

DISASTER THREATENS PARIS.

FLOOD SITUATION IS RAPIDLY BECOMING DESPERATE.

Most Populous Section of the City Will be Inundated if the Seine Continues to Rise, as Conditions Indicate—Food Becoming Scarce and Prices Are Soaring.

Paris, Jan. 24.—The situation resulting from the floods is fast becoming desperate. The premier and minister of the interior made this declaration tonight: All conditions indicated a further rise of several inches of the river Seine, and the cold rain, which still continues, is causing intense suffering among those who have been rendered homeless, with little prospect of relief.

M. Millerand, minister of public works, after a tour of inspection, said that if the rise continued nothing could prevent a deplorable disaster and the flooding of the most populous quarters in Paris.

Paris is threatened with an immediate and complete tie-up. The stoppage of transports has raised the prices of food, which are becoming scarce. The authorities assert that drinking water is assured, but there is no water for the industrial services which are practically suspended.

At midnight the water was less than a foot from the arch of the Pont de l'Alma. The other bridges are not in such danger, unless a barge or some other craft is swept against them. The big sewers in the Place du Havre and near Place de la Madeleine burst tonight, threatening the foundations of the houses. Part of Rue Lazare threatens to cave in and the whole street has been closed. The tunnels of the subway now under construction are flooded. The Orleans terminus is a vast pool and the engineers fear that the tunnel may collapse.

M. Lepine, prefect of Paris, is directing the salvage, which is being done by soldiers in auto-boats at the risk of their lives. All the factories above and below Paris are closed and thousands of persons are out of employment.

The province, so far as it is possible to ascertain through the defective communications, show improvement in conditions. At Tours Sur-Merme eight houses, and at Juvigny, fifteen houses collapsed. A hundred houses at Chalons threaten to fall.

MUSSEL THE DOGS.

House Passes the Harmon Measure—Rabid Animals Discussed.

Columbia, Jan. 25.—After considering third reading bills last night the house took up Mr. Harmon's bill requiring owners of dogs to keep them confined and to provide a tax on the animals came up.

Mr. Harmon and Dr. Wyche called attention to the spread of rabies and the necessity for protection of the public. Mr. Ridgell also favored the bill. Mr. Wright opposed a bill that he thought was too far-reaching.

Mr. Ridgell favored striking out the assessment of dogs. The object was to protect the people, he thought. J. W. Ashley thought that muzzling dogs might make the animals go mad.

On a division vote the bill was passed by a vote of 45 to 36, the roll call being demanded.

The bill as amended reads:

"That it shall be unlawful for owners and keepers of dogs to allow same to run at large unless said dogs are safely muzzled: Provided, Said muzzles may be removed when said dogs are being used for the hunting of game of any kind, or when attended by, or in personal charge of, the owner or agent of the owner of such dogs. Any one violating this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than \$1 nor more than \$100, or imprisoned for not less than one day nor more than 30 days.

"Sec. 3. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed."

TWO NEGRO CHILDREN PERISH.

Home of Colored Farmer in Florence Reduced to Ashes.

Florence, Jan. 24.—The dwelling house of James Richardson, an industrious colored farmer, who lives on the plantation of Mr. R. E. Currin, about three miles north of the city, was destroyed by fire about 11 o'clock Saturday night and two of Richardson's children, both boys, one four and the other five years, were burned to death in the building. Richardson, his wife and two of his neighbors were sitting in the front part of the house and heard one of the children crying that the house was on fire. When he investigated the matter he found the back portion of the house in flames. He made a desperate attempt to save the children and was badly burned about the head and face in doing so, but his efforts were of no avail.

In addition to the loss of his two children, dwelling and household effects, Richardson lost \$125 in cold cash, which he had stored away in the house.

SITE OF SODOM AND GOMORRAH

Also the Volcano That Destroyed Them—Cave Where Lot Stayed.

Ellsworth Huntington, head of the recent Yale expedition to Palestine, declares that he has verified the Bible story of Sodom and Gomorrah.

"Hundreds of pages," he says in Harper's Magazine, "have been written to prove that the story is a myth, or that the ancient towns were destroyed by the bursting forth of oil wells like those of Texas or Baku, which sometimes are ignited and burn for days. Other hundreds of pages have been devoted to proving that Sodom and Gomorrah were or were not at the north end of the Dead Sea, and that they were or were not buried under the saline deposits at either end of the lake.

"Among recent writers there seems to be a tendency to believe that Sodom and its sister town were probably located at the south end of the lake, where the name Usdum is thought to represent Sodom, and where Arab tradition now locates the ill fated cities. The means of their destruction are believed to have been the oil wells mentioned above. This rather unsatisfactory conclusion has been adopted largely because it has been supposed that no volcano is located in such a position that it could have borne any part in the story.

"According to the story in Genesis, Lot and Abraham were at Bethel, ten miles north of Jerusalem, when their herdsmen quarreled and they decided to separate. And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the Plain of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere, before Jehovah destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, like the garden of Jehovah, like the land of Egypt, as thou goest up to Zoar. So Lot chose him all the Plain of Jordan."

"Then the story goes on to the time when Jehovah rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Jehovah out of heaven, while Lot fled to the near town of Zoar. He did not stay there long, but went out of Zoar and dwelt in the mountain—in a cave.

"Having freshly read the story and having looked over the strong arguments for locating the towns south of the Dead Sea and for believing them to have been destroyed by something in the nature of bituminous outbursts, I was taken by surprise when I visited the little ruin of Suweimeh and picked up bits of genuine scoriaceous lava, while the sheikh who acted as guide told the story of Sodom as the story of Suweimeh or Suweim. The name may be a corruption of Sodom.

"I went into the mountains at once from Suweim in order to see where the lava came from. As we climbed the lower hills the sheikh noticed that I picked up black pieces of lava and broke them open.

"Don't bother with those," he said. "Up here," pointing south east, "there is a whole mountain of black rock like that."

"Not two miles from Suweim, along the line of the great fault which separates the Ghor from the plateau of Moab, we found the mountain, a genuine little volcano of very recent date geologically. From it flowed a sheet of lava which made the small headland already mentioned between Suweim and Ghuweir. The name Ghuweir is believed by many students to be a corruption of Zoar, although it may also be an Arabic word, the diminutive of Ghor, meaning "Little Valley."

"A late eruption of ashes from the volcano may easily have wrought havoc in a town located near Suweim. On the other hand Ghuweir lies in such a situation that it would be protected by intervening hills.

"The present ruins of Ghuweir doubtless date from a time many hundred or even one or two thousand years after the days of Abraham and Lot. There is one work of man, however, which may go back to the period of the Patriarchs and which may have played a part in the Biblical narrative.

"Near the head of the valley which leads eastward from Ghuweir up toward the plateau of Moab we discovered a carefully excavated cave among the mountains at a place called El Ghuttar, between Abu Hassan and Beth Peor. It is about 20 feet long and 15 feet wide, carefully hewed out of the limestone above a spring. Two windows look down the wadi toward Zoar, and a door with a rock cut through to lead off the water of rains has been so located that it can be reached only by climbing a precipice by means of six or eight little niches cut in the rock or by climbing down over some difficult steps in the rock above.

"Nowhere else in this region is there known to be an artificial cave upon which any such care has been bestowed as upon this. The discovery of the cave, together with the volcano and the tradition of Suweimeh, supplies all the elements of the story of Sodom and Gomorrah in exactly the location where the Biblical account would lead one to expect them.

"The supposition that the climate

of past times was different from that of today disposes of the difficulty which has arisen from the Scriptural reference to the fertility of the land. On the whole, the result of a strictly geographic study of the region tends to show that the Biblical account is correct almost exactly as it stands. The fact that students of the highest ability have been in such doubt as to the location of Sodom and Gomorrah shows how imperfectly the Ghor and the shores of the Dead Sea have been explored."

NEGRO SLAIN IN CLARENDON.

Homicide at Colored Church Saturday Morning.

Manning, Jan. 24.—Information has just been received here of a homicide that took place Saturday near Workman, in the eastern section of this county, when Jack Smith was shot and instantly killed by his father-in-law, Anthony Burgess. The parties were all colored and the shooting is said to have been the outcome of some family differences. The shooting occurred at a colored church, where a number of people had gathered to clean off the burying ground. At the inquest held yesterday it came out that Burgess came up with a single barrel shotgun, remarked to Smith that he had been running over him long enough and fired, the charge going clear through the head. After firing the shot Burgess disappeared and cannot be found. The others present made no attempt to detain him. A pistol was found on the person of the deceased, but there is no evidence that he attempted to use it.

Preacher's Plain Talk.

J. Pierpont Morgan, Robert Fulton Cutting, John Seely Ward, Jr., Henry W. Monroe, W. E. Curtis, Charles E. Brown and other men of large means and high standing in New York probably got one of the surprises of their lives Sunday morning, when they heard Rev. Hugh Brickhead, rector of St. George's Episcopal church in Stuyvesant square, scold his congregation for tardiness in attending service. He spoke right out on what he calls "exclusive Christianity."

"I want to talk to you about a very personal matter," he said, as his eyes swept the pews. "I entered at one minute of 11 o'clock and not half this church was filled. It is irreverent for you not to be on time. You should remember that at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning you have an appointment with God. I hope in the future you will bear this in mind. This morning the first half of the service was disturbed because so many were late."

Dr. Brickhead also told the opulent members of his congregation what to do with their money, advising them to throw it away. He said:

"I have been examining figures concerning the pay rolls of 2,000,000 employes in the great mills and have found that their wages run from \$2.50 to \$10.48 a week.

"There should be no poor, for there is enough in this world for every one, even allowing some men to have large fortunes.

"My friends, when the eye of God is upon you, you will be glad to throw money away.

"It is not right that some should have more than they want or need while others suffer. It must result harmfully in some way to those who possess it.

"This exclusiveness of Christianity, a parody on God, is due to you. And yet," he added with fervor, "you are saying to yourselves, 'I will not change it; I do not want to change it.'

"How would a pewed church appear in the sight of God, who says of every one, 'These are my people?'

"And God is with you all the time; He is in this church; He is knocking at your hearts, which you close against Him.

"But the day will come when we must all pass before that all-seeing eye. We will say, 'These are my brothers, but I did not know it until now.'

"A list of the opportunities which were yours will be before you, and then you will say, 'Now I know,' but it will be too late.

"How sad are those words, 'Too late!'"

*Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is not a common, every day cough mixture. It is a meritorious remedy for all the troublesome and dangerous complications resulting from cold in the head, throat, chest or lungs. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

Prof. J. H. Carlisle of Greenville has commenced suit against the Greenville Traction Company for damages in the sum of \$20.00. The plaintiff alleges he was knocked down by a car last November.

*The busiest and mightiest little thing that ever was made is Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They do the work whenever you require their aid. These tablets change weakness into strength, listlessness into energy, gloominess into joyousness. Their action is so gentle one doesn't realize they have taken a purgative. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

Lucy's Way.

One day as grandma was sewing beside the window the attention of her little five-year-old granddaughter was suddenly attracted by the white hairs in her grandmother's head, and climbing upon a hassock she began to pluck out the whitest ones. "What on earth are you doing, Lucy?" exclaimed grandma. "Oh!" replied Lucy, "I am just picking the basting threads out of your hair, grandma."

*Have you a weak throat? If so, you cannot be too careful. You cannot begin treatment too early. Each cold makes you more liable to another and the last is always the harder to cure. If you will take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy at the outset you will be saved much trouble. Sold by W. W. Sibert.

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TAX RETURNS FOR 1910.

OFFICE OF COUNTY AUDITOR SUMTER CO., SUMTER, S. C., Dec. 3, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that I will attend, in person or by deputy, at the following places on the days indicated, respectively, for the purpose of receiving returns of real estate, personal property, and poll taxes for the fiscal year commencing January 1st, 1910.

- Tindalls, Tuesday, Jan. 4th.
 - Privater, (Jenkins' store), Wednesday, Jan. 5th.
 - Manchester, Levi's, Thursday, Jan. 6th.
 - Wedgfield, Friday, Jan. 7th.
 - Claremont Depot, Monday, Jan. 10th.
 - Hagood, Tuesday, Jan. 11th.
 - Remberts, Wednesday, Jan. 12th.
 - Dalsell, Thursday, Jan. 13th.
 - W. T. Brogdon's Store, Friday, Jan. 14th.
 - Mayersville, Tuesday, Jan. 18th.
 - Shiloh, Wednesday, Jan. 19th.
 - Norwood's X Roads, Thursday, Jan. 20th.
 - Oswego, Friday, Jan. 21st.
- All persons whose duty it is to make returns should be prompt to meet me at these appointments. All returns must be made before Feb. 20th, 1910.
- J. DIGGS WILDER,**
Auditor for Sumter Co.
1-2-8-1-21-10.

The Ballot.
TEN VOTES FOR

M.

Address

District

Subject to rules of The Osteen Publishing Co.'s Contest. Hold after February 5th.

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SEED OATS, WHEAT, RYE AND BARLEY.

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Try It on Your Chickens!

WHEN you start to raise chickens don't get the "FEVER" for ten minutes. If you want to produce more eggs, and then make up your mind to give your chickens something to make them produce the desired results, don't, for the love of humanity, spend 76c on the animals, and lose all interest in the matter, besides the 76c.

When you make up your mind to do a thing, either "DO IT NOW" or don't waste time thinking about it.

This is egg-laying time. Your chickens will produce PROFIT if you give them some attention. If you were to read of the THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS made by parties in the chicken and egg business you would be astonished.

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HESS PAN.

We will cheerfully direct you how to use this if you will call and see us. A few hens properly fed will produce all the eggs you need. Don't forget the fact we sell eggs too.

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