across Ohio.

Another in Missouri Destroys Two Towns.

WIPED OFF THE MAP.

Hillsboro, Tenn., Destroyed and Three Persons Killed.

Texas, Ill., Wrecked and Four Persons Dead.

Piqua, O., April 30.—A tornado 20 miles wide struck this section early this morning and caused a property damage estimated at $100,000. The path of destruction extends over several counties and extreme damage was done by the wind in the towns of Piqua, Sidney, Houston, Fletcher, St. Paris and Kirkwood. No loss of life.

Wiped Off the Map.

Springfield, Mo., April 30.—A special from Sommerville, Mo., says a tornado passed 10 miles north of that place last night, killing two persons and injuring many.

Dead: Miss Belle Delury and Mrs. George Smith. Some of the injured probably will die.

Scores of houses were demolished. Telegraph wires are down.

Another special says that a tornado that struck Golden last night, wiped that town off the map with the exception of one brick store building, killed five persons and injured a dozen or more others. The dead at Golden are:

MRS. W. H. HENSON.
MRS. CORA PRENTICE.
BUD HOPKINS.
BESSIE CAMPBELL.
MRS. JARVIS.

Among the buildings destroyed at Golden are two churches and a school building. Wires are down and persons who have gone to the tornado-stricken towns probably will not be heard from till late today.

Both Summerville and Golden are small inland towns off the railroad. Summerville is in Texas county, three counties removed from the Arkansas state line. Golden is in Barr county, just across the Arkansas line.

Hillsboro, Tenn., Wiped Out.

Memphis, Tenn., April 30.—The town of Hillsboro, nine miles west of Franklin, was practically wiped out and three persons, names unknown, were killed in a house demolished by the wind. Many barns and houses between Franklin and Hillsboro were unroofed. Hundreds of shade trees on the old John McGavock farm, historic as being in the battlefield of Franklin, were blown down and all of the barns on the place destroyed.

Tidal Wave 10 Feet High.

Detroit, Mich., April 30.—A tidal wave 10 feet high at South Haven, on the east shore of Lake Michigan, caused $2,000 damage to water front property at South Haven.

At Fenton, where the storm approached the proportions of a tornado, the damage aggregates $30,000. Much live stock was killed all over the state. At Grand Rapids, the Grand river has risen four feet and flood warnings have been sent out.

Damage was done to telegraph and telephone wires in western Michigan.

Whole Town Is Wrecked.

Carmi, Ill., April 30.—A tornado swept over Texas City, 32 miles south of here this morning, killing four persons and injuring several more.

Dead: Ed Overton, his wife, infant child and servant girl.

Many houses were destroyed and the whole town practically wrecked.

Cloud Burst at Bradford, Pa.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 30.—Flood warnings were set out today in the Ohio valley. A stage of 25 feet, or three feet above the flood stage, is expected here by tomorrow. Heavy rises are reported at all points along the Allegheny river and a rainfall of about three inches was general throughout that valley. At Bradford the 12 inch snowfall of yesterday was followed by a cloud burst and already that place has been partially submerged.

Industries at a Standstill.

Michigan City, Ind., April 30.—Nearly every factory building in the state prison has been unroofed in whole or in part. All the industries are at a standstill. The militia arrived today. A temporary wooden stockade will be built outside the line of the wrecked wall. The soldiers will be kept on duty until the stockade is finished.

Latonia Track Damaged.

Cincinnati, O., April 30.—A violent wind storm that swept over Kentucky early today caused a damage of $10,000 to the Latonia race track and $15,000 damage to the town of Latonia and vicinity. The ticket office and the shelter sheds and 15 stables at the track were destroyed. The benches in the grandstand were picked up by the wind and thrown in all directions. Part of the roof of the club house and the roof of the paddock were blown off. The grandstand was slightly damaged.

The steeple of John's Hall Catholic church in Campbell county, Kentucky, opposite Latonia, fell with a tremendous crash, demolishing the roof of the church.

The waiting room of a street car company in Latonia was lifted up by the wind and smashed to tinders on the other side of the street.

Many Lives Lost.

Nashville, Tenn., April 30.—Late advices from Centerville show that a score or more of lives were lost in last night's tornado and that the property damage is $100,000.

At Fayetteville, Lincoln county, the storm razed many residences, blew off one end of the Elk cotton mills and killed three persons.

Sugar Trust Pays Its Fine.

New York, April 30.—The American sugar refining company of New Jersey and the New York corporation of the same name have paid into the United States treasury about $900,000 completing a payment of approximately $2,000,000 in settlement of fines and claims made by the government in its recent charge of fraud on the part of the sugar company.

HAIL STORM AT HUTCHINSON.

Size of Marbles and Completely Covered the Ground, but Were Soft.

Hutchinson, Kan., April 30.—The clouds that came up Thursday afternoon produced a downpour of rain at 2:25 o'clock. In five minutes the rain had given way to hail and for ten minutes the fall was tremendous. The hail stones were about the size of marbles and at the end of the fall the ground was covered. During the hailstorm there was no rainfall at all, but the hailstones were slushy, otherwise many windows would have suffered.

MAIL SACKS RIFLED.

Two Men Hold Up a Train on the Northern Pacific.

Spokane, Wash., April 30.—Safely ensconced in some hotel or lodging house in Spokane, two bandits who held up Northern Pacific passenger train No. 3, near Rathdrum, Idaho, last night are believed to have found shelter shortly after midnight, waiting for the excitement to subside. Two luckless hoboes, who were captured by a freight crew last night as suspects were turned loose this morning, but there is still hope that the right men may be landed by night.

Six sacks of mail were opened by the robbers who captured the engine and mail car soon after the train left Rathdrum about 10:25 p. m. Driving the trainmen with revolver shots and cutting loose from the coaches they ran the engine about two miles west of Trent, where it was abandoned. It is supposed one bandit ran the engine while the other was searching the mail sacks.

How much booty they secured is not yet known. It is suspected they had an automobile in waiting near Trent and rushed at once to Spokane. Indications are that the robbers are experienced in the hold up business and it is thought they may be the same men who held up the same engineer at almost the same spot last summer.

HAD RISK ON CONRIED.

Metropolitan Opera Co. Benefits $150,000 by His Death.

New York, April 30.—The Metropolitan Opera company will benefit to the amount of $150,000 by the death of Heinrich Conried. Needless to say, the late director of the Metropolitan did not leave this amount to the company in his will, his feelings towards the opera company not having been the pleasantest at the time of his retirement. The $150,000 is the amount of the insurance policy which members of the company had the foresight to take out on the director's life when he was selected by the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate company to control the destinies of the opera house. Several members of the company have been changed since then, but the premium always has been paid, even during the last year, when Mr. Conried had nothing to do with the company.

The policy, it is said, was taken out at a time when Conried's health was perfectly good. It simply was protection in the case of Conried's death to the new company which then had been formed. Later when Mr. Conried's health became bad, when it was decided the company should pass under the control of Gatti-Casazza and Dippel, the policy assumed a new value.

FOR DICK THOMAS.

District Court Clerk Who Has Made Brilliant Record Will Be Kept.

A movement has been started among the lawyers in Topeka to keep the office of clerk of the district court from being used as a political football. They would prefer to see that only competent men are chosen for this important position.

Naturally this movement centers around Dick Thomas, the present clerk whose term will expire in another year. It is the plan to have Mr. Thomas accept the nomination for another term. He has proved himself particularly efficient and that is the kind of a man the lawyers, who are the only ones directly concerned in this office, insist upon. Mr. Thomas who will soon complete his second term has not yet intimated that he would accept another term but there is little doubt that with the kind of pressure which is being exerted that he will ultimately consent. He is a Republican, has a wide acquaintance and is deservedly popular and what is best of all has made a brilliant record by mastering the details of the office and keeping the dockets and records in such shape that the people who have business with the court can find what they want.

No other candidates have appeared and it is believed that none will enter the contest for the office if Mr. Thomas will consent to become a candidate for renomination before the Republican primary.

BAD FIRE AT PARSONS

Loss Which Includes First Methodist Church Amounts to $100,000.

Parsons, Kan., April 30.—Fire which started in the tailor shop of Charles Gamer, shortly after 9 o'clock Thursday evening did about $100,000 worth of damage. The Strasburger building, with a hundred foot front and the First Methodist church were completely destroyed.

The Strasburger building was valued at about $50,000 while the Methodist church was valued at about $17,000. For two hours it appeared as though the fire could not be controlled but shortly after midnight the blaze was conquered.

Five Years for False Report.

St. Louis, April 30.—The United States circuit court of appeals today affirmed the sentence of five years imprisonment in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth against S. D. Harper, former cashier of the First National bank at Miami, Okla. Harper's offense was a false report on the bank's condition.

BLAME IS PLACED

Coroner's Jury Reports in Central Hotel Case.

Responsibility Divided Between Owner and Tenant.

STARTED FROM STOVE.

Gas Range Near Wainscoting Cause of Blaze.

Legislature Blamed for Not Passing Appropriate Law.

At 11:30 o'clock today the coroner's jury empaneled to investigate the cause of the Central hotel disaster, returned a verdict to the effect that although the owner of the property and the proprietor of the hotel were in a measure responsible for the accident, by reason of their failure to provide exits and fire escapes, the laws and ordinances were such that they could not be made defendants in a criminal case. A roundabout consideration of the death of Erickson entered into the deliberations of the jury, but was not mentioned in the verdict. It was in regard to the death of Erickson that the coroner asked for a verdict concerning the reputation of the place, on the theory that Erickson might have escaped had he not feared being seen in company with the Rost girl.

The jury in its verdict also condemned the failure of the last legislature to enact laws which would be a guide to juries in fixing the blame for cases of this sort.

This is the verdict as delivered to the coroner shortly before noon today:

"We, the jury, find, That the cause of the fire was from the large gas range in the kitchen at the rear of the building numbered 528 Kansas avenue, which range was located only ten inches from the wainscotted wall, connected with a frame gallery about five feet above the top of the range with inflamable window casings from wainscoting to floor of the gallery.

"We find that the fire department rendered efficient service at this fire and can in no way be criticized or blamed for the loss of property or life.

"We find from the evidence that M. Snattinger, the owner of the building, is in a measure responsible for this fire and its results from the fact that he did not use what seems to the jury to be due diligence in being in touch with the condition of the building as to the arrangements of the rooms, halls, windows, ventilators and heating methods, he leaving those matters entirely with the various tenants to arrange as they saw fit, he knowing all the time that the building was being used constantly as a hotel or public place.

"And we find from the evidence that Frank A. Campbell, the tenant or lessee, is in a greater measure responsible for the following reasons: That the cause of the fire was from the large gas range that was situated as stated above, which on several occasions recently would have started a fire had not the kitchen help thrown on water.

"Also in the dangerous practice of the use of small heaters in the house connected with the gas pipes by rubber hose, and the use of wire glass window impossible to open and use as a means of escape.

"Blind rooms without opening for ventilation except door and transom, five rooms and lavatory opening into a 30 inch wide hall with window at rear end boarded up.

"And we, the jurors, further find that on account of the lack of proper laws or ordinances the people of Topeka are powerless to act, and for the further reason on account of the failure of the last legislature to enact proper laws covering cases of this kind. (Signed)

"CAL BREWER.
"H. C. BOWMAN.
"M. F. SOUTHWICK.
"W. A. NEISWANGER.
"C. W. THOMPSON.
"C. O. KNOWLES."

Eaton Is Investigating.

New and sensational light will be thrown upon the Central hotel tragedy and the charges made against the character of one of the victims, J. W. Erickson, from an unlooked for quarter before the day is past. That some of the testimony presented before the coroner's jury and particularly part of that of the Rost girl concerning Mr. Erickson was of a mistaken character or even a put up job to shield others, is the grounded suspicion to be given a thorough investigation by the police.

That the hotel was one of questionable character is not disputed. One report of the testimony before the coroner's jury states that Chief of Police Eaton testified that he knew nothing of the evil reputation of the house. Chief Eaton said this morning: "That report of my testimny is a mistake. I testified that I knew all along that the hotel harbored disorderliness to some degree, that there were complaints from there of beer being served, that women were slipped into the rooms, and I've had the place under surveillance for some time, only waiting for a good case to make a raid. God knows if I had sufficient evidence to secure a conviction I would have led a squad of officers through the house in a minute. In another hotel not long ago, we took six couples right from the rooms and proved that disorderly women frequented the place but the proprietors were acquitted in court. How much better evidence could be asked for I do not know, but I wanted a sure thing before I attempted another hotel raid.

"Now about this man Erickson I would like to see fair play. It is none of my official concern about the testimony of the other witnesses over in the county courts but I, like others who stop to think, shrink from the defamation of a Christian man's name after he is dead and can not defend himself before his family and relatives.

"I have just heard upon reliable information that the Rost girl did not stay with Erickson that night but with a young fellow of this city, that he jumped from the window into the street where he was furnished clothes by a friend, that the girl came down the stairway and that Erickson was not in that room at all. Furthermore Erickson had never registered at the Throop hotel and then gotten the date with her as she testified. Sergeant Ross and myself went down to the Throop where Mr. Cargill turned the books over to us for a thorough investigation. More than that Erickson had his grips at the Central which would have been quite unlikely if he had just gone up there from the Throop for a lark such as displayed before the jury. It seems to have been suggested to the Rost girl that she use the name of Erickson in her testimony."

Asked the names of the two fellows mentioned, the one who really spent the night with the girl and the one who furnished the clothes when he had jumped into the street, the chief preferred to keep them secret at present to await further developments.

There is nothing impossible in the revised story. The girl may have obligingly confused the names. The night clerk had the door shut in his face by the girl and did not see who was in the room. This night clerk was the first to link the name of Erickson with the girl's and a large part of this testimony was doubted. That "they had something to drink" does not incriminate Erickson.

The lunch referred to was served in a front room at the head of the stairs with a window on Kansas avenue. The clerk says this is the room to which Erickson was assigned.

BIG MINSTREL SHOW.

It Will Be Given Tonight at the Grand.

Tonight the famous minstrel show for the benefit of the St. Francis hospital, will be given at the Grand. This promises to be the local hit of the season. The Knights of Columbus have organized a chorus among their membership of sixty voices, all of which have been carefully drilled and trained for this event. In addition there will be the end men, and thirteen members of the Kansas City lodge who will assist in making the affair a success. Among the Kansas City assistants will be seen John McQueeney and James Laughlin, both of whom have been with minstrel troupes.

The prospects are that the Knights of Columbus will play to a crowded house tonight. Late Thursday afternoon the entire lower floor had been reserved and most of the balcony sold. There are, however, a few good seats left.

There will be special scenery used tonight which has been prepared expressly for the Knights of Columbus by a scenic artist. The musical part of the program will be furnished by a special orchestra of eighteen pieces which will consist of Calkin's orchestra's full quota augmented by some soloists from Marshall's band. The orchestra has been rehearsing with the chorus and company, so that good results and perfect execution will be a feature of the evening's performance.

The program will teem with local hits and take-offs, all given by prominent men, among whom will be seen Joseph Griley, Peter J. Monaghan and William Connors.

DEATHS AND FUNERALS.

Mrs. Mary Patterson died Thursday of heart disease at her home, 634 Lake street. The funeral was held from the home this morning, and the remains taken to Burlingame for interment.

Gertrude Hughes, 28 years of age, died Thursday afternoon at her home, 312 Crane street, of tuberculosis. The funeral announcement will be made later.

Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands and Her Consort, Prince Henry.

IT IS A GIRL.

Heir to the Throne of The Netherlands Is Born.

First Royal Birth Since That of Queen Wilhelmina.

IS GREAT REJOICING.

School Children Are Given a Week's Holiday.

Two Rooms Filled With Costly Presents for Baby.

The Hague, April 30.—Wilhelmina, queen of The Netherlands, gave birth to a daughter this morning. The condition of her majesty is satisfactory, the infant princess is doing well and Holland is celebrating the happy event from one end of the country to the other with expressions of joy such as seldom have been witnessed among this placid people.

The political significance of the occurrence lies in the fact that there is now an heir to the throne of The Netherlands, a circumstance which greatly enhances the country's chances for continued independence. Every town and village in Holland is today celebrating the long waited birth of a child to her majesty, who was married to Prince Henry of Mecklenberg-Schwerin February 7, 1901.

This is the first royal birth in the Netherlands since that of Queen Wilhelmina herself, 27 years ago. Thrice before since the marriage of "Litte Mina," as the Hollanders affectionately call the queen, have the hopes of the country been raised, only to be dashed.

The constant fear of the Dutch has been that the house of Orange would die out with a childless sovereign, and that Holland would pass under the rule of a German prince and would thereby become a German vassal state. This partly accounts for the extraordinary eagerness with which the event has been awaited throughout the Netherlands.

Demonstrations on a gigantic scale have been arranged, and processions, concerts and fetes will be held all over the country. The school children have been given a week's holiday, and general amnesty will be proclaimed for certain classes of prisoners.

The health of the queen has been excellent. Dr. Kouwer, an eminent gynecologist, in addition to the queen's regular physicians, is in constant attendance. The queen's apartments are situated at the back of the palace, overlooking a quiet garden. A suite of six rooms has been prepared for the infant by the queen herself, and in these have been installed some ancient cradles of the house of Nassau, of wonderful workmanship. All, however, have been discarded in favor of a homely wooden Dutch cradle, which will be used ordinarily, while on state occasions the baby will occupy a beautiful cradle made at the Hague school of lacework, where two score of women instructors and pupils worked many months in producing the lace for this cradle. Two rooms are literally filled with costly presents which have been sent for the royal baby from every city and hamlet in the Netherlands.

MERCURY'S BIG DROP.

High Wind Prevents a Severe Frost in Topeka,

The cloudy condition and a stiff breeze prevented a frost in this locality last night. The little dash of rain early in the night, didn't amount to much, and is not even credited by the weather bureau as a "trace." The lowest temperature reached last night was 39, and a wind from the northwest averaged 18 miles per hour all night.

Had the wind fallen there would have been a severe frost, says the weather observer.

The sky is still overcast at 2 o'clock, but the temperature has risen two degrees within the last hour. The wind is blowing at the rate of 20 miles per hour from the northwest.

The hourly temperature readings today:

7 o'clock	40	11 o'clock	46
8 o'clock	41	12 o'clock	40
9 o'clock	42	1 o'clock	41
10 o'clock	40	2 o'clock	43

EIGHT DEAD IN FIRE.

Somebody Soaked Hall Floor With Kerosene and Ignited It.

New York, April 30.—Eight persons are known to be dead and many injured in an incendiary fire which swept through the five story tenement house at No. 37 Spring street, early today. The hallway of the second floor had been soaked with kerosene oil and fired by a candle. When the police turned in the first alarm, the upper floors were all ablaze.

The bodies of two men, one woman and one child were taken from the fourth floor, while streams of water were being poured into the structure.

Firemen who penetrated the fifth floor but were driven back by the flames, counted four bodies there, and said there were likely more.

No Game at Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Pa., April 30.—Pittsburg-Chicago National game postponed—wet grounds.

Wet Grounds at Chicago.

Chicago, April 30.—Chicago-Cleveland American game postponed—wet grounds.

Raining in Big Leagues.

New York, April 30.—New York-Philadelphia American game postponed—rain.

Brooklyn, April 30.—Brooklyn-Boston National game postponed—rain.

Boston, April 30.—Boston-Washington American game postponed—rain.

Weather Indications.

Chicago, April 30.—Forecast for Kansas: Fair tonight with killing frost; Saturday fair and warmer.