

AID FREELY GIVEN

To the Thousands of Sufferers on Islands of Lesser Antilles.

AMERICAN COUNSEL ON SCENE

Every Effort Is Being Put Forth to Rush Supplies For Relief.

DISASTER ON ST. VINCENT ISLAND.

The Governor of Windward Island Officially Informs the Colonial Office at London of the Appalling Loss of Life and Destruction of Property on St. Vincent.

London, May 15.—The governor of the Windward Islands, Sir Robert Llewellyn, telegraphs to colonial office from the island of St. Vincent, under date of May 13, as follows: "I arrived at St. Vincent and found the state of affairs much worse than had been stated. The administrator's report showed that the country on the east coast between Ribin Rock and George Rock was apparently struck and devastated in a manner similar to that which destroyed St. Pierre, and I fear that practically all living things in that radius were killed. Probably 1,600 persons lost their lives. The exact number will never be known. Managers and owners of the estates, with their families and several of the better class of people have been killed. A thousand bodies have been found and buried. One hundred and sixty persons are in the hospital at Georgetown.



MONT SOUFRIERE, VOLCANO NOW IN ERUPTION IN ST. VINCENT. Probably only six of this number will recover. The details of the disaster are too harrowing for description. I got at St. Lucia, a coasting steamer, which is running up and down the leeward coast to bring water and provisions.

"Twenty-two hundred persons have received relief. I have asked for medical officers from Trinidad and Grenada. All the neighboring British colonies are assisting generously. Every effort is being made to grapple with the awful calamity.

"All the best sugar estates in the country are devastated and the cattle are dead. The eruption continues, but is apparently moderating.

"Anxiety is still felt. All the officers and residents are co-operating with me. The ladies are making clothing."

VIVID DESCRIPTION

Of the Volcanic Displays On the Island of St. Vincent.

St. Vincent, B. W. I., May 15.—Admonitory rumblings and earthquake fissures in the Soufriere came two weeks ago. On Monday, May 5, the lake in the old crater became greatly disturbed. On Tuesday at 2 p. m. the mountain began a series of volcanic efforts. Severe earthquakes accompanied these terrible noises and detonations succeeded quickly. At 7 o'clock in the evening an immense column of steam issued from the crater and existed until midnight. Terrific explosions followed, and the next morning there was another sudden escape of steam which descended for three hours when other material was ejected.

At noon three craters appeared to open and began to vomit lava. Six

streams at once ran down the sides of the mountains making an awful scene. The mountain labored heavily for half an hour after the appearance of the lava. Fire flashed around the edges of the craters and there were tremendous detonations in succession rapidly merging into a continuous roar. This lasted through Wednesday night and until Friday morning. The thunderings of violence were heard throughout the Caribbean sea.

The eruption began Wednesday. A huge cloud in a dark and dense column, charged with volcanic matter, rose to a height of eight miles from the mountain top. Darkness like midnight descended and the sulphurous air was laden with fine dust. A brief rain followed, a rain of fell-like scoriae rocks and stones. There were bright flashes, numerous and marvelously rapid. These with thundering, the mountain shocks, the earthquake roar, the lava and the falling stones created a scene of horror.

Large areas of cultivation have been buried beneath the volcanic matter. On the Windward coast seven plantations are totally destroyed. Nothing green is visible. Sixteen hundred and twenty deaths are already reported. There are 167 cases in the hospital at Georgetown under treatment. The deaths have been caused chiefly by suffocation by the sulphurous gases, lightning and burning lava masses.

Few of the cases in the hospital are likely to recover. The crew of H. M. S. Indefatigable buried 30 peasants found dead on the Owia estate north of Soufriere. A new crater is reported formed on the Richmond estate near the sea shore. The country districts on the windward coast are littered with dead bodies.

Food For Sufferers.

New York, May 15.—With food enough on board to feed the entire population of Martinique for a week, the cruiser Dixie sailed from this port. She will arrive at her destination Monday. Never, even during war time, did the army subsistence department make such a record in collecting a ship load of food supplies. It was done in 24 hours time, Colonel D. L. Brainard bringing from Philadelphia three car loads of supplies needed to make up the shipment and purchased the rest here. The Dixie's cargo will comprise 900,000 rations. It contains 200,000 pounds of bread, 85,000 pounds of flour, 900,000 pounds of rice, 200,000 pounds of codfish, 200 cases of chicken and beef soups, 100 cases of evaporated-creams, 100 cases condensed milk, 4,000 pairs of trousers, 6,000 pairs of shoes, 20,000 pairs of khaki trousers, 4,000 pairs of barrack shoes, 2,000 blouses, 1,000 tents, 2,000 pairs of balbriggan drawers, 4,000 balbriggan shirts, 400 summer coats. In addition there are large quantities of coffee, tea, sugar, vinegar, pepper and in the way of clothing a large amount of calico under garments, etc. There is \$50,000 worth of medicine in the cargo and three army surgeons.

Refugees From Martinique.

Trinidad, Spain, May 15.—The transatlantic steamer Canada has arrived here with 138 refugees, 20 hours from Fort de France, Martinique. She brings this account of an event which is alleged to have preceded the disaster at St. Pierre, told, it is stated, by a person who was aboard the schooner Gabrielle: "A scientific commission, presided over by the governor, M. Moutet, assembled in St. Pierre on May 7, the day before the calamity, for the purpose of studying the phenomena of the volcanic disturbances of Mont Pelee. It was agreed by the members of this commission that the relative position of the craters and the valleys touching on the sea were such that the scientists could affirm that the security of St. Pierre was complete and this announcement was made to allay the fears of the frightened citizens. The sun rose clear over St. Pierre at 6 o'clock on the morning of May 8, the day of the disaster."

Still Active.

Castries, Island of St. Lucia, May 15.—The Soufriere volcano on the island of St. Vincent, is still in destructive operation. Noises like cannonading can be heard for 100 miles. The reports are followed by columns raising in the air. Immense balls of colored fire also issue from the crater. Lightning is playing fiercely in the sky and the upper portion of the island is one mass of traveling flame. It is impossible to reach the burning district by land or sea and there are no means of estimating the destruction wrought to life and property. Kingstown, the capital of St. Vincent, is still safe, though showers of ashes and pebbles are continually falling down.

Telephone Property Sold.

Cleveland May 15.—The People's Telephone company of Jackson, Mich., one of the Everett-Moore syndicate properties, has been sold to Grand Rapids, Mich., capitalists, who are largely interested in the Independent Telephone company in the latter city.

CARNEGIE'S HARD JOB.

More Difficult to Distribute Wealth Than to Acquire It, He Says.

HIS SHARP BARGAIN WITH NEW YORK.

Incidentally Mr. Carnegie Says He Is Open to Propositions of a Similar Character From Other English-Speaking Cities.

London, May 15.—The freedom of the Plumbers company was presented to Andrew Carnegie at the Guildhall in a valuable casket of various metals. Replying to the presentation address, Mr. Carnegie declared he thought it more difficult to conscientiously distribute wealth than to acquire it. "It is the swimming tenth and not the submerged tenth which we can greatly benefit," said he. "Any satisfaction which he had derived from his gifts arose from what he had induced individual communities to give. I think it will be found," he added, "that far from being a philanthropist, I engaged in making the best bargains of my life. For instance, when New York had been given over \$5,000,000 for 72 libraries, I succeeded in getting a pledge from her that she would furnish sites and maintain these libraries forever. Her investment (I hope this may not go across the Atlantic to alarm her) is greater than mine. I am open to propositions of a similar character from cities in any part of the English speaking world."

Dealing with international relations, Mr. Carnegie said he rejoiced to say that never in his day had the American people and government been so lovingly inclined towards the old home as at present and never had the patriotism of the race, the coming force in international affairs, revealed itself so clearly.

He concluded with saying that the possibility of the English speaking peoples killing each other on the plea of civilized warfare was banished, and that in the event of a difference "no government on either side of the Atlantic could resist the offer of arbitration and it can scarcely be believed that a serious quarrel can ever arise when that offer will not be made by one or the other."

Banking Subjects Discussed.

Kansas City, May 15.—The Interstate Bankers convention held two sessions, the Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Indian territory associations gathering in separate meetings in the forenoon and all convening in final joint session in the afternoon. James H. Eckels of Chicago was scheduled for the first address, and Charles G. Dawes, former comptroller of the currency, who spoke next, was assigned the text, "Assets Currency and Branch Banking." A discussion of the papers followed.

Reception to Taft.

Cincinnati, May 15.—The alumni students and faculty of the Cincinnati law school gave Judge William H. Taft, governor of the Philippines, a public reception at College hall. Governor Taft leave for Manila via Rome. While judge of the United States circuit court of appeals he organized the law department of the University of Cincinnati, which was formed as the result of a union of the law departments of the university and the old Cincinnati law school.

To Sell Halstead Farm.

Hamilton, O., May 15.—Foreclosure proceedings were begun here by Mrs. Hannah J. Morris against Murat Halstead, the noted editor, his wife, Mrs. Mary B. Halstead, and Henry, Charles and Aille Robinson. The property sought to be sold is the famous Halstead homestead of 148 acres at Paddy's Run. Mrs. Morris' claim amounts to \$11,974.13. She asks the court to put the property in the hands of a receiver pending its sale.

Trans-Siberian Railway Completed.

Seattle, Wash., May 15.—The Trans-Siberian railway is completed all but the opening of a tunnel one and one-half miles in length and will be ready for general traffic the latter part of this year according to George Hanson, who for a number of years has been a construction engineer on the road. Mr. Hanson arrived here from the far east and is on his way to St. Petersburg, his home, which he has not visited for several years. He was employed on the Trans-Siberian railway.

Summers Burned.

St. Louis, May 15.—In view of the Gilson Asphaltum company at Madison, Ill., was burned to the ground, causing a loss estimated at \$100,000, which is only partially covered by insurance. P. D. Summers, superintendent of the plant, was burned about the head and face while fighting the flames.

SERIOUS SITUATION.

A Conflict Expected Between the Contending Factions in Hayti.

Port-au-Prince, Hayti, May 15.—Admiral Killick, commander of the Haytian fleet, has started for Cape Haytien with the Haytian warships Crete a Pierlot and Toussant L'Quverture, having declared himself in favor of General Firmin, the former minister of Hayti at Paris, who is the head of the revolutionary forces in the northern part of the island. The northern revolutionists have seized the customs houses of Cape Haytien, Port de Paix and Gonaives, and are collecting duties. Protests against this action on the part of General Firmin have been entered by the national bank and the diplomatic corps.

A severe engagement between the northern revolutionists and the southern forces, meaning the troops from Port-au-Prince and the cities of its vicinity is expected to take place soon.

The French steamer Olinde Rodrigues, on which ex-President Sam embarked, is still in the harbor of Port-au-Prince. She was to have sailed but was detained by the French minister, M. De Prez. She will remain here until a foreign warship reaches Port-au-Prince. The absence of a foreign warship is causing great uneasiness in the foreign colony here.

After the embarkation of General Sam, all the political prisoners were released and they with groups of drunken soldiers paraded the streets. Shots were fired from time to time and it was feared that the plundering of stores and residences would follow.

Stole Her Fortune.

San Francisco, May 15.—Miss Julia Klein, who came here from St. Louis several days ago, has been robbed of \$6,800 by a waiter named Charley Marco, to whom she was engaged to be married. Marco has disappeared. The money represented the savings of Mrs. Klein, who kept a restaurant in St. Louis. Not many months ago Marco applied at her restaurant for work and was given employment. At the end of six weeks the proprietress and waiter became engaged. Marco came to this city and Mrs. Klein sold out her business and followed him, expecting soon to become his wife. He went to her room during her absence, ripped open the mattress and took all of her money. He was already wearing her gold watch and chain.

Havemeyer's Gift.

Philadelphia, May 15.—Henry A. Havemeyer of New York, whose daughter is a student at Bryn Mawr college, has subscribed \$20,000 to the \$250,000 fund now being raised by the Institution to meet the conditional \$250,000 gift of J. D. Rockefeller. Mr. Rockefeller on Dec. 5, 1901, announced to President Cary Thomas that he would give \$250,000 for the erection of a dormitory and a general heating and electric light plant, provided the college could obtain by commencement day, June 5, 1902, cash or satisfactory guarantees to the amount of \$250,000 to erect a library and lecture room. Of this amount the trustees and alumni throughout the country have obtained \$200,000.

Boers Will Meet.

London, May 15.—Lord Kitchener has notified the war office that reports of all the bodies of Boers throughout the Transvaal and Orange River colonies are gathering at Vereeniging for the conference, and that he has arranged that the delegates shall not be impeded in reaching the rendezvous. Consequently the assemblage is expected to be large. The decision reached regarding the peace terms will, later be submitted to the British. A delegation, consisting probably of the same Boer leaders who went to Pretoria recently will be deputized to convey the decision to Lord Kitchener.

At Beside of Wayward Son.

Columbus, O., May 15.—John Berlo, father of the prisoner at the penitentiary, known as James Connors, who is believed to be hiccoughing himself to death, returned to Columbus from Mansfield, his home, and will remain here until there is an improvement in his son's condition. Mr. Berlo is a reputable and well-to-do citizen of Mansfield, and for a number of years was a bridge contractor on the Erie railroad. His son, who is an expert pharmacist, left home a number of years ago and his whereabouts were unknown until a short time ago.

Will Send Another Ship.

Washington, May 15.—In view of the critical state of affairs in Hayti and San Domingo, the navy department is making plans to send the training ship Topeka, now at Port Royal, S. C., to San Domingo City to fill the place made vacant by the despatch of the Cincinnati to Martinique. Orders have gone forward to have the Topeka made ready for sea and unless the situation in the two little republics is materially alleviated, she will sail for the scene of trouble in a short time.

IN MITCHELL'S PALM.

Question of Striking or Not Striking Centers In the President.

OPENING OF MINERS' CONVENTION.

In an Interview President Mitchell Frankly Declares That He Will Advise the Men What to Do, If Necessary.

Hazleton, Pa., May 15.—The general convention of the United Mine Workers of America of the anthracite coal territory of Pennsylvania began here to decide the question of whether the temporary strike for higher wages, or shorter hours, which was inaugurated on Monday shall be made permanent or whether the men shall return to work and await a more opportune time.

While there is an absolute lack of official information by reason of the decision of the Mine Workers not to talk, there is every indication that the delegates in convention will decide to strike. There is a strong sentiment, however, against a permanent suspension of work at this time and it promises to make a decided stand against a strike order. This minority is growing stronger with the passing of every hour and the longer the final vote is delayed the smaller will become the apparent majority for a strike.

President Mitchell and the district leaders say they are keeping hands off and will insist that the delegates decide the issue themselves. Hundreds of delegates who have been instructed to follow their own or Mr. Mitchell's judgment have sought the national leader for advice, but he has remained as silent as a Sphinx. There is not the slightest doubt that one word from President Mitchell could sway the convention either way and it is very probable that after all has been said by the delegates he will be asked by the convention to step into the breach to decide, which is the better course to pursue.

In an interview with a correspondent just before he entered the convention, President Mitchell plainly indicated that he had a definite plan in view, but he refused to say what it was. In reply to a question he said he had finally decided that he would, if necessary, advise the men what should be done. He was asked if it were true that a canvas of delegates showed that most of them were in favor of a strike, and he replied: "There is no doubt that the sentiment of the men is for a strike."

In answer to other questions, Mr. Mitchell said that all hope of any concession of the operators was gone. He has had no communication, he said, with the mine owners, Senator Hanna or any other members of the national Civic Federation.

Convention Opens.

The delegates were called to order shortly after 10 o'clock by President Duffy of District No. 7, the middle district. Mr. Mitchell was immediately elected chairman of the convention. He made a brief speech in which he said the delegates have a great responsibility and they should act wisely in whatever they do. They will be called upon, he said, to decide one of the greatest questions that ever came before any labor convention. He admonished them to stand together whatever their decision may be.

W. B. Wilson, national secretary and treasurer of the United Mine Workers, was elected secretary. Deputy Secretaries Dempsey, Gallagher and Hartlein were appointed a committee on credentials, after which the convention took a recess until 1:30 p. m.

The convention will last at least two days. Most of the first day's session was consumed in organization. As there are approximately 700 delegates, the credentials committee will consume most of the time. At the afternoon session President Mitchell made a full report of his negotiations with the operators since the Shamokin convention. He gave in detail all the particulars of the meeting with the Civic Federation and reported everything that was said or done at the series of conferences between the Mine Workers' representatives and the coal operators held in New York. Mr. Mitchell said his report would be confined strictly to facts and will contain no recommendations or suggestions. He will give his advice at a later period of the convention.

Pittsburg, May 15.—The passenger steamer E. C. Woodward, ran into a loaded coal tow near Allen Pa., on the Monongahela river and sank in 15 feet of water. When the collision occurred the passengers were asleep, but all were landed safely. Several members of the crew jumped overboard and succeeded in reaching the shore. Two horses were drowned. The cargo is almost a total loss.