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COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

CHICAGO.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Chicago Trade says:

"Easter trade in the principal branches of distribution equals sanguine expectations. A high volume of payments through the banks is sustained and the trading defaults furnish a favorable comparison with previous years. Buying in the leading retail lines rose to new high proportions during the week, and business generally reflects the quickening derived from the advent of spring and the remarkably fine weather which prevails here and throughout the West.

"New building and heavy construction are vigorously advanced, and there are notable additions to workers employed at the mills and factories. Activity among the industries and in transportation now compares satisfactorily with the best previous times, while the improving position draws strength for the future from the wider range of new demands for finished products.

"Earnings of the Chicago steam roads surpass all former gross records for this season of the year, and threatened difficulties with workers are removed by higher wage concessions.

"Offerings of commercial paper have increased, and the discount rate rose to 4 1/2 per cent for choice names. "Bank clearings, \$280,465,977, exceed those of the corresponding week in 1909 by 12.7 per cent and compare with \$222,409,514 in 1908. Failures reported in the Chicago district numbered 24, as against 20 last week, 34 in 1909 and 39 in 1908. Those with liabilities over \$5,000 number 10, as against 2 last week, 9 in 1909 and 12 in 1908."

NEW YORK.

The week's developments have been generally favorable. Chief among them have been the advent of warm spring weather, which, coupled with the near approach of Easter, has stimulated retail trade at all markets, allowed of expansion in the building trades, the preparation of the ground in the North for planting, the beginning of seeding of grain and cotton at the South and of oats and vegetables in the middle regions of the country. The industrial situation, too, has materially improved in the collapse of the sympathetic strike at Philadelphia, the return to work of many thousands of idle hands there, and the submitting of the Western railroad men's demands to arbitration.

Business failures in the United States for the week ending March 24 were 231, as against 208 last week, 226 in the like week of 1909, 286 in 1908, 166 in 1907 and 169 in 1906.—Bradstreet's.

MARKETS OF THE WEEK

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$4.00 to \$8.85; hogs, prime heavy, \$7.00 to \$11.00; sheep, fair to choice, \$4.50 to \$9.50; wheat, No. 2, \$1.17 to \$1.19; corn, No. 2, 58c to 60c; oats, standard, 43c to 44c; rye, No. 2, 75c to 79c; hay, timothy, \$10.00 to \$18.50; prairie, \$8.00 to \$14.50; butter, choice creamery, 28c to 32c; eggs, fresh, 18c to 21c; potatoes, per bushel, 20c to 30c.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$8.00; hogs, good to choice heavy, \$7.00 to \$11.00; sheep, good to choice, \$3.00 to \$7.00; wheat, No. 2, \$1.17 to \$1.18; corn, No. 2 white, 61c to 65c; oats, No. 2 white, 45c to 46c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$8.00; hogs, \$7.00 to \$11.00; sheep, \$3.50 to \$8.50; wheat, No. 2, \$1.20 to \$1.23; corn, No. 2, 61c to 65c; oats, No. 2, 47c to 48c; rye, No. 2, 79c to 80c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$8.00; hogs, \$7.00 to \$11.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$6.75; wheat, No. 2, \$1.21 to \$1.22; corn, No. 2 mixed, 60c to 62c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 47c to 48c; rye, No. 2, 84c to 86c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$7.00; hogs, \$7.00 to \$10.75; sheep, \$3.50 to \$7.75; wheat, No. 2, \$1.16 to \$1.18; corn, No. 3 yellow, 60c to 61c; oats, standard, 46c to 47c; rye, No. 1, 79c to 80c.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 northern, \$1.14 to \$1.17; corn, No. 3, 61c to 63c; oats, standard, 43c to 44c; rye, No. 1, 78c to 80c; barley, standard, 69c to 70c; pork, mess, \$26.50.

Buffalo—Cattle, choice shipping steers, \$4.00 to \$8.50; hogs, fair to choice, \$8.00 to \$11.10; sheep, common, to good mixed, \$4.00 to \$7.40; lambs, fair to choice, \$5.00 to \$10.70.

New York—Cattle, \$4.00 to \$8.00; hogs, \$8.00 to \$11.75; sheep, \$4.00 to \$8.00; wheat, No. 2 red, \$1.24 to \$1.25; corn, No. 2, 63c to 64c; oats, natural, white, 49c to 51c; butter, creamery, 31c to 34c; eggs, western, 19c to 22c.

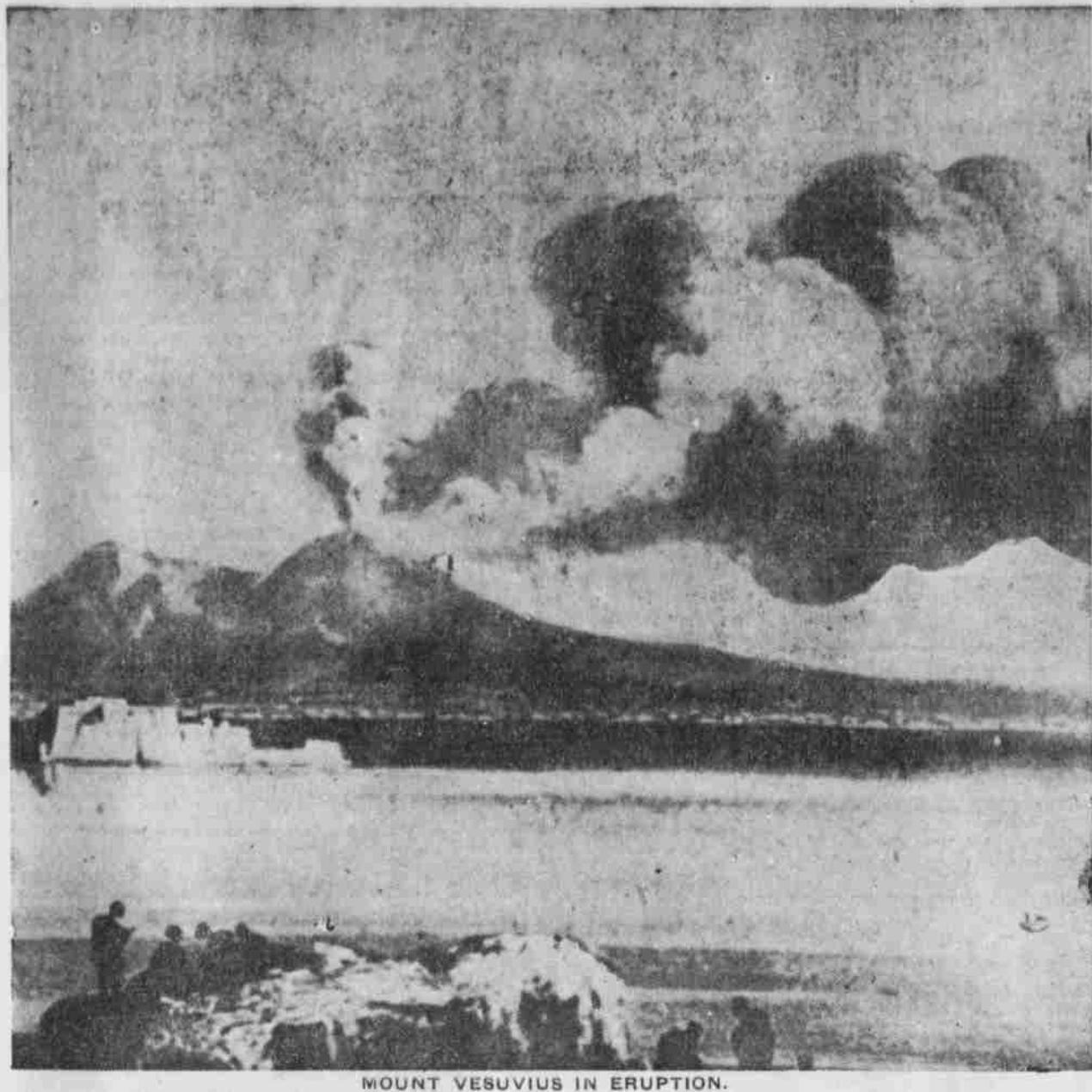
Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, \$1.17 to \$1.18; corn, No. 2 mixed, 61c to 62c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 45c to 46c; rye, No. 2, 79c to 80c; clover seed, \$7.10.

Three thousand men, representing forty labor organizations of Spokane, marched through the downtown streets to the Council chamber to demand that the city raise the wage scale for city labor to \$3 a day. The movement was led by D. C. Coates, former lieutenant governor of Colorado, elected on a Socialist ticket.

After spending several hours at Cincinnati in disposing of details incident to the reorganizing of the conference recently broken off at Toledo, the miners and operators of the central competitive field, comprising Ohio, Indiana and Western Pennsylvania, appointed committees which are considering the points in issue between the two factions.

Over seventy exhibits were received by the Winona board of trade from farmers, to be sent to St. Paul and placed on the Minnesota Conservation and Agricultural Development Congress.

SCENE OF THE GREAT ITALIAN DISASTER OF 1906.



MOUNT VESUVIUS IN ERUPTION.

RAIN OF AETNA LAVA BURIES SICILY HOMES

Four New Craters Disgorge Fiery Streams, but Crisis Is Believed Past.

PEASANTS FLEE FROM HOMES

Vineyards and Fields for Miles Around Devastated by Eruption and Accompanying Quake.

An official report upon volcanic disturbances in the Mount Etna district confirms reports that the situation is grave, but holds out the hope that the worst is over. The craters that properly may be described as now appear to be only four in number. These have opened at the foot of Mount Castellazzo, four miles in the air line from the summit of Mount Etna. The four streams emitted from these craters have united at the foot of Mount Castellazzo and formed a great river of lava, that is bringing death and desolation into the invaded districts. Plants, trees, whole vineyards and orchards have been destroyed by the consuming flood. The lava river has extended nearly fifteen miles from its source.

In the path of the advancing flood the people are in great terror and thousands abandoned their homes. The roaring of Mount Etna continues without interruption and a rain of cinders fell for miles around. Several houses of peasants already have been destroyed and it is feared that if the flow does not cease soon the flood will enter Borrello. Caravans of peasants carrying all their household goods and all of their transportable possessions are moving to places of safety. In their distress they present a pathetic sight. At many homes the molten mass has entered the eisters and caused destructive explosions.

GIRL IS BURNED ALIVE.

Ruth Wheeler Not Dead When Put in Fireplace, Says Physician.

That Ruth Amos Wheeler, the 16-year-old stenographer who went seeking employment the other day, and whose charred body was found on a fire escape at 224 East 75th street, New York, was burned to death by the slayer, was the statement made by Dr. O'Hanlon, coroner's physician. This assertion came after an autopsy had been made. Dr. O'Hanlon found the lungs congested and a deep mark on the right side of the neck, evidently made by a rope when the murderer sought to strangle his victim. Dr. O'Hanlon said: "Over the right nostril and on part of the face I found the remnant of a square of linen. I believe the girl was smothered, and while still alive but unconscious was put into the fireplace and the body incinerated."

Katechen Muller, or Kate Miller, as she was better known, who was regarding the wife of Walter Wolters, who is now in the Tombs charged with the murder of the Wheeler girl, was taken into custody. She denied all knowledge of the murder, and the police declared they were inclined to believe her story. Captain Carey spent most of the night with Wolters in his cell, but could not get him to admit any knowledge of the crime.

WINS IN REPUBLICAN FORT.

E. N. Foss First Democrat to Carry 14th Massachusetts District.

Eugene N. Foss of Boston the other day was elected to Congress from the Fourteenth District of Massachusetts. Running on the Democratic ticket in a district which in 1908 gave the late William C. Lovering, Republican, a plurality of 14,256, Mr. Foss defeated William R. Buchanan of Brockton, the Republican nominee by 5,617 votes. The victor in this election is a brother of Congressman George Edmund Foss of Chicago. Mr. Foss was adopted as the favorite son of the old colony district by the decisive action of Republicans and Democrats, who gave majorities to him in thirty-three of the forty-four towns and in the two cities in the district. The Democratic candidate invaded Brockton, the home of his opponent, and secured the major portion of the votes, winning in that city by a plurality of 171. This showing in the Fourteenth District is aggressively and demonstratively insurgent. It turned a majority of 14,000 for a Republican into an excess of 5,617 for a Democrat of comparatively recent conversion.

GENERAL HURT; WOMAN KILLED

Trolley Car Demolishes Automobile on a Washington Road.

Major General J. Franklin Bell, chief of staff of the army, was badly but probably not dangerously injured, and Mrs. Herbert J. Slocum, wife of Major Slocum, of the Seventh Cavalry, was almost instantly killed in a collision of their automobile with a trolley car on the Tenallytown road in the northwest outskirts of Washington. General Bell had one rib broken, suffered a painful scalp wound and severe bruises. The chauffeur was uninjured. Mrs. Slocum lived only a few moments. Her husband is attached to the headquarters of the Department of the East at Governors Island, New York. General Bell absolved the trolley car motorman from blame for the accident.

AVERT BIG RAIL STRIKE

Managers of Western Roads and Firemen Agree on Terms.

Peace on the Western railroads was assured when the general managers and the representative firemen and engineers reached an amicable settlement of their differences in Chicago the other day. Both sides agreed that the credit for averting what would have been one of the worst strikes in railroad history is due to Dr. Charles P. Neill, Commissioner of Labor

ROOSEVELT SPEAKS HIS MIND.

Egyptian Nationalists Told People Are Not Ready for Independence.

Condemnation of assassination and a declaration that nations as well as individuals need long and careful preparation for self-government were two of the most striking features of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's address in the assembly hall of the University of Egypt in Cairo the other morning. On both subjects he had strong words to utter, burning words that went to the kernel of the Egyptian political muddle.

He uttered these words against the advice of missionaries and officials, both native and English, who feared that the result might be personal harm. Every effort was made to dissuade Colonel Roosevelt from talking at night. They denounced Colonel Roosevelt. The situation is pregnant with grave possibilities. The police immediately issued orders to take extreme precautions to protect Mr. Roosevelt.

The extreme Nationalists, who advocated force, resentful at Roosevelt's strong words delivered at the meeting at night, held a secret indignation meeting at night. They denounced Colonel Roosevelt. The situation is pregnant with grave possibilities. The police immediately issued orders to take extreme precautions to protect Mr. Roosevelt.

TOTAL COTTON SUPPLY SHOWN.

Census Bureau Places Six Months' Figure at 11,552,361.

The census report shows the total supply of cotton for the six months ending Feb. 28 to have been 11,552,361 running bales. The distribution is 2,526,988 bales consumed, 4,599,682 exported, 1,674,331 held in mills, 1,932,521 held in independent warehouses, and other stocks 818,844. The number of bales held on Sept. 1, 1909, was 1,483,585; ginned during the six months' period, 9,974,998; net imports, 93,778.

POLITICS and POLITICIANS

Another radical move on the part of the suffrage advocates which is receiving much attention in the eastern part of the country is an organization of "college women at Wellesley, Smith,assar, Bryn Mawr, Radcliffe and other colleges for women, the members of which promise not to get married until she shall have won over to the cause at least 500 men.

"I have nothing to conceal in connection with my activities in behalf of legislation providing for the payment of subsidies for the upbuilding of the American merchant marine," said James T. McCleary of Minnesota, in commenting upon the report that the committee on the Judiciary might subpoena him as a witness in an effort to uphold the charge that unusual methods were followed in an effort to press this legislation through Congress.

Some of the aggressive women of Chicago have now formed an organization the slogan of which is "No vote, no tax," and when certain women property owners appeared in line at the city collector's office the other day members of this new league picketed the line and prevailed upon the woman to go home and leave their taxes unpaid. The pickets distributed cards containing the following sentiment: "If you can't be persons and citizens at voting time, don't be persons and citizens at tax-paying time."

Gilbert M. Hitchcock, editor of the Omaha World-Herald, announced that William J. Bryan had given his word that he would keep out of the next race for a Nebraska seat in the United States Senate. Hitchcock, who has been three terms a member of Congress, said definite plans are now being made for a battle to prevent the renomination of Senator Robert M. La Follette, was shown when William D. Connor, former State chairman, who managed Senator La Follette's first successful campaign, made a statement declaring he might manage the campaign against Senator La Follette.

"DRY" PETITIONS THROWN OUT.

Chicago Will Not Vote Upon Local Option Question This Spring.

Chicago will not vote upon the question of discontinuing the licensed saloon and substituting prohibition at the aldermanic election this spring. The Board of Election Commissioners threw out the monster petition of the Anti-Saloon League calling for the submission of the question to the electorate. The commission held the "dry" to be short 19,233 of the 63,511 names necessary to give the petition a legal status, declaring that out of the 74,026 names appearing on the petition 26,128 were not those of registered legal voters and 3,620 were "doubtful." The commissioners did not go into the question of some 2,500 obviously fictitious names, 1,200 duplications and 6,700 forgeries charged by the "wets" who filed objection to the petition.

DUPLICATES CUDAHY ATTACK.

Kansas City Man Slashes Wife's Companion—Third Case of Kind.

For the third time within a few weeks in Kansas City an angry husband encountered his wife and a man companion and slashed the man with a knife when C. P. Oard, a piano salesman, met Mrs. Oard at her home early the other morning after she had been "joy riding." It is alleged, and after bombarding the two men who accompanied her with bricks, cut one of them. The first affair of this kind was that in which "Jack" Cudahy attacked Jere Lillis, banker and clubman, when he found him in his home with Mrs. Cudahy. The second occurred on a recent night when Dr. J. E. King trailed his wife and William A. Young, an actor, to Swope Park and slashed Young.

NO CUDAHY PROSECUTION.

Case Against Son of Packer for Attack in Lillis Dismissed.

The case growing out of the attack made by J. P. Cudahy, the packer, upon Jere Lillis, the banker, was dismissed in the Municipal court in Kansas City by Daniel Howell, assistant city attorney. Mr. Howell made no comment further than to say the case should not have been brought in the Municipal court. Brown Underwood, the patrolman who was called to the Cudahy home the night Lillis was attacked, was the only witness to appear. The case had been continued twice before.

KENTUCKY-INDIANA LINE OPEN.

Ride from Louisville to South Bend, 200 Miles, Is at High Speed.

The first through electric car from Louisville, Ky., to South Bend, arrived there the other evening, marking an important epoch in the history of electric railroads in this part of the country. The distance between the two cities is 296 miles. Chicago and South Bend already are connected by trolley. The route was from Louisville to Indianapolis, Peru, Winona, Warsaw and Goshen. An average speed of thirty miles an hour was made and in some places the schedule was as high as sixty miles an hour.

\$100,000 for Bible Work.

A friend of the New York Bible Society, who withholds his name, has offered the society dollar for dollar any sum within \$100,000 that can be raised to distribute the Bible among immigrants, sailors and foreigners in New York City. Up to the present time \$35,000 has been subscribed.

Admits Killing Grandfather.

Caspar Butler, 17 years old, pleaded guilty in Franklin, Ga., to the murder of his grandfather and was sentenced to life imprisonment. He killed the elder man because the latter whipped him.

Bible Society Gets Fund.

The \$500,000 fund which the American Bible Society has been seeking to raise to secure an equal amount, the gift of Mrs. Russell Sage, has been completed. Thousands of persons in all parts of the world have contributed to the fund.

Killed in \$50,000 Fire.

Hans O. Thuri, a wealthy merchant of Arendahl, Minn., was burned to death in a store. The building and its contents were entirely destroyed with a loss of \$50,000.

JUSTICE BREWER DROPS DEAD.

Heart Disease Brings Sudden End to Long and Useful Career.

David Josiah Brewer, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, dropped dead in the bathroom of his home, 1923 16th street, Washington, a few minutes after 11 o'clock the other night. Heart disease is believed to have been the cause of death. Justice Brewer apparently had been in the best of health. He was seventy-three years old and had been a member of the Supreme Court since December, 1889. He was born in Smyrna, Asia Minor, where his parents were residing as missionaries. He was a graduate of Yale College. He was appointed to the Supreme bench from Kansas.

It is within the range of possibilities that the death of Justice Brewer will have far-reaching effects on important cases now pending before the Supreme Court. Justice Brewer was one of the progressive members of the court and inclined to a liberal construction of the laws. He sat in both the tobacco and Standard Oil cases, both of which are on the eve of being decided. It has been the general expectation that the vote of the court in both the tobacco and Standard Oil cases would be close. With Justice Brewer now dead there is a lively possibility that conditions may be reversed one way or the other over the decisions as they would have been rendered had Justice Brewer lived.

FIRE COSTS 250 LIVES.

Gay Scene Is Turned Suddenly Into One of Horror.

Two hundred and fifty people were killed and many others were injured in the village of Oekorerite, Hungary, when fire broke out in a hotel at which a ball was being held. A coach house connected with the hotel had been fitted up as a ballroom, and at night was crowded with several hundred guests when the fire started. It was noticed first when a woman's dress was seen to be ablaze and a moment later the gowns of several other women were in flames. A panic followed, and in a mad rush to the exits many persons fell and were trodden to death by others. The roof fell before the hall could be cleared and many injured persons and those who because of the crush at the doors had been prevented from escaping were buried with the dead in the ruins.



Dr. Edward Meyer, professor of ancient history at the University of Berlin and one of the greatest living historians, is giving a series of lectures before the students of the University of Wisconsin.

A lively discussion is in progress in Japan in regard to the advisability of adopting the jury system. Even among the members of the legal profession opinion is divided, but if anything the balance appears to be against the innovation.

A German south polar expedition virtually has been arranged by Lieutenant Fiechter, of the general staff of the army, under the auspices of the geographical society. Lieutenant Fiechter announced that the expedition would start in October of this year, if the necessary funds were forthcoming.

The announcement that there will be no Home Rule bill presented to the present session of Parliament, while not unexpected, caused regret in Ireland, and it is recognized now that it may mean another election before Ireland will be given the right to govern herself.

The great German firm that is known to everyone as "Krupps," and which supplies half the civilized world with what it wants in the way of cannon, is buying a large tract of land in Holland, with the object of erecting new works there, and also have made investigations in America with a view to establishing a plant.