

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

DESOLATION IN PATH OF DELUGE

Waters From Breaking Otay Dam Destroy Half a Hundred Lives, and Wipe Out Houses and Orange Groves

San Diego, Jan. 29 (via Wireless to Los Angeles).—While American cavalrymen rode through the muddy desolation that once was Otay valley's famous "frostless belt" today, hunting for bodies of 50 men, women and children killed when lower Otay dam collapsed, a dreary party of refugees started for San Diego, surrendering all idea of finding their loved ones' remains.

Since Thursday night when the dam sent a 40-foot wall of water thundering into peaceful orange groves and ranches, a handful of those who escaped remained nearby, hoping against hope that friends or relatives might by some miracle have been saved. But when the soldiers rode their horses into the morass today and found nothing, the last hope died.

Returning from their search the troops reported the deluge had swept everything clean. Not a trace remained of the groves, the cottages, the ranches, or the people.

It was evident that the suddenly loosed force struck with such force that homes were smashed to driftwood, trees scooped up, roots and all, and human beings torn limb from limb by the whirling flood.

The survivors are those who heeded early warnings and fled to the hills. Those who remained were killed where they sat at dinner or stood peering out at the rain. The water traveled at express train speed, and everything living in its path was doomed.

San Diego, Jan. 29.—It is estimated that more than 25 persons were drowned when the lower Otay reservoir dam burst here Thursday afternoon. A wall of water thirty feet high tore down the Otay valley with express train speed. Some estimates

(Continued on Page 4.)

THE POPULATION OF YUMA TAKES TO HILLS

El Centro, Cal., Jan. 29.—Yuma is flooded again. The waters are rushing through the streets, seven feet higher than last week, demolishing many structures and threatening to undermine brick buildings. The entire population is in flight to the highlands, according to reports this afternoon. Eleven feet of water is tumbling over Roosevelt dam. Emergency work is being rushed on the levees. Water is rising.

Yuma, Ariz., Jan. 29.—Gila river waters rose dangerously high today, and memories of the recent flood caused many families to leave their homes on low ground and move to safer places. More than 2,000 freight cars are estimated stalled east and west of Yuma.

The only wire communication with outside points is via the Imperial valley and Los Angeles.

TURK AVIATORS DROP BOMBS ON MONITOR

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, Jan. 29.—Turkish aviators at the Dardanelles set afire an allied monitor by hurling bombs at her. She reached Kephales with difficulty.

STILL HOLDS HOPE FOR CREW OF LOST STEAM SCHOONER

Oakland, Cal., Jan. 29.—Reports of a lifeboat filled with men and buffeted by the waves of the ocean off Point Monterey have been received by Captain Fred Linderman, owner of the ill-fated steam schooner Aberdeen. The news strengthens the belief of the captain and his brother that the crew of the vessel may yet be safe and arrangements for a patrol to cruise in the vicinity are being made.

Oakland, Cal., Jan. 29.—That the metal lifeboat carried by the ill-fated steam schooner Aberdeen has not been discovered and no part of it has been cast upon the beach and that in his opinion the eight members of the Aberdeen's crew may be safe in it or have been picked up by some outboard vessel, was the statement of Bert Linderman, brother of Captain Fred Linderman, owner of the boat. Bert Linderman is the San Francisco agent for the Signal line of steamers, of which his brother is the principal owner.

"I hold fast to the theory that the Aberdeen did not break up until after she hit bottom in the breakers," he told the United Press today. "Everything bears out the theory that the men, realizing that the wreck of the vessel was inevitable, left her in the metal lifeboat on the open sea. If they did this, they are probably far out on the water today or have been picked up by some passing vessel. The Aberdeen was equipped with a high class metal lifeboat, equipped with two air compartments. The boat was one of the best of its kind, and was in addition to the wooden boats which have been cast up in splinters by the waves."

Linderman's theory is borne out by men of the life-saving station. That the Aberdeen, a staunch vessel, went to pieces in the open sea is a theory that is being discarded from the fact that parts of her that would have sunk are upon the beach. It is also believed that the men realized their danger long before the schooner got into the breakers, and knowing that it would be impossible for them to effect a landing in the angry surf, put directly out to sea.

The fact that no bodies have been found along the beach, though the vessel and everything aboard has been cast up by the sea, also strengthens Linderman's theory.

ARIZONA TOWNS FACE SHORTAGE OF FOOD

Phoenix, Ariz., Jan. 29.—Sugar was a scarce article here today, and other food supplies were low. With all railroads severed by floods, the city faces a serious situation. Rivers have as yet manifested no indication of falling, and nearby towns report food shortages.

S. P. LINES OPEN EXCEPT EAST OF LOS ANGELES

San Francisco, Jan. 29.—The Southern Pacific railroad said today its lines are running on schedule, except on the line east out of Los Angeles.

REPULSE OF TEUTONS CLAIMED BY FRENCH

Paris, Jan. 29.—After hours of fierce bombardment, the Germans attacked south of the Somme yesterday, but were repulsed each time, said today's communique. An offensive was staged along a front of several miles from the Somme to Fris and to the south.

Meanwhile no lull marked the battling north of Arras, particularly from Neuville to Givenchy. "In the region of Ville-en-Fauchet our artillery set fire to a German ammunition wagon and an explosion resulted," said the statement.

PREPARE FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE, SAYS WILSON

President Makes First Preparedness Address of His Tour at Pittsburg Saturday, Warning His Hearers That It Is the Business of the Nation to Get Ready for Protection, But Not in Any Case for Aggression

Pittsburg, Jan. 29.—Warning the American people that "new circumstances have arisen for which the country must prepare itself," President Wilson today asked that all "tend to the business of preparing—not for war, not for aggression—but for national defense."

Through his speech there ran a strain of grave warning that perils may be just ahead. Dangers to America he termed "grave and constant."

"Thrust aside your personal ambitions," he counseled, "and act for the welfare of the country."

"The struggle abroad has now lasted a year and a half; the end is not yet—and all the time things are getting more and more difficult to handle. If all could see the dispatches I read every hour, they would know how difficult it has been to maintain peace."

"We are in the midst of a world we can not alter, and therefore, as your responsible servant, I must tell you that the dangers are grave and constant."

"We are even dependent now upon the belligerents for the movement of our commerce. Where there is contact there is likely to be friction, and with nations engaged as many now are in a life and death struggle, they are likely to become stubbornly steadfast in their proposals and convictions."

The president's words stirred more than 6,000 persons crammed into Memorial hall. Nearly as many more were packed into the second floor of the building, hoping that the executive would address them later. Yet others were herded along the sidewalks, demanding entrance. So great was the throng that the president addressed briefly an overflow meeting.

"I want you to go home, determined to tell all within the circle of

BRIDGES GO DOWN BEFORE THE FLOODS FAMILY OF SIX IS DROWNED IN KANSAS

Los Angeles, Jan. 29.—Although normally dry stream beds were running over today, the southern California storm waters had subsided from nearly all inundated territory and hundreds were busy repairing the damage.

This latest blow at the highway system cost the southern counties more than \$25,000, according to estimates. Many bridges must be rebuilt, washouts filled and a great deal of roadbed entirely re-laid. Railroads are rushing repairs, and trains which had been stalled for 50 hours were moved today.

The damage was most severe in the orange groves, where lanes were hacked through famous orchards and the low lands between Los Angeles and the beaches.

Reports from nearby towns this morning indicated that the work of clearing the streets of fallen trees and other debris was completed.

AUTHORITIES BAFFLED OVER DUPONT PLANT FIRES

Wilmington, Del., Jan. 29.—Authorities here confessed themselves at a loss today to explain the five fires in the DuPont Powder company's plants at Carney's Point last night which seriously burned three workmen and, less badly, four others. The fires followed an already long list of explosions and fires.

BROTHER IS HELD WAR PRISONER BY ALLIES IN FRANCE

Andrew Gigler has just received a letter from his brother's wife in Germany bringing the news that his brother, believed lost in battle in northern France, was still alive, though held a prisoner of war in France. The last Mr. Gigler had previously heard his brother was reported among the missing, and had been given up as lost. The brother was fighting with his regiment of Bavarians in northern France, and at some time since the big offensive campaign in September was severely wounded. He was accompanied by two of his comrades when he fell, and they assisted him as far as was possible in leaving the field of battle. They were obliged to desert him, however, to make their own escape, and that was the last heard of him for several weeks, except that his wife received the official card telling her that her husband was "missing."

It was not known by the comrades how severely Mr. Gigler was wounded, but now a letter comes from him in France. The letter was severely censored before being allowed to leave France, though the fact that the prisoner of war states that he is working indicates that he has recovered from his injury. The censor cut out that portion of the letter that stated where and at what he was working, but the relatives were greatly relieved to know that he was in the land of the living and still able to work. The letter stated that prisoners were kept on very short rations and were also much in need of woollens to keep them warm. Showing the increasing cost of provisions in the belligerent countries, Mrs. Gigler stated in her letter to Andrew Gigler that she had mailed her husband some things, including a pound of sausage that cost four marks a pound. This represents about a dollar in American money.

"As your servant and representative, I should come here and report to you on public affairs," he declared after voicing his thanks for the demonstration accorded him and his wife. "It is the duty of every public man to hold frank counsel with the people he represents."

At once he plunged into the problem of national preparedness.

"There have been many views expressed on national defense," he said. "Some proceed from sentiment, and I do not feel free to criticize any of these, for this is a country of free expression."

"I love peace, but peace costs something, and the best way to maintain it is to gain the respect of other nations. I have tried to be neutral, not only in my acts, but in my feelings. It is hard to keep the judgment cool when the world is running red with blood, and it is hard to keep the passion of sympathy under control of the judgment. But it is not wise

(Continued on Page 4.)

CALIFORNIA OIL FIELDS DAMAGED

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Fresno, Cal., Jan. 29.—With the work of clearing away the debris progressing rapidly, central California today counted the cost of the terrific storm which has just swept the San Joaquin valley. The bulk of the damage is centered in the Coalinga, Kern and Lost Hills districts. In the Coalinga district alone more than 525 derricks were blown over, causing damage estimated at \$1,400,000.

Advices from Taft today estimated that between 600 and 700 derricks had been blown over in the Kern county fields and that the total storm damage in that vicinity would exceed \$1,750,000.

Undaunted by their great losses, however, the oil men of both districts have already begun to provide for the future. Lumber in enormous quantities is being rushed here and the work of reconstructing the destroyed rigs has already begun.

In addition to the demolished rigs many of the companies suffered destruction or damage to warehouses.

LEADING PORTLAND HOTEL RAIDED FOR BOOZE

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Portland, Jan. 29.—Several kegs of ginger ale, said to contain a "kick," are stored in the court house today and the bar of the Perkins hotel, one of the largest in the city, is a wreck.

Deputy sheriffs and constables raided the place last night. It had been patronized by many prominent business men. Besides every drop of "soft" liquor in the hotel, the glassware and bar fixtures were seized and carted away by the officers.

FRENCH LOSE TRENCHES TO GERMANS

Teutons, in New Offensive on the Western Front, Win Mile of Allies' Entrenchments and Village of Fris

Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, Jan. 29.—In the greatest German offensive along the western front in months the Teutons won nearly a mile of French trenches in the Artois region, captured the village of Fris and 1,000 yards of French trenches south of the river Somme, along with 1,200 prisoners, the war office revealed today.

The double offensive was launched early yesterday, when the Germans stormed the French lines.

"Several French attacks near Neuville broke down, though the enemy occupied a mine crater," the statement added.

ALLEGED DYNAMITER TO BE TRIED MARCH 14

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Los Angeles, Jan. 29.—Judge Willis today set the murder trial of David Caplan, an alleged Times dynamiter, over to March 14.

M. A. Schmidt, convicted of murder in connection with the Times building disaster, was given a further stay of execution pending appeal. He is under sentence of life imprisonment. Nate Coghlan, defense counsel, arrived here last night from San Francisco, after being storm-bound midway.

ALLEGED CATTLE THIEF SHOT BY U. S. INSPECTOR

El Paso, Jan. 29.—Officials here today expressed their belief that the shooting of an alleged Mexican cattle thief by United States Customs Inspector White at Yaleta, Texas, yesterday, would not lead to any new complications in the Mexican situation. Reports indicated that the Mexican resisted arrest and fired a first shot at White.

RAINS STOP WORK ON ROAD REPAIRS

(By United Press Leased Wire.) Los Angeles, Jan. 29.—With flood conditions in many sections worse than ever before, rain was falling in southern California again this afternoon, stopping repair work on roads and tracks and threatening new damage.

The Otay valley horror, where a collapsing dam killed 50, overshadowed the most devastating work of the deluge in other parts of the state. Wireless reports from San Diego hinted at grave conditions there, houses tipped over and streets inundated. Scores in San Diego crowded the wireless office trying to push messages through.

In Yuma floods are again running riot, carrying away flimsy structures and undermining larger ones. Inhabitants fled to the high lands, while gangs of volunteers labored feverishly to reinforce protection dams against which the rising waters pounded with increasing force.

Around Los Angeles the swollen rivers seemed to have done their worst and no new damage of great importance was reported. The danger zones had been cleared and wherever there was any opportunity for the deluge to smash something the smash already had occurred, so slight apprehension was felt.