

TOWNS ARE FLOODED

PROPERTY LOSS AT JOLIET, ILL., IS ESTIMATED AT \$1,000,000.

MANY DRIVEN FROM HOMES

Heavy Rain and January Thaw Causes Millions of Dollars' Damage at Chicago and Suburbs—Part of Fox River Valley Inundated—Peoria Hit.

Joliet, Ill., Jan. 24.—With six feet of water standing in the streets in the residential district of Joliet, and several hundred families driven from their homes, this city is paralyzed by the flood waters of the Desplaines river and Hickory creek. Property damage is estimated at more than \$1,000,000.

All electric lights were extinguished and street cars were stalled. Only a few lines in the western part of the city could be operated.

Railroad traffic also was tied up by the inundation of the yards. Hundreds of freight cars on the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern railroad were held up when the yards were flooded. The yards cover almost twenty-five acres and were flooded to a depth of four feet.

More than 1,000 persons were driven from their homes and sought refuge in police stations and hospitals. Factories employing more than 5,000 men were compelled to close when the water flooded the engine rooms.

Chicago, Jan. 24.—Hundreds of persons were driven from their homes, hundreds of basements flooded, and southwest section of the city is under a flood which swept Chicago and its suburbs as the result of the January thaw and a heavy rain.

Property damage will run into the millions, according to police estimates.

Fire companies in all parts of the city responded to calls for help.

Many families living in basement apartments sat on tables and boxes, as the chairs and other furnishings floated about the homes.

Water six feet deep was reported in several parts of the city.

Aurora, Ill., Jan. 24.—The Fox river overflowed its banks here as the result of an all-night downpour. The northeast section of the city is under water. Several thousand persons live in the district.

The water rose eight feet in the night and is still rising. Sewers could not carry the water off forty-five miles of paved streets, and thousands of basements were flooded by water, which backed up in drain pipes.

At Mooseheart, seven miles north of Aurora, where are the national offices, home for orphan children and industrial school of the Loyal Order of Moose, a squad of men worked desperately to prevent from giving way a dam which holds in check an artificial lake a mile long.

The lake is above the school, but the buildings are protected in a measure by an intervening deep and wide ravine, which points toward the river half a mile away.

Peoria, Ill., Jan. 22.—Rail, telegraph and telephone service in and out of Peoria is badly crippled, the result of a storm which swept this section.

Thirty-six head of cattle on the Wilson farm and twenty-five head of cattle on the Strauss farm in the Kickapoo bottoms were drowned before they could be moved.

The T. P. & W. railroad bridge over the Illinois river at Peoria dropped over a foot. A "Q" passenger train has been marooned all day at Edwards, 20 miles from here. M. & St. L. trains are unable to get out of Peoria. Miles of track have been washed out on other railroads and scores of bridges along highways destroyed by ice.

The principal danger spot in Joliet was in the district known as Brooklyn. In that section the water rose to a height of six feet and a swift exodus of inhabitants began at daybreak.

FIVE NEGROES ARE LYNCHED

Georgia Mob Hangs Blacks From Limb of Tree—Held in Connection With Murder of Sheriff.

Albany, Ga., Jan. 24.—Five negro men taken from the Worth county jail on Thursday at Sylvester were hanged to one limb of a tree on the outskirts of Starkville. The bodies, containing many bullet holes, were cold when found. Forty or fifty men, acting with precision indicative of carefully laid plans, had taken the five negroes from the jail and sped away in automobiles. They were being held in connection with the killing of Sheriff Moreland of Lee county in the Christmas holidays. Starkville is a hamlet three miles from Leesburg, the county seat of Lee county. Four of the victims were of one family—Felix Lake and his three sons, Frank, Dewey and Major. The fifth was Rodius Seamore.

25 Killed in Hawaii Storm. Honolulu, Jan. 24.—The storm which raged over the Hawaiian islands for a week is known to have cost eleven lives on the island of Maui, where the gale vented its greatest fury, and the death list may reach twenty-five.

Swiss Issue Fourth Loan. Berne, Jan. 24.—The Swiss government is preparing to issue a fourth loan of \$20,000,000. It will offer for subscription bonds bearing 4 1/2 per cent interest. The proceeds will be used for the army.

NOT AN EASY JOB



TEUTONS WIN BATTLE

VIENNA REPORTS VICTORY IN THE GALICIAN FRONT.

Claims to Have Maintained Position on 81-Mile Front—Russians Loss 70,000 Men.

London, Jan. 20.—A twenty-four day "battle of nations" on an eighty-mile front in Bessarabia has been won by the Austro-Hungarians, with 70,000 Russians killed and wounded. The Russian offensive has been completely broken and hurled back. This announcement was made on Tuesday in an official statement from Vienna.

The official report says: "The battle in eastern Galicia and on the Bessarabian front can now be considered as having been finished yesterday. Until the present the daily reports have for obvious reasons been reticent on the details of this fighting."

The Austro-Hungarian arms have been completely victorious on a battle front extending over 130 kilometers (81 miles). The infantry which decided the engagements and was assisted by the artillery, has maintained all its positions against the enemy who, at some points, had a numerical superiority of several times the number of the Austro-Hungarian troops.

"This great new year's battle on Austria's northeastern front began on December 24 and was interrupted on only a few days. It ended on January 16, and was thus 24 days long. Many regiments during this period experienced 17 days of the hottest fighting."

The Russian losses were at least 70,000 in killed and wounded and besides this nearly 6,000 were taken prisoners by the Austro-Hungarians.

"All the nations of Austria and Hungary took part in the battle. The enemy is now bringing up reinforcements."

Kiev, Russia (via Petrograd and London), Jan. 20.—Lutsik, the important fortress in Volhynia, one of the triangle of fortifications there, is being evacuated by the Germans, according to information obtained from prisoners arriving here. Four thousand prisoners have arrived here recently from the southwestern front.

KING OF GREECE MAY FLEE

Germany Learns Ultimatum Has Been Handed to Constantine by France and Great Britain.

Amsterdam, Jan. 20.—French and British troops have been landed at Corinth, Greece, 48 miles west of Athens, according to advices received here on Tuesday. A coup d'etat of a kind that Europe hasn't seen for half a century or more is hinted by Berlin officials and openly expressed by the newspapers. The removal of King Constantine from his throne, the inauguration of a republic and the election or selection of former Premier Venizelos as president are suggested. Berlin announced that the king intended to withdraw to Larissa, in northwestern Greece, when allied troops arrived in Athens, in order to maintain his "armed neutrality." It is hinted that the withdrawal will be more in the nature of a flight.

Raid Homes Seeking Liquors. Seattle, Jan. 22.—The homes of two wealthy lumbermen were entered by deputy sheriffs and large quantities of wines and liquors confiscated, including old champagnes valued at more than \$60 a quart.

Chicago Train Is Wrecked. Trenton, Mo., Jan. 22.—Louis Collier, engineer, of Trenton, Mo., was killed and four trainmen were injured near here when a double-header train on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad was derailed.

GEN. WOOD WARNS U. S.

ARMY CHIEF ASKS FOR UNIVERSAL MILITARY SERVICE.

Urges 210,000 Regulars for American Force—Country Is Utterly Unprepared for War.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood told the senate military committee on Wednesday that the coast line of the United States was open to attack by any well-organized foreign army, despite its equipment of forts, mines and submarines, and that the oceans formed no serious barrier to invasion. He declared that in the country's present state of utter unpreparedness for war a trained force of 150,000 men could inflict incalculable damage before an army could be assembled to meet it.

Emphasizing his convictions that troops cannot be improvised to meet regulars, General Wood declared the fundamental basis of any policy of adequate national defense must be the principle that with suffrage goes an obligation for military service.

As to the immediate needs of the regular army, General Wood expressed the opinion that the force of regulars with the colors should be maintained at 210,000.

Reverting to the condition of the country to face war with a first-class power, the general said the United States was utterly unprepared and knew nothing of the problems it would have to meet. At least 2,000,000 men would be needed, he declared, and they could be obtained, he believed, only by compulsory service.

FLASHES OFF THE WIRE

London, Jan. 20.—The Holland-American liner Ryndam passed Southend down by the bows and with a list to starboard on Tuesday. All the passengers are safe. Three stokers were killed and four injured.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 20.—After six persons were killed and upward of \$3,000,000 worth of property damaged by floods and wind, the storms ceased on Tuesday. Many families were homeless in Los Angeles and surrounding villages. Heroic efforts were being made to reach marooned passenger trains.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—Herbert and Irving Urdike were indicted on six charges of conspiracy to murder—three indictments being returned against each of the brothers on Wednesday. They are accused of plotting to murder their father, their mother and their sister. Chief of Police Lee of Oak Park, an old friend of the elder Urdike, says the latter is still afraid of his sons and opposed to their release on bond lest they make another effort to murder him.

Buffalo, N. Y., Jan. 21.—The Eastman Kodak company, found to be a trust monopoly in restraint of trade by the United States district court last August, is to be dissolved.

Federal Judge Hazel in a letter to counsel for the defense announced that he will issue a decree directing the separation of the business of the company.

Capture Much Territory. Amsterdam, Jan. 24.—The German allies have captured 29,140,000 square miles of territory since the war began. The other captures by the German allies include 3,000,000 prisoners and 19,000 guns.

Deficiency Bill Passes. Washington, Jan. 24.—The house passed the urgent deficiency bill, appropriating approximately \$12,000,000 to make up deficiencies in various government departments for the last fiscal year.

GET ARMED FOR FOE

SECURITY LEAGUE ENDORSES SECRETARY GARRISON'S PLAN.

PUT LIMIT ON IMMIGRATION

Only Way to Maintain Standard of Living and Good Wages—Anti-War Movement Increases.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington.—An endorsement of Secretary Garrison's efforts toward enlargement of the nation's military forces was voted at the national security league meeting, with the reservation that the regular mobile army should be even greater than that contemplated in the war department plan, and that adequate national defense would depend ultimately upon "universal obligatory military training and service." A greater building program for the navy department was urged as essential in another resolution adopted.

Steps to co-ordinate the work of the various organizations seeking greater armament was endorsed, and it was understood that definite plans had been made for a general consolidation of such organizations in a defense league, with Robert Bacon, former secretary of state, as its president.

Gain in Anti-War Movement.

Geneva.—The anti-war movement has gained great impetus in Italy in the last few days as the result of the crushing of Montenegro and the apparent defeat of Italian aspirations in the Adriatic, according to advices received here.

Travelers from Italy report socialists in Florence, Milan, Naples and other cities against continuance of the war. Supporters of ex-Premier Giolitti have joined in the movement. Several radical socialists have hinted at revolution unless the Italian king moves for peace before the arrival of spring.

Italian officials attribute these disturbances to the work of German agents and have warned several socialist leaders against a repetition of their fiery utterances.

PUT A LIMIT ON IMMIGRATION

Only Way to Retain Standard of Living and Good Wages.

Washington.—Only by limiting immigration can high standards of living and good wages be maintained among American workmen, Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor and Representative Burnett declared in advocating the literacy test bill before the house immigration committee.

Representative Burnett, who is chairman of the committee and introducer of the bill declared that of 2,500,000 foreigners in the United States only about 25,000 were attempting to learn English. Ignorant and unambitious, he declared they work cheaply, live in squalor and create conditions that drive American workmen from a community. To such causes, he insisted, were due the recent Youngstown, O., riots.

Want to Buy Northern Mexico

Washington.—Advisability of the United States seeking to acquire a portion of northern Mexico by purchase or treaty it was learned today, is being urged by American citizens along the border and has been recently discussed with President Wilson. Senator Ashurst of Arizona, who saw the President yesterday is said to have broached the subject. The Arizona senator today would not discuss the matter. Persons interested say American interests are located in northern Mexico and acquisition of that territory would do much to settle present difficulties.

Many Schools to be Represented.

Lincoln, Neb.—At the close of the week 112 Nebraska high schools had written in for information concerning the tournament to be held at the university in March. The same schools have asked for entry blanks and Manager Reed is certain there will be over 100 schools in the final line-up.

Banker Must Finance Farmer

Omaha, Neb.—J. A. Craig, past president of the national implement and vehicle manufacturers' association of Janesville, Wis., told the mid-west implement dealers in convention here that the farmer has been paying cash for automobiles and standing off the implement maker until it was convenient to pay for his purchases. Moreover Mr. Craig told the dealers that a change will come in a short time—a decided change. He insisted that the home banker must finance the farmer.

Liquor Seized at Des Moines

Des Moines, Ia.—Sixteen cases of whisky shipped by the Luxur Mercantile Co. of Omaha to Des Moines parties suffered an untimely fate when the police seized the entire output at the office of the American Express Co. Notice was served on the express company that condemnation proceedings will be started looking toward the destruction of the entire shipment of 384 plants. This is another round in the battle of Des Moines drys to keep outside cities from shipping liquor into Iowa.

HOME ECONOMICS ELECTION

Mrs. A. E. Davison Was Re-elected to the Presidency.

What is considered as the best meeting ever held by the Nebraska home economics association closed at Lincoln, Thursday afternoon with an election. Mrs. Emma Reed Davison accepted reluctantly her re-election to the office of president. The other officers are as follows:

Vice president, Mrs. W. G. Whitmore, Valley.

Vice president ex-officio, Prof. Alice N. Loomis, Lincoln.

Secretary, Mrs. Lewis R. Anderson, Fullerton (formerly Miss Louise Farr of Lincoln).

Treasurer, Mrs. Lula Kartz Hudson, Simon.

"The Farmer's Responsibility in the Home," was the subject presented by Prof. Herbert B. Brownell for the opening of the afternoon session. Professor Brownell spoke of the necessity for parents to have a real partnership if the home life is to be satisfactory. He said that precepts without the example to follow were useless in instilling right ideas in the young. The father should be just as much responsible as the mother for setting an example for the children to follow.

Organized Agriculture at Lincoln.

Organized agriculture opened its annual meetings at Lincoln Tuesday and in each and all of them was reflected the splendid prosperity with which Nebraska is blessed.

The state agricultural board had its business meeting at the Commercial club building. The affair was well attended and plans were adopted looking to great things during the coming year in the state. A 1916 state fair is promised that will exceed all others in splendor and extent.

The horticulturists initiated one of the most promising programs they have ever outlined for their winter sessions. President Pollard paid particular attention in his opening address, to the marvelous apple crop of the past year and asked the growers and consumers present to center their attention upon the marketing problem. A part of this, he pointed out, is to suggest and carry out some plan for getting the waste crop into consumers' hands. Thousands of bushels of apples rotted on the ground last year he said, because they couldn't be prepared for shipment and sent away while the better part of the crop was being attended to.

Secretary Mellor of the state agricultural board gave his usual interesting report on state fair activities.

Trying to Extend Its Work.

The Tuesday forenoon meeting of the Nebraska State Historical society at Lincoln was devoted to plans for Nebraska's semi-centennial, which is to take place next year. An effort is being made to establish local historical societies in every county in order to gather together material and data necessary for a proper celebration and also in order that from this time on everything of this nature may be saved. The passing now of old settlers and with them so much that is valuable of the state's history has brought about a realization of the necessity of societies of this kind. Some of the counties have had such organizations for many years.

The supreme court of Nebraska adheres to its former opinion and has overruled State Treasurer George E. Hall's motion for a rehearing in the suit instituted by State Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell. A writ of mandamus will issue immediately to compel the state treasurer to countersign state warrants amounting to \$4,376 issued in payment of salaries and expenses of the state fire commissioner from September 1 to January 1. Treasurer Hall had refused to pay such claims on the ground that funds paid into the state treasury by fire insurance companies in compliance with a statute taxing such companies had not been specially appropriated by the legislature.

The statement is made by a member of the legislature that insurance men are organizing throughout the state with the end in view of trying once more to pass a so-called anti-discrimination bill, similar to S. F. 45, which was defeated in the house of representatives during the last session. It is alleged that an army of fire insurance agents who have the secret support of their compulsion will get busy and remain busy from now on working for candid, as for the legislature who will favor such a bill.

Frank Orin Rist, an 18-year-old Humboldt boy, earned signal honors in the corn show at Lincoln by scoring high in the growing championships. He won over a large field and in the list of those whom he defeated was his father. The latter was only a pace behind the youngster, however. Young Rist's prizes will aggregate \$400 in value while his father had to content himself with awards valued at \$500.

Why They Leave the Farm.

State Superintendent A. O. Thomas was the principal speaker at the meeting of rural school patrons at Lincoln, last week. He declared that a million dollars a month is being spent on the school system in the state and yet but a very small portion of the students have been taking work beyond the eighth grade. Mr. Thomas said that he believed one of the causes of many people moving to the city is the lack of school facilities and that that is one reason he has started his program of rural school betterment. "The farms in the east lie idle," he said. "First there were the boys moving off to the cities to become doctors and lawyers and ministers. These young men never returned to the farm. Later the girls began leaving the farm to become wives of these men."

The average profit of five demonstration plots planted to potatoes the past season in Box Butte county showed an estimated increased profit of \$26.50 an acre as compared with the proceeds from other fields planted with tubers affected with this disease.

Clean seed gave an average yield of 188.97 bushels an acre, while the seed affected with dry rot gave a yield of 112.09 bushels per acre, or a difference of 76.88 bushels in favor of the clean seed. The difference in yield at 55 cents per bushel gives an increase of \$26.90 per acre.

The demonstration was conducted co-operatively under the direction of the Box Butte county agricultural agent and the department of Agricultural botany of the college of agriculture.

The Nebraska State Horticultural society in session at Lincoln, elected officers for the ensuing year, Wednesday morning. They are: President, Val Keyser, Nebraska City; first vice president, L. C. Chapin, Lincoln; second vice president, R. F. Howard, Lincoln; treasurer, Peter Youngers, Geneva.

OWN THEIR LANDS

MORE FARMS BEING OPERATED THAN IN 1914.

FORTUNE IN THE SAND CHERRY

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Lincoln.—Twelve thousand and six hundred more farm owners occupied and worked their farms in Nebraska in 1915, than the previous year and 16,200 more tenants occupy farms last year than the year before.

That is the record as disclosed in the annual summary given out by the state agricultural board. Here is shown the number of farms worked:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Owners, Tenants. Data for 1915, 1914, 1913, 1912, 1911, 1910.

Grant county has the greatest proportion of owners to tenants. There are 249 owner-worked places there and only three tenant-worked ranches. Hooker county is next with a proportion of 293 to 12. Richardson county, among the richer counties of the state, stands highest with a proportion of 3,220 to 817.

Counties where tenant-worked farms exceed owner-worked farms, are Adams, Burt, Clay, Dodge, Fillmore, Hamilton, Hitchcock, Kearney, Lancaster, Lincoln, Nance, Nemaha, Phelps, Polk, Sarpy, Seward, Thurston, Wayne and York.

Fortune in the Sand Cherry.

A modest fortune awaits the man who is willing to cultivate the sand cherry in Nebraska and put it on the market, according to predictions made by Prof. G. E. Condra, of the state university, speaking to the members of the Nebraska State Horticultural society at Lincoln, Tuesday morning. "Three weeks before he died, Doctor Bessey, of the state university, urged that something be done with this fruit," said Doctor Condra. "While we are experimenting with all sorts of foreign shrubs and plants in the state why not take a look around and use some of the very plants that nature has adapted to the soil. Instead of putting in your own varieties of plants, make use of nature's own plan. There is the wild rice growing in northern Nebraska just waiting for someone to find a use for it. The rivers are lined with choke cherries, but no one has seen fit to make use of them."

Dismisses Suit Over Water Rights

Without passing on the question whether the state railway commission has authority to fix the price at which an irrigation corporation may charge for perpetual water rights, the state supreme court has decided that Lavilla J. Burtless and Isaiah H. Wasson have no legal basis for their suits against the McCook Irrigation & Water Power company, in which they demanded perpetual water rights for the sum of \$6.25 an acre.

The plaintiffs set up pleadings to the effect that the irrigation company formerly sold everlasting rights for the price stated, and that contracts were signed with a large number of land owners at that rate. It was shown in the trial that such rights had been sold at different prices, varying from \$6.25 to \$20 per acre and about five years ago the company increased the rate to \$35 per acre. When the two plaintiffs in these proceedings applied for water rights, they were told they would have to pay that rate. They refused and brought injunction suits against the company to prevent it from discriminating between themselves and other users.

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The state agricultural board passed a resolution protesting against a raise of railroad passenger rates. The resolution commended Attorney General Reed's alacrity in protecting the people's rights by instigating court proceedings to stave off the increase.