

OHIO RIVER IS ON A BOOM

Rise of Five Feet an Hour at Cincinnati Causes Alarm. CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE DONE BY RAIDS. Water Within a Short Distance of Danger Line and Still Rising—Several Lives Lost in Swollen Streams.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 20.—The Ohio river, after a sudden rise last night at the rate of five feet an hour, caused by the flood in the Little Miami and the Licking rivers, settled down to a rate of three inches an hour with the exception that between 6 and 7 o'clock this morning there was a rise of six inches. The rainfall, which ceased before daylight, amounted to 2.24 inches, and it came so heavily as to nearly all flow into the rivers. High winds have prevailed through the night and today and the temperature is falling, which conditions operate to lessen the danger of flood. According to present indications there has not been a general heavy rain in West Virginia nor elsewhere about the headwaters. At Pomeroy the river was reported stationary at twenty-eight feet this morning with hard rains all night, the weather being like April. Much damage has been done along the Little Miami river. The bridge on the Pennsylvania road at Morrow has gone out, causing a long detour by trains.

At 1 o'clock the river was forty-eight feet and three inches and stationary. It reached the maximum at 4 o'clock—forty-eight feet four inches. Since then it has fallen one inch. The bridge at Pittsburgh to Cairo it is falling from 47 to 45 feet. LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 20.—Pears are entered here by a flood. The Ohio is rising steadily. At 11 o'clock the river was 47 feet and three inches. The danger line was but three feet off. At this distance had been decreased by nearly eleven inches. The water is touching the millstones at the Cumberland river. The streets and the residents in these localities have packed their belongings preparatory to flight. During last night the rise was three feet, but this morning it has risen this morning was not so great. At noon the reading at the locks was twenty-three feet two inches.

Reports received indicate that much damage was done throughout the state last night by the heavy rain and wind storm which came up about 9:30 o'clock. Thomas Cross, a drummer from North Vernon, Ind., was drowned while crossing a swollen stream near West Baden, Ind., while a son of a farmer named Drury and a negro farm hand, who were riding a horse across the Cumberland river in Jackson county, Tennessee, were drowned. In Kentucky a Methodist church near Palmont was unroofed and barns and farm houses in Carter county, Indiana, Union and Hickman counties were damaged. The Licking, Big Sandy, Cumberland, Green and all their tributaries are booming and many of them are out of their banks. Toward island is submerged, and the glue factory above the cutoff has three feet of water on its floor.

All the tributaries in this section are reported being full or overflowing from the recent heavy rains. The latter cleared early this morning, and if no more showers fall the duration of the present flood will be short. T. S. Cross, a salesman of North Vernon, Ind., was drowned last night near French Lick while trying to ford a swollen stream. A farmer named Drury and his farm hand, Fossick, were drowned while trying to ford the Cumberland river in Jackson county, Tennessee. The bodies were recovered three miles below.

Will Build a Stab Mill. CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—A million and a half dollars are to be expended at once by the Illinois Steel company in the erection of a slab mill at South Chicago in addition to the mammoth plant already maintained by the company. The new mill will employ more than 1,000 men, more than are now on the company's pay roll.

Coal Boats Sink During a Storm. LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Jan. 20.—A steamerboat Jib Williams, with a tow of sixty coal boats, was caught in the storm above here last night. Fourteen of the coal boats were wrecked, and the remainder were washed overboard and drowned. The boat was battered up considerably, but this morning was able to proceed on its way south.

Torpedo Boats Go to Tampa. KEY WEST, Fla., Jan. 20.—The torpedo boats Cushing and Thetis, with the USS Tampa, the Dupont leaves tonight. The Porter will remain here as a dispatch boat. The Maine, Montgomery and Detroit will be decommissioned by the squadron for Tortugas as it passes this port.

Aims at a Langford Memorial. Episcopal Sunday Schools Asked to Raise \$100,000. These interested in Sunday school work, especially in the Episcopal denomination, gathered in the Parish house of Trinity cathedral last night to receive the counsel of Rev. Herman L. Duhring, secretary of the American Church Sunday School Institute. Mr. Duhring is greatly interested in a project, which he broaches to the sixty-five teachers present, to raise \$100,000 for a memorial to the late Rev. Langford in 1899 during the lenten season from the Sunday schools of the country to devote to missions. The fund is to be a memorial to Dr. Langford, formerly secretary of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal church and whose recent death leaves an unfiled vacancy in the work.

Mr. Duhring is making an interesting address in behalf of his plans, which is being presented to the different Sunday schools of the country. He showed how the money could be raised by some slight, but universal, self-denial, during Lent. He said that it was not so much the amount that was given, but the spirit and unanimity with which the gift was made. The collection was made on February 23, the beginning of Lent, until Easter, the money would be readily raised by a saving of 20 cents on the part of every Sunday school.

Quickly Invited Mr. Hunter. Young Man from Missouri "Showed" More to the "Formality." Mr. Rogers, a young colored woman, was arrested last night after a struggle, for showing a Missourian, named Robert Hunter, how city life is led. Hunter arrived from Jackson county of the state named yesterday afternoon with a reserve fund of \$30 to draw against until he found a job. His way to the business center here led the woman, who invited him to her room at 221 North Twelfth street. The money was taken with small formality and Hunter started out to find a policeman. Several

COMMITTEE ASKS MORE TIME

Coal Operators' and Miners' Conference Urged to Be Patient. PROMISES TO REPORT A SCALE TODAY. Ohio and Pennsylvania Have Not Yet Come to an Agreement on Differentials, but It Is Expected.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—No progress was made in today's session of the interstate bituminous coal operators' and miners' conference. No report was received from the scale committee, but at the afternoon session President Hatchford of the Mine Workers' delegation, prepared before the conference to ask more time. They explained that a vast amount of labor had already been done by the committee, and that the delegates that it was for the best interests of both employers and employees to proceed with the utmost deliberation, and expressed a belief that every obstacle now before the coal trade would be removed.

Ohio and Pennsylvania operators did not reach an agreement on the 3-cent differential, which is the stumbling block. It is stated that the Pennsylvania operators insisted upon an entire removal of the differential, except as it is applied to the Hocking valley, which they concede is entitled to the lowest rate. H. L. Chapman of Ohio, it is reported, expressed his willingness to concede the 3-cent differential, but he insisted that a report will be presented to the convention tomorrow.

POSITIONS ARE REVERSED. Indiana and Illinois operators have also been in conference over the differential question. When the Indiana miners returned after the late strike they obtained a slightly higher rate, and in order to bring them previously there had been a margin of 5 cents in favor of Illinois. This matter the operators of Illinois want adjusted and it can be done by the rate of 3 cents per ton. An agreement between Illinois and Indiana is, it is thought, much more likely than one between Ohio and Indiana.

COMMITTEE WORKS FAITHFULLY. At the afternoon session of the conference from the scale committee was forthcoming, but President Hatchford of the Mine Workers, and Chairman Bogie of the Indiana operators, expressed their reluctance to ask the delegates to remain in patience. He said: "Acting on the request of Chairman Sweet, Mr. Bogie and myself have been endeavoring to apologize for the failure of the committee to report conclusions. They are working hard, and we ask for your consideration and patience until we can bring you some conclusions, which we will at once submit to you."

REMARKABLE INCREASE IN THE BUSINESS OF THE CHIEF LAKES IN THE YEAR. There are 20,000 vessels, including 6,500 steamers and 13,500 sailing craft of all classes, under the American flag. While American shipping in the Great Lakes has become increasingly material, say the New York Sun, there has been a very large gain in the commerce of the lakes, a gain as large as the figures are surprising. In ten years, for instance, the lake commerce of the city of Buffalo has almost doubled, increasing from \$8,000,000 to 17,000,000 tons. The shipping business of Detroit has increased from 100,000,000 to 175,000,000 tons in ten years. The shipping business of the Michigan peninsula has increased from 45,000,000 to 100,000,000 tons in ten years.

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LIVE STOCK SHIPPERS MEETING

Thurber's Convention Will Be Held in Omaha Next Thursday. W. R. Thurber, of Ogish, is the prime mover in the attempt to organize the live stock shippers of Nebraska into an association, has decided to hold the meetings of shippers at the Van Ness Hotel in Omaha on January 27. The officers of the South Omaha Live Stock exchange will give the shippers the use of the Exchange hall has been declined by Mr. Thurber, as he seems to think that the meeting ought to be held in a room where the shippers can attend the meeting in person, and he has arranged to rent a room at the Van Ness Hotel for the purpose.

General Manager Keyson of the stock exchange has arranged to hold the meeting at the Exchange hall. He had arranged to entertain the shippers and was prepared to extend a cordial invitation to the shippers. In a recent letter to the editor of the South Omaha "Drovers" Journal Mr. Thurber said that he had arranged to hold the meeting at the Exchange hall, but that the shippers had declined to do so. He had arranged to rent a room at the Van Ness Hotel for the purpose.

JIM RUANE HOLDS THE FORT. Declines Absolutely to Desert the County Clerk's Office. Notwithstanding the continued efforts of the county commissioners and other county officials to depose and dispossess him, James Ruane continues to hold the fort at the court house.

NEW OFFICES FOR BALDRIGE. Commissioners Figure on Moving County Attorney Out of Court House. The county commissioners are considering the advisability of renting rooms outside of the court house for County Attorney Baldridge and using those which he now occupies in the enlargement of the office of the State Auditor.

EGGS COME CHEAPER AND BETTER. "Strictly Fresh" Retail Price Not Less Than 15 Cents a Dozen. It has often been observed that there is a time for everything and if so this would seem to be the time of all others in which to eat eggs. All winter the market has been high, that is, 18 to 20 cents per dozen for the wholesale for strictly fresh stock. It might be explained in this connection that the eggs are not strictly fresh, but they are fresh and fresh eggs—strictly fresh eggs are the term applied to eggs fresh laid, while fresh eggs usually mean eggs which have been stored in a cold storage.

INJURED MEN HEADING HOME. Coroner Swanson will hold an inquest today on the remains of J. Novak, the man who was killed by a falling form at Cudahy's yesterday morning. Chris Montgomery, whose jaw was broken by the fall was removed to St. Joseph's hospital, Omaha, during the day where he is receiving treatment. Reports from the hospital last evening were to the effect that Montgomery sustained a number of bruises in addition to the injury mentioned, and it was held possible that he might have been injured internally. It was thought, however, that he would pull through all right.

MAGIC CITY GOSSIP. John Owens of Wayne spent yesterday in the city visiting friends. Mrs. P. H. Baldwin of Weeping Water is visiting Mrs. E. G. Smith. City Treasurer Broadwell has returned from a business trip to Missouri. Justice of the Peace White performed his first marriage ceremony yesterday, the interested parties being Ed R. Scott and Miss Gertrude M. Record, both of this city.

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ASSESSING THE BELT LINE

Efforts to Come to a Basis for Settlement in Progress. COUNTY AND CITY TO CONFER ON PLANS. Company Offers a Compromise Which Will Be Considered at a Joint Session of Commissioners and the Council.

The county commissioners and a committee from the city council will hold a joint meeting at the court house this morning for the purpose of conferring with reference to the back taxes against the Belt Line Railway company. For years the county and city assessors have listed the Belt Line property for taxation, going upon the theory that it is and always has been a local corporation, contending that the road begins and ends so Douglas county. During this same period the railroad people have urged the property is and has been since its construction a part of the Missouri Pacific system and that therefore the assessment should be made by the state.

SOUTH OMAHA NEWS. John Thompson, 12 years of age, whose home is at Seventeenth and California streets, Omaha, was knocked down by moving cars in the yards last evening and quite badly injured. In company with two companions young Thompson was playing about the railroad yards in the neighborhood of the Armour buildings. At a point near the Swift cattle runway the last mentioned cars were backing down a Milwaukee street track which was attached to the cars. The engine was backing down and the brakeman on top of the train did not see the boy in time to warn the engineer. The rear freight car struck Thompson, knocked him down and rolled him over, but strange to say the wheels did not pass over him. When picked up it was found that the flesh of his right arm and leg had been torn badly, in some places leaving the bone exposed.

There will be a meeting of the East Side Improvement club at Benson's hall, Twentieth and Missouri avenues, this evening. It is understood that several matters pertaining to the interests of the east side will be discussed. A recent meeting of this club was held at the home of Mrs. J. C. O'Connell, at Twentieth and Missouri avenues, and it was decided to appoint a committee of three to act in conjunction with a committee of like number from the club for the purpose of securing the extension of the Thirteenth street line. The committee will be asked to report at the spring session.

Since Employment Dance. Local union, No. 42, National Alliance of Commercial Travelers, Employees gave its first annual ball in Thurston Riffes' army hall last night. The affair was in every way enjoyable and was a great success. The attendance was about 100. The program was a program of excellent dances until late hour. The ball was managed by Otto Schmitt, and the proceeds were for the benefit of the fund for the relief of the poor. The following are the names of the committees made up of the following: Al Allen, E. S. Tucker, Ed Gallagher, Otto Schmitt, J. W. Walker, R. B. Bales, Joe Byard, J. H. Wiffen, C. H. Marks, C. VanArman, F. P. Striffler and G. F. Kane.

REBURNING Mrs. Hansen. The charges against Prof. T. Whitney, his wife, Florence Whitney, and Harry Bomar, in which it was alleged that they had conspired to defraud the city of \$100,000 on pretense of locating a buried treasure upon some land of hers, was dismissed in court yesterday afternoon. The loss was made good to Mrs. Hansen and the whole matter was adjusted out of court. Whitney and Bomar have left the city, but Bomar is still in town.

MARRIAGE LICENSES. The following marriage licenses were issued yesterday by the county judge: Name and address. Age. John McNamara, Omaha, Neb., 26. Mary Dwarock, Omaha, Neb., 25. Oscar J. Olander, Omaha, Neb., 26. Anna P. L. Rougner, Omaha, Neb., 23. Sylvester Walker, Omaha, Neb., 24. Mary Dwarock, Omaha, Neb., 25.

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FERNLEY'S GONE FOR GOOD

Secures His Liberty Through a Piece of Police Stupidity. BLUNDER LETS A BURGLAR GET AWAY. Officer Insists on Reading a Warrant a Second Time While His Quondam Prisoner Flits Down Farnam Street.

The Omaha police force has never been particularly famous for any remarkable industry or success in apprehending the gang of crooks who are flitting this city a trolling harvest field, but Omaha people did think that the police were able to retain possession of the "bad men" whom fate or fortune put into their hands. Even this last bit of confidence, however, is likely to be dispelled by an incident which occurred last Monday, but which has been religiously suppressed by the police officials. On Monday one W. H. Fernley was presented with his liberty by the Omaha police force in a manner quite as acceptable as if he were a duly cited and signed by the highest officials of the city, had been handed to him on a golden platter.

Mr. W. H. Fernley was and is a very, very bad man. For this statement the Omaha police force itself is authority, the statement having been given out after its arrest before his arrest. He was a very bad man, and as a matter of fact, he was bad. He was arrested here for a felony, and was a man of a very pronounced criminal record. He was a man who upon a previous occasion had been convicted of capturing and robbing the store of W. R. Bennett & Co. His companions were William Wade and John Ellis. He was arrested for a robbery of a store in the city. He was a man who had spent several years of his life in the penitentiary for burglary and murder. He had spent several years of his life in the penitentiary for burglary and murder. He had spent several years of his life in the penitentiary for burglary and murder.

MADE FOR THE OCCASION. Fernley was confined in the county jail and finished his sentence on last Monday morning. John Shand of the county jail prepared to release Fernley's person and since they apparently had a check to send him to the Michigan penitentiary they determined to turn him over to them. Consequently, although the attorney had been notified against Fernley as certain of evasion as the other two, Fernley was allowed to plead guilty to the robbery and was sentenced to thirty days in the county jail, the intention being to turn him over to the Cheyenne authorities when the sentence expired.

ALASKA RATES ARE TROUBLESOME. Steamship Service Unable to Care for the Railroad Business. CHICAGO, Jan. 20.—Alaska rates are proving a source of trouble to the western roads. The chief trouble now is that the purchasers of tickets for Seattle cannot be assured of any definite date of sailing for Alaska on account of the crowded condition of the boats. The rates are so high that they are not available for the traffic. The roads will try to make definite arrangements with the steamship company for the Seattle and falling rates, but they will be unable to do so in this they will sell tickets to the Pacific coast ports without any stipulation as to the sailing of boats.

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Drexel Shoe Co., 1416 FARNAM STREET. A. HOSPE, Music and Art. 1513 Douglas