

MANY FINNS STARVE

Crops Fail All Over Country as Result of Copious Rains.

FROST ALSO AIDS GENERAL DESTRUCTION

Peas Do Not Grow and Potatoes Are Not Gathered.

MEN EAT BREAD MADE OF UNRIPE RYE

Food is So Bitter That Horses Refuse to Swallow It.

SCHOOL CHILDREN GO HUNGRY ALL OVER

Immense Sums Are Voted to Give Relief, but Many Will Miss Dinner This Coming Christmas Day.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 21.—The average grain crop gathered in Finland is valued at \$20,000,000. The estimated value of the 1902 crop is \$20,000,000. While this loss is generally distributed throughout the country, the provinces of Uusaborg, Kupio, Vasa, St. Michael and portions of Vibourg, are practically without grain.

There are, all told, about 600 parishes in Finland, 194 of which are now nearly destitute. The agricultural board has received reports from 140 parishes, showing that 100 have lost supplies which will suffice them until Christmas only. The unripe rye and barley which the people are forced to use make a bitter bread, which even the hungry horses refuse to eat.

So complete was the failure of vegetation that hundreds of dead birds have been found in the forests. The present crop failure is the worst that has been experienced for the last fifty years, but it is hoped that better methods of communication will facilitate the work of relief and avoid wholesale deaths by hunger and typhus.

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Count Bobrikoff, general governor of Finland, has issued an appeal for help in Russia, and a voluntary relief committee has been organized by Finns, with branches throughout the country. The American church here is affiliated with this committee.

Vote Mint of Money. The senate has decided to expend \$375,000 on public works and has allotted \$500,000 for the purchase of grain, which will be sold to the people at cost. Seventy-five thousand dollars will be used to encourage cottage industries. The provinces and certain cities of Finland have also voted various sums for relief work, amounting in all to \$500,000. The voluntary relief committee has received \$125,000, but it is understood that all this sum has been already expended.

Factor Gillburn of St. Petersburg has just returned from a sledge journey through Kupio province. He found 1,500 school children who were in need of food. Of this number 1,115 were totally destitute. It is estimated that 400,000 will be without food on Christmas day.

Business in Finland is suffering in sympathy with the extreme conditions, but no failures have yet been recorded and the banks have not raised the rate of discount. Emigration is increasing constantly. Up to November 17, 29,155 persons had left the country this year via Hanga, while unknown numbers crossed the gulf of Bothnia to Sweden and took passage from there. The effects of the crop failure on emigration, however, will be felt more strongly in 1903.

The Russian government has drawn up a comprehensive plan for relieving the distress which is widespread throughout the governments of European Russia and some districts of Siberia.

WILL KILL FOREIGN DEVILS

Tung Fu Siang Organizes Chinese Forces with Consent of Emperor Dowager.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 21.—The North China Daily News has reported that Tung Fu Siang, the exiled Chinese commander, is mobilizing in Kan Su 10,000 well equipped troops, including the provincial garrison of 4,000, which was disbanded by imperial command. Tung Fu Siang contemplates the extermination of foreigners in the provinces of Shen Si and Kan Su and the seizure of Shan Pu. Friendly officials are advising foreigners and missionaries to depart in order to avoid the impending trouble.

Tung Fu Siang is buying great quantities of grain and fodder and is in constant communication with Prince Tuan, the dowager empress and Yung Lu, who are believed to be secretly encouraging him and supplying him with money.

ARMY'S NOMINEE ELECTED

Hundred Votes Fall to General Nord, While Fifteen Blanks Are Cast.

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti, Dec. 21.—This was a disorderly scene at today's sitting of congress as a result of violent speeches by Senator Caubin and Deputy Jeannot, who protested against the proclamation by the army of General Nord as president of the republic.

One hundred fifteen votes were cast. Of these General Nord received 105 and was elected, while fifteen of the ballots were blank. The people of the country desire peace and they have received the result of the announcement of the election with satisfaction.

Belgium Gets Chinese Land

BRUSSELS, Dec. 22.—King Leopold has concluded negotiations with the Chinese government for the cession of a tract of territory similar to the settlements of other European nations. Belgium has accepted this arrangement instead of financial compensation for its claims arising from the recent rebellion.

WILL STAGGER HUMANITY

Humberts Declare Safe Fraud Story Will Scrape Panama Sanitation.

MADRID, Dec. 21.—When Mrs. Humbert and others charged with the Paris safe frauds were arrested yesterday one of them handed a package containing \$45,000 to some people who lived in the same house. This package has been sent to the French consul.

According to the interviews, Frederick Humbert declared that the revelations of himself and his associates will rival the Panama scandals. They were the victims of robbers who stole them. He says that all classes of money from ministers down, will be involved.

Mme. Humbert also claims to have in Paris documents which compromise prominent persons. While the police were waiting to enter the home Mrs. Humbert burned many papers, including banknotes to the amount of \$1,200.

The prisoners are being well treated in prison. They are permitted to have their meals sent in from a neighboring restaurant and all occupy separate cells, though a careful watch is kept and they are not allowed to receive visitors.

A maid servant, who was employed by them in Madrid, said they allowed no one in their house and started in apprehension at every ring of the bell. They assisted in the housework themselves and the men of the party never went out except at night.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—A special messenger has left here for Madrid with the documents connected with the extraction of the Humberts. The prisoners are expected to arrive here on Wednesday.

GERMAN LINER IS DISABLED

Bursting Deutschland Cylinder Floods Vessel with Steam Which Greatly Alarms Passengers.

PLYMOUTH, Eng., Dec. 21.—The Hamburg-American liner Deutschland arrived here at 2:15 this afternoon. When nearing the Scilly islands a cylinder burst and the starboard engine was badly damaged. It will require four months to effect repairs.

The accident occurred at 1:30 this morning. For a time the vessel was in complete darkness and filled with escaping steam.

The passengers were greatly alarmed. They rushed from their cabins anxiously making inquiries as to what had occurred. Excellent discipline, however, was maintained and when everybody was assured that there was no danger the excitement gradually subsided.

With the exception of the engineer, who was caught in the escaping steam, Deutschland's officers say no one was seriously injured.

The steamer came into port using its port engines alone at a speed of sixteen knots.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The British steamer Northport arrived here today with the crew of the German steamer Pure Oil, which was disabled on December 14. Northport had Pure Oil in tow for five hours.

HELPS AUSTRIAN SHIPPING

Government Will Introduce Bill Restricting Emigrants to National Vessels.

VIENNA, Dec. 21.—Early in January the government intends to introduce in the Reichstag a bill to restrict and regulate emigration. One of the objects will be to restrict all Austrian emigrants in Austrian Austria-Hungary emigrants have taken to travel by German and other foreign lines.

The Eremdenblatt, a semi-official organ, supports the bill in the interests of home shipping and estimates that in five years Austria-Hungary emigrants have taken from the country \$2,800,000 florins, the bulk of which has been paid to foreign railroads and steamship lines. It urges the importance of emigrants retaining a sense of their Austrian citizenship as long as possible and thinks the proposed bill will assist this end by enabling the government to protect the emigrants beyond the first stages of their journey.

The new measure will follow the lines of the Hungarian bill under parliamentary consideration. The supporters of this bill report that emigrants not only embark at Fiume, but insist that they be carried on Hungarian ships, manned by Hungarian crews and furnished with Hungarian supplies.

AMERICANS OUTDO BRITISH

Alfred Moseley Claims United States Workmen Turn Out Better Jobs.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 21.—Alfred Moseley, who has just made a tour of the United States with a number of representatives of British labor unions, arrived here today on his return.

He said he hoped reports would be published in the near future and that as a result changes would be made in the methods at present employed in several English trades. He could not anticipate these reports, but was greatly impressed with the superiority of American to British workmen. The Americans worked harder and were better trained and educated than the Englishmen. Mr. Moseley said he intended to take another commission to the United States in the autumn to investigate educational conditions.

Political Bankers Fail

LONDON, Dec. 21.—The private banking firm of J. & W. F. Pease of Darlington has failed, with liabilities estimated at \$2,500,000. It is understood that the failure of the three partners are practically the only ones affected. The partners in the firm are three members of the House of Commons, representing Barnard Castle, Darlington and Cleveland Yorkshire. Several friends of the family have offered financial assistance to arrange a settlement.

Chaote Visits Turkey

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 21.—Mr. Chaote, the American ambassador to Great Britain, and Mrs. Chaote arrived here today. They were welcomed by the staff of the American legation, and then proceeded to the British embassy, where they will spend several days as the guests of Sir N. R. O'Connor.

De Rydzewski Is Free

PARIS, Dec. 21.—The order dismissing the case against Jędrzej De Rydzewski, in whose apartment Mrs. Ellen Gore was shot on November 19, has been signed.

FOR LEASING AND RESEEDING

Nebraska Delegation Favors Secretary Wilson's Plans.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Next to the desire for clean water, the disposition to demand plenty of it at a fair price. Last week congress appropriated \$500,000 to enable the secretary of agriculture to stamp out the foot-and-mouth disease, which threatened to spread to every state in the union. The secretary will do this by destroying hundreds of cattle in New England, and already his agents are engaged in the work of slaughter, the committee on appropriations and the committee on agriculture have been considering bills to destroy diseased cattle in the east, the secretary of agriculture, particularly Chairman Lacey of Iowa and the committee on public lands, have been busy devising means for feeding healthy stock in Nebraska.

The controversy which has arisen in that state over the alleged illegal occupancy of the public lands by the cattlemen has attracted national attention. A year or two ago Secretary Wilson made a personal investigation of the conditions which exist in western Nebraska. The secretary found that thousands of sections of land had been denuded of their pasturage through the system of grazing them in common. When the secretary of the interior and the commissioner of the general land office came to look into the subject they reported in favor of leasing these lands, and at the same time to provide for reseeding them with grasses which will thrive in the arid regions. It is reported that no method has yet been devised for irrigating the arid acres of western Nebraska, and the only hope of preventing the further destruction of pasturage rests upon a plan for curtailing the number of animals pastured on each square mile, thus giving the grasses time to grow again. The Nebraska delegation in congress is practically a unit in support of the idea that the lands in controversy are useful only for range purposes. It will be necessary before they can be used for agriculture, and they are consequently working together to secure the adoption of the plan recommended by the secretary of the interior two years ago—namely, to lease them to responsible persons at a fair rent, which will assure their preservation, or at least to prevent them from being cropped so closely as to give the young plants no chance to recuperate.

Inasmuch as the lands in controversy are valuable only as range lands, because the sandy character of the soil makes irrigation practically impossible, it is claimed that some plan should be adopted which will bring about returns to the government. It is proposed to do this by leasing tracts large enough to feed a few hundred head only, in order to prevent a monopoly, and during the remaining part of the session the western men will devote their attention very largely to this object.

Gigantic Railroad Betterments. Almost on the same day that congress provided for a grand union station in the city of Washington the municipal authorities of New York City adopted an ordinance giving the Pennsylvania railroad the right to tunnel through the borough of Manhattan and both the East and West sides. In one week legislative bodies have taken action which will assure enormous progress in facilities for travel between the north and south. During several years past the Pennsylvania company has been engaged in practically jobbing a greater part of its roadway between the capital and the metropolises. Millions of dollars have been and are being expended in betterments and millions more must be spent before the gigantic work contemplated can be completed. When this work is done, however, it will be possible to reach Washington by a full hour. The work will also join Long Island and New Jersey with Manhattan island in such manner as to assure constant communication between the eight-hour and the ice which will benefit in other ways, too, for the tracks which now deface the beautiful parkway known as "The Mall" will be removed and the first step toward the plan for making the world the most beautiful city in the world will be taken. The Pennsylvania railroad has been working to this end for years, and the successes of the past week are as gratifying to the people of Washington as they must be to the officers of the company.

Oppose Eight-Hour Law. According to declarations made by the conservative element in the senate, there are breakers ahead for the eight-hour law which has passed the house three times and afterward been killed in the senate. The senator who is championing the cause of this measure with intense zeal and persistence is the chairman of the senate committee on labor, Louis B. McComas of Maryland. McComas wishes to succeed himself in 1905, and there is no doubt if he can get the eight-hour bill through the senate after the three disastrous defeats it has suffered in that body. The labor leaders and agitators will recognize him as their greatest champion. It might be said that the manufacturing interests in Senator McComas' state are arrayed solidly against him in his effort to place this bill on the statute books of the United States. If such representations made by representatives of the great shipbuilding and steel manufacturing plants of that country, as well as the National Association of Manufacturers, those interests would positively object to any government work. The contractors argue that they could not at the same time obey the provisions of an eight-hour law and meet the rigid specifications prescribed in government contracts. They also maintain that it would work great injury to discipline and commercial output of their plants in having in the same establishment one force of men working eight hours on public work and another ten hours on private jobs. Many of the senators are debating in their minds the remark made the other day before the senate committee on labor by Edwin S. Cramp, who said that if an eight-hour law had been enacted twenty years ago, the battle of Santiago would never have been fought, because it would have been impossible for his works to have turned out the battleships which destroyed Cervera's fleet. A number of workmen from the Cramp shipyards and at some of the steel works testified on one occasion that they considered the bill a great tallent of their privileges to work as long as they pleased and a menace to their

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Oppose Eight-Hour Law. According to declarations made by the conservative element in the senate, there are breakers ahead for the eight-hour law which has passed the house three times and afterward been killed in the senate. The senator who is championing the cause of this measure with intense zeal and persistence is the chairman of the senate committee on labor, Louis B. McComas of Maryland. McComas wishes to succeed himself in 1905, and there is no doubt if he can get the eight-hour bill through the senate after the three disastrous defeats it has suffered in that body. The labor leaders and agitators will recognize him as their greatest champion. It might be said that the manufacturing interests in Senator McComas' state are arrayed solidly against him in his effort to place this bill on the statute books of the United States. If such representations made by representatives of the great shipbuilding and steel manufacturing plants of that country, as well as the National Association of Manufacturers, those interests would positively object to any government work. The contractors argue that they could not at the same time obey the provisions of an eight-hour law and meet the rigid specifications prescribed in government contracts. They also maintain that it would work great injury to discipline and commercial output of their plants in having in the same establishment one force of men working eight hours on public work and another ten hours on private jobs. Many of the senators are debating in their minds the remark made the other day before the senate committee on labor by Edwin S. Cramp, who said that if an eight-hour law had been enacted twenty years ago, the battle of Santiago would never have been fought, because it would have been impossible for his works to have turned out the battleships which destroyed Cervera's fleet. A number of workmen from the Cramp shipyards and at some of the steel works testified on one occasion that they considered the bill a great tallent of their privileges to work as long as they pleased and a menace to their

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—Next to the desire for clean water, the disposition to demand plenty of it at a fair price. Last week congress appropriated \$500,000 to enable the secretary of agriculture to stamp out the foot-and-mouth disease, which threatened to spread to every state in the union. The secretary will do this by destroying hundreds of cattle in New England, and already his agents are engaged in the work of slaughter, the committee on appropriations and the committee on agriculture have been considering bills to destroy diseased cattle in the east, the secretary of agriculture, particularly Chairman Lacey of Iowa and the committee on public lands, have been busy devising means for feeding healthy stock in Nebraska.

The controversy which has arisen in that state over the alleged illegal occupancy of the public lands by the cattlemen has attracted national attention. A year or two ago Secretary Wilson made a personal investigation of the conditions which exist in western Nebraska. The secretary found that thousands of sections of land had been denuded of their pasturage through the system of grazing them in common. When the secretary of the interior and the commissioner of the general land office came to look into the subject they reported in favor of leasing these lands, and at the same time to provide for reseeding them with grasses which will thrive in the arid regions. It is reported that no method has yet been devised for irrigating the arid acres of western Nebraska, and the only hope of preventing the further destruction of pasturage rests upon a plan for curtailing the number of animals pastured on each square mile, thus giving the grasses time to grow again. The Nebraska delegation in congress is practically a unit in support of the idea that the lands in controversy are useful only for range purposes. It will be necessary before they can be used for agriculture, and they are consequently working together to secure the adoption of the plan recommended by the secretary of the interior two years ago—namely, to lease them to responsible persons at a fair rent, which will assure their preservation, or at least to prevent them from being cropped so closely as to give the young plants no chance to recuperate.

Inasmuch as the lands in controversy are valuable only as range lands, because the sandy character of the soil makes irrigation practically impossible, it is claimed that some plan should be adopted which will bring about returns to the government. It is proposed to do this by leasing tracts large enough to feed a few hundred head only, in order to prevent a monopoly, and during the remaining part of the session the western men will devote their attention very largely to this object.

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