

# The Billings Gazette.

VOL. XXI

BILLINGS, MONTANA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER, 28 1909.

NO. 204

## GENERAL RAILROAD STRIKE IS AMONG THE PROBABILITIES

Negotiations Between Contending Forces Called off

### TERMS REJECTED

Managers Refuse to Immediately Re- state Strikers and Give Men Until Wednesday to Decide, but Get Immediate Answer--If Federal Government Does Not Force Settlement, Strike Will Come.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 27.—Contrary to expectations, developments today in the controversy between the railroads of the Northwest and the striking switchmen, instead of resulting in an amicable settlement of the strike, resulted in a wider breach than has heretofore existed. Not only have the switchmen declared all negotiations with the railroads off, but labor leaders say there is a strong possibility of a general strike by all allied orders belonging to the railway branch of the American Federation of Labor.

H. B. Perham, acting as chairman of the railway council, in session here, left tonight for Washington. "There may be a general strike," said President Perham. President Hawley of the switchmen's union, asserted: "Several other members of the railway council besides Mr. Perham left for their headquarters tonight to make preparations for a strike of their respective orders."

Mr. Perham, in speaking of today's developments, said: "Friday we were on the verge of a settlement and we thought the matter would be fixed up today. But this morning the railroad managers presented a mysterious change of front and assumed so much arrogance that we decided at once to have nothing to do with them. I am leaving tonight for Washington. I have business in Chicago and Cincinnati first, but will arrive at the capital on Thursday. As the intervention of state authorities has failed, I shall seek the aid of the United States in putting an end to a controversy that is causing bankruptcy and suffering among innocent people who have no voice in the matter."

Mr. Perham would not state as to which department at Washington he would appeal. He said he might seek to interest the interstate commerce commission and he may take the matter up directly with President Taft. In the conference between the railroads and labor leaders today, railroad officials refused to take back all the switchmen at once, but agreed to re-employ all those they have places for. They gave the switchmen until 12 o'clock Wednesday to accept this offer. The offer was immediately rejected by the labor leaders.

Later in the afternoon Mr. Hawley and Mr. Perham called on Governor Eberhart and asked him to invite the interstate commerce commission to intercede. The governor replied that he did not care to act on this request until he had consulted the attorney general who is out of the city and will not return until tomorrow. Asked as to how long it would take (Continued on Page Eight.)

### Complaint Is Made Of Violation of Convention

Pekin, Dec. 27.—The Chinese government today formally complained to Japan against the violation of the Manchuria telegraph convention of 1908. The complaint consisted of two counts, purporting to show that the Japanese were guilty of extending telegraph and telephone lines and traffic in Manchuria. China appeals to the Japanese foreign office, which signed the telegraph convention, to terminate this violation of the agreement and to continue the payment of telegraph royalties which the Japanese government suspended two months ago.

MONTANA WEATHER. Fair Tuesday, colder in east; Wednesday, fair.

## Honey Charges Libel Against William Crocker

Former Graft Prosecutor Demands Heavy Damages From Former Millionaire Backer

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The formal complaint in the damage suit of Francis J. Honey of San Francisco against William H. Crocker, the California millionaire, for \$250,000 on an allegation of libel, was filed here today. Mr. Honey says he bases his action on an open letter bearing Mr. Crocker's name which appeared in a New York evening paper on December 3, in which Mr. Crocker defended his action in first supporting Honey in the San Francisco graft prosecutions and later withdrawing his support.

James M. Beck, counsel for Mr. Honey, said today: "As soon as Mr. Crocker's letter was published Mr. Honey telegraphed me to bring suit. Mr. Honey, who nearly gave his life to the cause of exposing corruption in San Francisco, desires to settle once and for all the question whether he conducted the prosecutions against the San Francisco grafters in an honorable and legitimate way. In the heat of the great contest in San Francisco many charges were made by irresponsible men against Honey, but when Mr. Crocker assumed responsibility for these charges and gave them wide circulation in a responsible organ of public opinion, Mr. Honey felt his opportunity had come to have a jury of his countrymen determine the justice or injustice of the accusations against him. In San Francisco the graft prosecutions have so divided its people into hostile camps that it would seem to me a matter of exceeding difficulty to obtain a jury that would consider the questions with absolute impartiality. In New York, however, there

DEATH IN JAIL. FILLMORE, Ga., Dec. 27.—John Junphy was burned to death in the jail here today while trying to burn his way to freedom. His cries were heard by outsiders, but he died before aid could reach him.

### Hearing of the Alleged Blackmailer Is Postponed

CINCINNATI, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Jeanette Stewart-Ford, charged with blackmail in connection with the embezzlement of \$643,000 from the Cincinnati offices of the Big Four railroad, will not be brought to trial until January 10. Mrs. Ford's attorneys today asked for a continuance on the ground that their client had sustained a severe fall on a frozen pavement and was unable to be present.

Mrs. Ford's attorneys also filed a demurrer to the indictment, claiming that the alleged blackmail levied on Charles L. Warriner, former local treasurer of the Big Four, was, if committed, a misdemeanor and not a felony. The demurrer was overruled. The postponement means that Warriner will be held in the local jail, as he is to be the principal witness. When the Ford trial is completed he will begin his six-year term in the penitentiary.

## MOTHER IS CHARGED WITH MURDER OF HER TWO SONS

LOVELAND, O., Dec. 27.—Charged with the murder of her two boys and with having set fire to her home to conceal the crime, Mrs. Paul Sonneck was arrested today in an apparently demented condition. The bodies of the boys—one 16 years old, the other 13—were found in the home after the fire had been put out. The heads of the children had been crushed by some blunt instrument. Their father was away when the fire was discovered, and Mrs. Sonneck was found walking up and down in front of the burning house, wringing her hands and calling hysterically

can be no selfish interest in the issues that grew out of the San Francisco prosecutions and here, therefore, a jury can be selected that can impartially and fearlessly judge between Mr. Crocker's grave accusations and Mr. Honey's accounts of his stewardship as a public official." (Continued on Page Five.)

## NOW APPEARS CERTAIN THAT MONTANA WILL FURNISH STONE FOR CAPITOL

Legislature Convenes in Special Session and Listens to Message of Governor Norris Who Passes Entire Matter to State's Lawmakers

(Special to The Gazette.) HELENA, Dec. 27.—From present indications the general assembly of Montana will make provision for the construction of the wings of the state capitol, Montana materials to be used to as great an extent as is possible. From the sentiment which has developed among the assembled lawmakers it is evident that the legislature will provide the money necessary for the use of Montana stone, and that the wishes of the legislature and of the people will be regarded in the matter of the encouragement of home industry.

Promptly at 12 o'clock today Lieutenant Governor W. R. Allen in the senate, and Speaker W. W. McDowell in the house brought their gavels down with sharp raps, indicating that the extraordinary session of the eleventh legislative assembly, called recently by Governor Edwin L. Norris to consider the character of material to be used in the new capitol wings and to provide for the maintenance of the recently created public bureau during the year of 1910, should come to order. Neither house was a half minute late in assembling. Roll calls disclosed the fact that there were 10 absentees in the senate and 19 absentees in the house.

Neither the senate nor the house today transacted more than the simplest routine, and both adjourned to meet tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock. The house referred the special message of the governor and the statement of the state board of examiners to a special committee of 11, but the senate took no action on either. The committee named by the house, on motion of Representative Critchfield, after the joint session, is composed of the following: Representatives Critchfield, Ravalli; Cluston, Cascade; Norton, Silver Bow; Warren, Jefferson; Owenhouse, Gallatin; Woody, Missoula; Shoemaker, Lewis and Clark; Eliel, Beaverhead; Hutchinson, Flathead; Connolly, Yellowstone, and Thompson, Fergus.

After organization in both houses had been effected, the bodies met in joint session to hear the message of Governor Norris. The governor spoke in firm and distinct, but rapid tones, for her boys. She will be held to the common pleas court for trial. The woman is unable to give any coherent account of the tragedy. SETTLEMENT REFUSED. NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The striking girl shirtwaist makers voted today to refuse the settlement of the employers and declared their intention to continue the strike until all of their demands were granted. The employers offered a compromise last week and their proposition was voted upon today by the many thousands of woman strikers. (Continued on Page Eight.)

## BROKAW NOT SO ANXIOUS

Denies That He Sought For Reconciliation With His Wife

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Four small boys, preferring the story of the matrimonial troubles of the wealthy Brokaws to the thrills of sledding were the only outsiders who braved the snowdrifts on Long Island today to attend the court session at Mineola. Mrs. W. Gould Brokaw did not arrive until the afternoon, coming on a boated from Mineola, with her father and sister. She listened attentively to the cross-examination of her husband, who denied that the tone of his testimony of Friday meant that he was eager for a reconciliation. "You say you were fond of her—do you love her?" queried Arthur K. Baldwin, counsel for Mrs. Brokaw. (Continued on Page Five.)

## HARVEST OF DEATH GARNERED BY GALES OF THE ATLANTIC

American Admiral Is Guest of Nicaraguans

Kimball Calls on Madriz Unofficially--Wholesale Arrest of Alleged Embezzlers Is Made

MANAGUA, Dec. 27.—Rear Admiral William Wirt Kimball, in command of the American warships at Corinto, arrived at Managua today on a special train. The admiral was accompanied by George T. Weltzel, secretary of the American legation at Panama, and by two aides. The American officers were in uniform and the object of Admiral Kimball's visit was to pay an unofficial call on President Madriz. A great crowd gathered at the station and gave them a cordial greeting. Ernesto Martinez, former financial secretary, whose arrest was recently ordered on the charge of misappropriating public funds, has escaped to Granada. Joaquin Passos, President Zelaya's son-in-law, is under arrest under a similar charge, while Joaquin Naviz, of Leon, also is in the hands of the authorities. He is charged with obtaining \$30,000 of public funds from Zelaya for the surrender of his concession which was improperly granted to him. The arrest of others is imminent. The minister general has abrogated the agreement compelling the payment of 6 per cent of duties by means of government bonds. Hereafter duties will be payable in cash only. This action leaves a quantity of these bonds, now worthless, in the hands of Passos and other favored individuals who bought the bonds from Zelaya at 45 and sold them to the public at 105.

Red Cross Thanked. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—A telegram from the revolutionary party of Nicaragua was received today by the American Red Cross society, thanking the society for its work in relieving the distress of soldiers of the government army, captured near Rama and quartered in Bluefields.

At Salina Cruz. SALINA CRUZ, Mexico, Dec. 27.—The Mexican gunboat General Guerrero, having on board ex-President Zelaya of Nicaragua, who fled from Managua by way of Corinto on Christmas eve, docked here at 8 o'clock this morning. Accompanying the former president were the ex-minister of war and four other Nicaraguans.

Mystery Surrounds the Murder of a Boy In Pittsburg. PITTSBURG, Dec. 27.—After questioning half a score of persons and applying the third degree to half as many more, the police force of Greater Pittsburg is still at sea as to the identity of the man or men implicated in the murder of 14-year-old James Friel, whose frozen and partly nude body was found last night in a deserted house in Allegheny, where probably it had been placed Christmas day after the throat had been slashed from ear to ear. A coroner's inquest will be held tomorrow, when sensational developments are not improbable. Police officers tonight are working on the theory that young Friel was not killed in the house where his mutilated body was found, but was probably murdered in Pittsburg and taken in a cab from the central portion of the city, transported across the Allegheny river in a skiff and placed in the deserted house.

### FIVE TRAINMEN KILLED.

SEYMOUR, Ind., Dec. 27.—Five trainmen were killed and two were seriously hurt today in a collision on the Baltimore & Ohio southwestern railroad between freight trains Nos. 51 and 98, 20 miles southwest of this city, near Port Stimer. The trains met head-on on a sharp curve, apparently because of a misunderstanding of orders.

### Suspect Attempt To Manipulate Rock Island

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The New York stock exchange has an investigation on its hands. Common stock of Rock Island rose 3 1/4 points almost immediately after the opening today, then even more suddenly dropped to 50. Thereby hangs a mystery, or a fiasco or something that the governors of the stock exchange will try to sift to the bottom. At the close of today's session the governors quietly held a private session, and it was announced that special investigation had been called for. Officers of the Rock Island disclaimed any responsibility for the movement. At the office of Daniel G. Reid, who, with ex-Judge William J. Moore, is acknowledged leader of the Rock Island group, it was said Mr. Reid was indisposed today and another report today said that he was entertaining a house party at his country home near here. Judge Moore arrived from Chicago in the afternoon and affirmed what had been said earlier in the day that

### NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The striking girl shirtwaist makers voted today to refuse the settlement of the employers and declared their intention to continue the strike until all of their demands were granted. The employers offered a compromise last week and their proposition was voted upon today by the many thousands of woman strikers. (Continued on Page Eight.)

### List of Shipwrecks Is Rapidly Growing Appalling

THE DEATH TOLL. Crew of Davis Palmer Dies at Mouth of Harbor—Massachusetts Coast Strawn With Wrecks and Restoration of Communications Brings Fresh News of Death and Disaster.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—With the news of the probable loss of the five-masted schooner Davis Palmer with her crew of 12 men, off Boston harbor, and of the wrecking of other vessels along the Massachusetts coast the opening chapter of the toll taken on the sea by the storm that swept New England Saturday and Sunday was bare to the world today. Cape Cod is still cut off and with the restoration of communication there it is feared that the damage of the storm will prove appalling. The finding of debris near the entrance of the harbor of Boston is believed to be mute evidence of the fate of the Davis Palmer. A signal box found among the wreckage contained a burgee with the Palmer's name, as also did a quarter-board which was found nearby. The wreck itself has not been located. The three-masted schooner Nantasketta was hurled ashore at Scituate and probably will be a total wreck. Her crew was saved. With a cargo of lumber she was bound from Boston for North Carolina.

The schooner Bell Halliday is ashore at Brant point, exposed to the fury of the seas. The fate of her crew is unknown, but it is believed that it has been rescued. She is from Philadelphia, loaded with railroad iron. On the rocky shores of Martha's Vineyard, waterlogged schooners are being swept by every sea. They are the A. K. McLean, a British vessel, bound from Perth Amboy to Halifax, and the Stonington of Maine, the schooner Mauder Seward, Port Reading for Provincetown. The crews have been taken off. At Provincetown, the sloop Benita is aground and in the flats at Plymouth harbor are four small schooners similarly distressed. The work of filling the gap in telephone and telegraph wire systems and in railroad and trolley lines is progressing. The telegraph companies report a capacity of about 25 per cent of the normal, while telephone facilities have been restored to the extent of about 75 per cent. Railroad and trolley line schedules were largely filled today, although delays from one-half to three hours were noted on railroad trains. Southwestern Massachusetts, particularly Cape Cod, Sandy peninsula, and Rhode Island suffered most from the storm and are still in the most demoralized condition as far as wire and transportation services go. Many places in southeastern Massachusetts have not witnessed the arrival of a train for two days. New Bedford and Fall River have

(Continued on Page Five.)

### Forged Large Check to Make Big Purchase Of Bank Stock

CINCINNATI, Dec. 27.—Police and postal authorities are hunting for a man who gave his name as M. M. Richton, wanted in connection with the forgery of the name of M. M. Rayne, a New York capitalist, to a \$15,000 check and the mysterious disappearance of the same amount in the bank stock of the Citizens National bank of Scobie, Miss., which was purchased with the forged papers. The man who carried on the deal forged the check to the order of Richton and then signed the name of Richton as endorsee.

### IDAHO FLOCKS THREATENED WITH DEATH BY STARVATION

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 27.—General Agent J. A. Reeves of the U. S. L. railway received a letter from Publicity Agent Joel Priest at Boise City, Idaho, stating that thousands of sheep in southern Idaho were in danger of starving because the deep snows had covered up the ranges so that they could not feed. Mr. Priest urged that every accommodation possible be given the shepherds in the way of getting corn from Nebraska in order that the sheep may be saved. The railroad people, in commenting on this state of affairs, say that the trouble is due to imprudence on the

part of sheep owners. All the driving to the winter ranges should have been done not later than October, while the last of December is finding the sheep on the trail to the winter ranges. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—On account of uncertain traffic conditions, due to the storm, President Taft was compelled to cancel his engagements to dine in New York city tonight with Andrew Carnegie and to speak before the American Historical association in Carnegie hall.

WYOMING WEATHER. Fair Tuesday, colder in northwest; Wednesday, fair.