Your Money's Worth
THE OMAHA BEE
Best in the West

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

A Paper for the Home
THE OMAHA BEE
Best in the West

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 22, 1906. SINGLE COPY THREE CENTS.

ZERO IS NOW AT HAND

Winter Finally Sets In for Omaha and Surrounding Country.

COLD WAVE FROM NORTH ENDS SUMMER

Sunday Made Disagreeable by Sharp Drop in Temperature.

WARM WEATHER IN THE EAST

Temperature of Eighty Degrees Reported in Boston Suburbs.

MAN PROSTRATED BY HEAT IN PITTSBURG

Zephyr from Northwest is Moving Eastward and Will Reach the Atlantic Seaboard Tonight.

Sweeping down from the northwest, a wave of extreme cold, driven by a wind of high velocity, brought an end to the season of warm weather which Omaha has been experiencing for several weeks. The mercury began to drop early Saturday evening, getting lower and lower as the night advanced, and by 8 o'clock yesterday morning had reached 16 degrees above zero. It continued to fall slowly until 10 o'clock, when there was a rally for the forces from the south, which resulted in a rise of 4 degrees by 4 o'clock in the afternoon. That was the end of all attempt to send the mercury higher, and from then on until 9 o'clock last night the records at the weather bureau showed the decline to be rapid, with favorable indications that the zero mark might be reached by morning. With the frigid weather came a wind of unpleasant velocity, which made the cold seem more intense and sent people to shelter wherever it could be found. There was some abatement in the wind during the night, and its course is run, as far as Nebraska is concerned, if the weather man's indications prove true. Today, he says, will be fair, and with a cessation of the wind ought to be a more pleasant day than was yesterday.

Sharp Drop in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—The unusually high temperature for this time of the year, which prevailed yesterday over the middle west, reached the crest shortly after midnight and early today the mercury commenced to drop.

In Chicago at 3 a. m. the thermometer stood at 62 degrees above zero and at 9 o'clock tonight it had dropped to 28 above.

The mild winter and the absence of frost thus far experienced is responsible for the large increase in numbers of contagious diseases in Chicago, according to Health Commissioner Whalen. The number of cases reported to the department has increased 150 per cent over the total for the corresponding week of 1905.

Blizzard in Kansas.

In Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas, where yesterday the temperature was 65 degrees above zero, a blizzard is raging tonight and the thermometer is below the freezing point.

In St. Louis the temperature dropped 42 degrees in twenty-four hours and tonight 20 degrees above zero was registered. High temperatures prevailed today throughout the Ohio valley, the highest record in years being recorded at Cincinnati, where the thermometer stood at 74 degrees, while Indianapolis, Louisville, Columbus and other points reported temperatures almost equally as high.

In the northwest, however, low temperatures and blizzard conditions rapidly developed during the day. At St. Paul the mercury dropped from 32 above to 2 above in twelve hours, with indications of at least 10 below by morning, while from nearly every station in the northwest came reports of temperatures below the zero mark, ranging from 2 below at Pierre, S. D., to 20 below at Qu Appealle in the Canadian northwest.

Cold Wave Will Move East.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—A warm wave, which scores the highest record in temperature since 1890, prevailed today throughout the region between the Mississippi valley and the Atlantic coast. Its crest was in Ohio, where the temperature this afternoon, as reported to the weather bureau, ranged from 70 to 74 degrees. South of the Ohio river it was less warm because of heavy rains and thunder-showers. Thunderstorms also prevailed in Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Northwest Georgia.

A cold wave which developed in the west is rapidly following the warm wave and the forecasts say it will reach the Atlantic coast Monday night, but its force will be diminished as it progresses east. The weather bureau officially announces the fall of temperatures east will approximate 40 degrees in the region just west of the Mississippi river and north of the Missouri, while it will go below zero in the Dakotas, Minnesota, Nebraska and the middle Rocky mountain region. In the Ohio valley the temperatures today about equal all previous records and in a few places exceed them.

In Washington today the weather was sprinklike, with a maximum temperature of 63 degrees, which, however, is much lower than the January record. In Parkersburg, W. Va., the temperature, 74 degrees, was the highest ever recorded by the weather bureau.

The weather bureau official report tonight characterized today's warm weather as "the greatest midwinter warm spell since 1890" and says the maximum temperatures in the Ohio valley have been exceeded by a degree or so only once or twice in the last thirty-three years. "In a few localities," it adds, "the record has not been exceeded."

Summer in New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.—The continued warm weather of the past few days in this city reached its climax today, when at 2 o'clock this afternoon the official thermometer reading at the United States weather bureau station was 55 degrees. There had been a steady climb up to that hour, with a minimum of 46 degrees registered at 4 a. m. Tonight the weather continues warm, a vapor typical of early spring evenings hanging over the water front.

The warmth and sunshine of the day brought to Central park, to Riverside drive and other promenades thousands of pleasure seekers, the sparrows singing in the trees, the playing of fountains and numerous small craft dotting the river gave to the outing grounds of the city the appearance of a day in spring. The church promenade in Fifth avenue was suggestive of Easter day.

The warm weather of the morning brought a heavy fog and shipping was seriously delayed. From 8 o'clock until well after noon navigation in the bay and harbor was perilous. The big transatlantic liner Umbria

(Continued on Second Page.)

FRANCE AWAITS INFORMATION

Is Given Free Hand in Venezuela on Assurance That They Will Respect Monroe Doctrine.

PARIS, Jan. 21.—It appears to be certain that the French government has resolved no action with regard to Venezuela until the full report of Taigny, the late charge d'affaires at Caracas, reaches the Foreign [illegible] This report is expected to come to [illegible] of Washington, where M. Taigny [illegible] urn it over to M. Jusserand, the Fre[illegible] mbassador. The question of demand[illegible] extraordinary credit is held in abey[illegible] r the present.

WASH[illegible]ON, Jan. 21.—Convinced of the sin[illegible] of the assurances received from F[illegible] regarding the loyalty to the Monroe [illegible]ine and all that it involves, the W[illegible]ion government has given the Paris [illegible]ment a free hand in the execution [illegible] program for the solution of the Venezuelan problem. The conferences on this phase of the situation occurred some time ago and M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, has final assurance that the efforts of France to obtain diplomatic treatment for its charge d'affaires at Caracas will not be interpreted at Washington as in any way violative of the Monroe doctrine.

The first move in the execution of the French program may be expected at any time, but on this point the French government is observing the strictest secrecy, the orders to the squadron going direct from Paris and not through the embassy here. M. Taigny, the retiring French charge who, it is believed, is now at Curacao, will come to this country on his way home and on his arrival at New York he will find an invitation from the French ambassador at Washington to spend several days here in conference in order that M. Jusserand, on whom the burden of an important phase of the Venezuela negotiations naturally falls, may have the benefit of the facts about the situation. It is not unlikely that M. Taigny will also see Secretary Root.

ALL QUIET IN ST. PETERSBURG

Little Prospect of Disorder on Anniversary of Red Sunday Which Occurs Today.

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 21.—There is almost an entire lack of prognostications of disorder tomorrow, the anniversary of the historic march of Father Gapon and his followers to the Winter palace, which has now become the most prominent date in the chronology of the Russian revolutionists. There is general confidence that the day will pass without serious occurrences in St. Petersburg and in Moscow, though there may be collisions in the provincial towns. The labor and revolutionary organs generally have proclaimed against hostilities and even against organized demonstrations. The police of St. Petersburg chiefly fear attempts at bomb throwing on the part of the fanatics. Many of the factories undoubtedly will close and the strike may affect the street railroad service and perhaps the electric lighting plants.

Today passed quietly, although all the workmen were at liberty and tonight St. Petersburg is tranquilly sleeping. There is none of the apprehensions of a year ago. The aspect of the capital is entirely changed. The Palace square, which then was gleaming with the watch fires of the troops, tonight is entirely deserted and a handful of horsemen are patrolling the Nevsky Prospect and the main thoroughfares.

At midnight detachments of mounted police took up stations at the Preobrajensk, Smolensk and other cemeteries where are the graves of the slain workmen, which the labor and student societies are planning to decorate with wreaths and red ribands.

SOCIALISTS MEET IN BERLIN

Resolutions Passed Sympathizing With People of Russia and Demanding Reform at Home.

BERLIN, Jan. 21.—The socialist meetings held here today passed off with complete quiet. The halls, which were filled to overflowing, were closed by the police half an hour before the speaking commenced. Strong resolutions of sympathy with the Russian revolutionists were passed and protests against the present tripartite suffrage system in Prussia were adopted.

The police had taken extraordinary precautions to prevent breaches of the peace. Extra forces of policemen occupied rooms adjacent to the halls where meetings were held and were in readiness to act on a moment's notice. They had also prohibited access to the galleries of the halls for the reason that in case of an outbreak it would be difficult to dislodge the rioters, who would have the advantage of firing on the police from above.

The speakers urged the crowds to retire from the halls in an orderly manner and to go quietly to their homes. This advice was obeyed to the letter. There was no attempt made at street demonstrations.

Dispatches from all the large towns report that the demonstrations were orderly.

POLICY OF BRITISH LABORITES

London Leader Says Success at Polls is Due to Winning Over of Tory Workmen.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—Ramsey MacDonald, secretary of the Independent labor party (of which James Mehr Hardie is chairman), in an interview today claimed that the successes of the laborite candidates in the campaign was due to the fact that his organization had captured the Tory working men who for the first time had realized the possibility of being represented in Parliament by men of their own class and of their own selection, pledged to act and vote in absolute independence of all other parties. He said the members of the independent wing of the laborite party already elected numbered twenty-three and that by the time the elections had been concluded they probably would number twenty-seven with the support of 165 trades unions representing a membership of nearly a million workers. He said that these members of Parliament would have their own leader and their own whips and probably would sit on the opposition side in the House of Commons.

Bank at Dale, Okl., Robbed.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okl., Jan. 21.—Robbers early today wrecked the safe of the Bank of Dale at Dale, a small town forty miles east of this city, and escaped with about $4,000.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Jan. 21.

At New York—Arrived: Brooklyn, from Naples; Umbria, from Liverpool; American, from San Francisco.

At Liverpool—Arrived: Cestrian, from Boston.

At Naples—Arrived: Celtic, from New York.

At Queenstown—Arrived: Carmania, from New York, for Liverpool and proceeded. Sailed: Campania, for New York.

At Dover—Sailed: Pretoria, for New York.

At Suez—Arrived: Jason, from Tacoma.

WEEK'S EVENTS FORECASTED

France May Make Decisive Move in the Venezuelan Affair.

STATEHOOD BILL IN THE HOUSE

Republican Insurgents Think They Have Enough Votes to Defeat Rules—Stalwarts Say the Measure Will Pass.

If France makes a decisive move in retaliation for Venezuela's treatment of her representative, Caracas this week will be the center of world interest. Venezuela under the Castro regime has been an international problem, but the Monroe doctrine, although necessarily involved in it, is so thoroughly understood by the European powers that the State department anticipates no untoward action on the part of France.

The most recent Franco-Venezuelan trouble began with the expulsion of M. Bruni, the representative of the French Cable company at Caracas, and Charge d'Affairs Taigny's protest against this action. Venezuela held that its position was correct and refused to treat further with the French government through M. Taigny. There then followed a long period during which, owing to the good offices of United States Minister Russell, an open rupture was avoided. President Castro by his dilatory tactics angered the French government and a fleet was sent to Martinique. However, this indication of France's determination to push the matter did not have the desired effect. Then followed M. Taigny's action in boarding the steamer Martinique to obtain dispatches and the refusal by the Venezuelan authorities to permit him to return ashore. Although technically this was not a forcible expulsion, it amounted to an act of hostility and M. Maubourguet, the Charge d'Affairs of Venezuela, was expelled from French territory. Three French warships are now off the Venezuelan coast and a naval demonstration is anticipated.

Friction at Algeciras.

From an international point of view, Algeciras will divide interest with Venezuela. At the beginning of the Moroccan conference the delegates uniformly expressed themselves as in favor of conservative action that much was hoped for the outcome of the negotiations. However, according to later advices, extreme caution and lack of confidence have begun to destroy this favorable atmosphere and a feeling of unrest is said to exist among the delegates of the less interested powers, who believe that trouble is in sight. The first point at issue is that of contraband arms, after which will be considered the reform of the finances of Morocco, so that the question of the organization of the Moroccan police, which involves the vital issue between France and Germany, has been postponed for some time.

Elections in Great Britain.

The end of the week will see the close of the general elections in Great Britain, but the liberal victory has been so overwhelming as to take the most of the interest out of the matter. In another sense it added unprecedented interest to the developments which are sure to come with the opening of Parliament.

The annual automobile tournament begins on the Ormond-Daytona beach on January 23 and from the races scheduled it is evident there will be many exciting contests. Every race is either a record trial or for a championship.

At Indianapolis there will be a joint convention of the United Mine Workers and the operators.

Statehood Bill in Congress.

Interest in congress will largely center in the statehood bill, which will come before the house. When the bill comes in Wednesday according to the present program the very first action will be a test of strength between the so-called "insurgents" and the "stalwarts." This test will be the vote on the rule which will accompany the bill for the purpose of preventing any amendments being made to it. The "insurgents" want this rule defeated and predict that they have votes enough, combined with the 127 democrats in the house, to do it. The "stalwarts" make just as strong assertions to the contrary. If the rule is defeated it is the plan of the opponents of the measure to leave out altogether the provision for statehood for Arizona and New Mexico, or to provide that the question of statehood for these two territories shall be left with a referendum vote of people of the two territories.

On Monday continued consideration of the urgent deficiency appropriation bill, which has been under discussion for the last two days of the past week, will be resumed. District day, set apart for consideration of legislation for the District of Columbia, will be temporarily displaced Monday for the appropriation bill, with the understanding that it is to have the immediate right-of-way after the passage of the deficiency bill.

Chairman Hamilton, of the committee on territories, who will have charge of the statehood bill on the floor, says that it will take at least two days to reach a decision in the house on that measure. Predictions in other quarters are that the balance of the week will be consumed on this measure.

The railroad rate bill, which is to follow statehood legislation, will not be presented for consideration until the week following.

Rate Bill in Senate Today.

The merchant marine bill and the pure food bill still hold their places on the senate calendar, the former as the unfinished business each day after 2 o'clock and the latter occupying a similar position before that hour, but both of those measures will give place temporarily Monday to a discussion of the railroad rate question. While this matter is not regularly before the senate it will be informally brought up on a resolution introduced next week by Senator Clay. He will address the senate today (Monday) in support of the general proposition that the Interstate Commerce commission should be clothed with authority to change the tariffs of the railroad companies upon the complaint of shippers.

Debate on Pure Food Bill.

The pure food bill will continue to be discussed by Messrs. Heyburn, McCumber, Lodge, Spooner and others.

The emergency deficiency bill will reach the senate early in the week and it is expected that it will be reported back from the committee within a few days.

When reported it will receive early consideration to the exclusion of other measures.

The senate is awaiting with anxiety the result of the deliberations of the committee on interstate commerce on the rate question, but there is no expectation of an immediate report.

The committee on territories will also proceed with its work on the statehood bill, the committee on the Philippines on the Philippine tariff bill and the Isthmian canal committee on the canal investigation.

PROGRAM OF MINE WORKERS

Attempt Will Be Made to Rush Anthracite Question Before Scale is Finished.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 21.—Renewed caucusing today among the delegates to the United Mine Workers' convention from the anthracite coal mining regions indicates that there is to be another and more determined effort to inject the anthracite question into the deliberations of the delegates.

What proceedings can be had to bring the anthracite situation before the convention are problematical. About the only method under the rules of the convention would be the introduction of a resolution dealing with the question. To do this requires the unanimous consent of the delegates, since the report of the committee on resolutions has been adopted by the convention.

It is believed that the anthracite men have succeeded in obtaining the sympathy of a large portion of the Ohio bituminous members and that through these they are endeavoring to influence Ohio and Illinois. It is said that the Pennsylvania bituminous delegates will come into camp readily enough if a strong move can be started among the delegates representing the other states.

Further action in the matter of the resolution to change the constitution of the national organization so that no official of the organization may accept a salaried political office is looked for tomorrow. A resolution along this line is to be introduced under the rule requiring the unanimous consent of the delegates. This may consume a great part of tomorrow's session. Several other committee reports of minor importance are ready for the action of the convention and as they precede the report of the scale committee in order of business it is hardly probable that the scale will be presented until late in the afternoon or Tuesday morning. Members of the scale committee will meet tomorrow morning just before the convention meets in Tomlinson hall for the purpose of signing the document.

According to custom, the report of the scale committee will be received behind closed doors and the scale will be religiously guarded until it is presented to the operators in joint conference next Thursday.

Representatives of the operators of the bituminous mines are expected to begin arriving tomorrow. There are a greater number of operators in Indianapolis than ever before. All the hotels have received unprecedented reservations from the big coal companies and at least 250 operators will take part in the joint conference.

INSURANCE MEN QUESTIONED

Companies Operating in Colorado Are Asked Regarding Campaign Funds and Legal Expenses.

DENVER, Colo., Jan. 21.—All of the 222 insurance companies doing business in Colorado have been asked, through their head officials, to make oath to replies to a list of questions compiled by the State Insurance department.

Some of the questions asked are whether money has ever been contributed to campaign funds, particularly during the past six years, and if so, whether or not it is proposed to continue the practice; and also if the item "legal expenses" in the report of 1905 included contribution to funds for campaign purposes or to influence legislation.

The companies are also interrogated as to their ownership or control of other insurance, banks, trusts, loan or investment companies, loans of company funds to officials or others connected with the company; payment of commissions to company officials or employes; amount of individual salaries paid to officials, whether they have been increased or lowered during the past year and the reason for the change, if any.

ST. LOUIS RAIDS POSTPONED

No Attempt Made Yesterday to Stop Liquor Selling in Prominent Clubs.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 22.—The expected raids of exclusive clubs on Sunday under the supervision of Excise Commissioner Mulvihill, who announced his intention of raiding all clubs operating bars or dispensing liquors without a state or city license, were not carried out.

Diligent inquiry failed to reveal that any raids had been conducted up to midnight last night. Inquiry at Excise Commissioner Mulvihill's home elicited the information that he was ill and had retired early in the evening and that no member of his family knew what course he had pursued during the day. The different clubs reported that they had not been molested.

DECEMBER FOREIGN CROP REPORT

Some Anxiety About Condition of Late Sowing in Europe.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—The foreign crop report of the Department of Agriculture for December shows that over large areas of Europe the prevailing characteristics were unseasonably warm weather and excessive humidity. Crops timely sown have germinated finely and entered on the winter in strong, healthy condition. Late sowing of crops in Europe, however, were unusually extensive and some anxiety is felt concerning them. Following is a summary of the conditions in the principal producing countries of Europe:

Great Britain—Winter wheat area has been extended. The acreage, however, is still believed to be diminished as compared with last year. The growing crops have an improved appearance. Plowing for spring crops has been general.

Belgium and Holland—Some excess of rain, but no complaints as to condition of growing crops.

France—Crops looking well, rye and barley especially. The wheat area is the average.

Switzerland—Winter sowings reduced on account of abnormal humidity.

Spain—Crops satisfactory.

Italy—In extreme south and Sicily generally satisfactory. In the north growing crops have suffered some damage. Olives abundant and oil excellent.

Germany—Weather conditions unfavorable throughout season and no marked improvement.

Austria-Hungary—No complaints as to crops.

Roumania—Winter cereals germinated finely. Area under wheat about 15 per cent short of last year. The 1905 crop now estimated at from 50,000,000 to 55,000,000 bushels. The bulk of it is said to be out of condition, hence no important export movement to north of Europe ports is expected until spring.

Russia—No important definite news regarding the condition of winter sown cereals in this important producing country are reaching the outside world.

Wreck Near St. Paul, Minn.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 21.—The Winnipeg limited, which left St. Paul this afternoon on the Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie road, ran into the rear of a freight train at Glenwood, about forty miles north of here. The engine of the limited was wrecked and Fireman Earl Raney of Minneapolis was killed and Engineer C. W. Forsythe was badly hurt. Four or five passengers are reported injured, but railroad officials say that none of them are seriously hurt.

CRY OF FIRE STARTS A PANIC

Eighteen Persons Crushed to Death in Colored Church in Philadelphia.

FORTY ARE MORE OR LESS INJURED

Pastor Had Just Finished Sermon on "Why Set We Here Until We Die?" When Rush Began.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 21.—A wild panic following a loud shriek of "fire" brought death to eighteen colored persons and injuries to nearly two score of others tonight in St. Paul's Baptist church on the west side of Eighth street, between Poplar street and Girard avenue. The terrible rush to gain the street was of brief duration, and that more were not killed in the stampede was probably due to the fact that the church was not crowded. At the time the disaster occurred not more than 500 persons were on the second floor of the building, which with the gallery was capable of accommodating 800 to 700. The fire was a trifling one and was extinguished before the firemen arrived. The smell of smoke added to the panic and despite the heroic work of Rev. E. W. Johnson, the pastor of the church, who tried in vain to allay the fears of the frightened worshippers, the terror-stricken people made a desperate rush to leave the church only to be choked up on the narrow stairway. Those in the rear leaped over the prostrate forms of those who fell, and when the rush was over eighteen lay dead on the first floor and stairs of the building. Death in nearly every case was due to suffocation or trampling.

Following is a list of the identified dead:

SARAH RUFFING.
MRS. LAWRENCE.
MRS. PATTON.
RUTH PRANTER.
JOHN BERRY.
ANNA ALEXANDER, aged 40.
MAMIE MCKINNEY.
SUSIE HOLMES.
MRS. MARY WESLOCK.
CHARLES GARDINER, aged 14 years.
MAMIE MCCALL.
ARDE STATCHERD, 2 years old.
CATHERINE CRUMELL.
RUTH TRAINER.

The disaster occurred while a collection was being taken up. The pastor had just concluded his sermon, the text of which was, "Why sit we here until we die?"

Woman Cries Fire.

Following the collection there was to have been a baptism of a man and wife. Some of the colored people, owing to the lateness of the evening, had left the church and others were about to go. As the pastor was arranging the pulpit preparatory to beginning the baptism service a woman in one of the front rows of the left side of the altar gave a loud shriek of "Fire!" Instantly all those about her were on their feet looking for the blaze. There were no flames in sight, but those in the pulpit smelled smoke and started down the aisle toward the pulpit. Then followed a half dozen cries of "Fire!" and the whole congregation became panic-stricken. The pastor by this time realized the seriousness of the situation and in a loud voice, which only added to the confusion, called to the terror-stricken people to be seated. No one listened and, despite his frantic appeal, a rush started that meant death to many that were in it.

At the rear of the church on the second floor there is a wide doorway which leads to a stairway to each side of the building. Each stairway has a sharp bend, which proved to be the principal contributary cause for the jam.

Balustrade Breaks.

The horrible shrieks sent up by the prostrate persons added to the confusion, and by this time even the cooler ones in the rear of the fighting mass of men, women and children became terror-stricken. Strong men, in fear that the building was falling, leaped over the heads of women and children and fought only for their own safety. The terrible crush in the bend of the stairs became so great that the balustrade, which was only a frail wooden affair, gave way. There was a terrible crash as half a hundred persons were precipitated to the floor, a distance of about ten or twelve feet. This heightened the intensity of the panic and the rush became an awful jam. The pastor of the church, a man of powerful physique and strong voice, continued to appeal to the crowd in the rear to stop their rush, but none would heed. Over the prostrate forms the crowd went, crushing the life out of those who were unable to extricate themselves. In the confusion some of the worshippers thought of the narrow door on the right side of the pulpit and made a quick exit that way, which action on their part probably saved the lives of a number of those who had been caught in the crush.

John B. Taylor, superintendent of police, arrived on the scene a short time after the panic was over. A rumor was current that the church had been overcrowded, but this could not be confirmed by the superintendent, who had made a preliminary investigation of the disaster.

Flat Building in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—Four persons were injured in a fire which destroyed five four-story flat buildings in Cottage Grove avenue, near Oakwood boulevard, tonight, and created a panic among the tenants of seventy flats in an adjoining apartment building. The fire was caused by the explosion of a gasoline stove. The loss is estimated at $15,000.

CHINESE LEAVE FOR THE EAST

Tuan Fang Presents an Ancient Chinese Stone Tablet to Field Columbian Museum.

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—Tuan Fang and Tai Hung Chi, the Chinese high commissioners, left Chicago tonight for the east. They will spend tomorrow in Pittsburg, and will arrive in Washington Tuesday.

Before leaving Chicago Tuan Fang made known his desire to present to the Field Museum of Natural History a rare and ancient Chinese stone tablet similar to one in the Japanese imperial museum in Tokio. There are said to be but three of the tablets in existence, the third being in the palace of Tuan Fang.

Unfavorable weather conditions interfered with the tour of the city in automobiles planned for today, the commissioners remaining in the hotel apartments. General Yao and two army majors in the party made a formal call upon the United States army officers at Fort Sheridan.

Attempt to Rob Topeka Bank.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 21.—A bold attempt to rob the vaults and safes of the Merchants' National bank of Topeka was discovered today. The robbers had commenced work in the basement and tunneled through eleven feet of solid rock to the floor of the vaults, effecting an entrance. They had attempted to wreck the safe sometime Saturday night, but their efforts had failed.

NEBRASKA WEATHER FORECAST

Forecast for Monday—Fair.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday:

Hour.	Deg.	Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	16	1 p. m.	12
6 a. m.	15	2 p. m.	13
7 a. m.	13	3 p. m.	14
8 a. m.	11	4 p. m.	14
9 a. m.	10	5 p. m.	13
10 a. m.	10	6 p. m.	12
11 a. m.	11	7 p. m.	11
12 m.	11	8 p. m.	9
		9 p. m.	7

MAY EXTEND BRIDGE STRIKE

Structural Iron Workers Will Vote on Placing Boycott on Bridge Company Material.

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 21.—"Within thirty days members of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers will vote on the matter of declaring a strike against the fabricated material of the American Bridge company," was the statement made today by President F. M. Ryan of the international union.

The international executive board has been in session in Cleveland for the past week, and one of the most important subjects considered was the matter of declaring a strike against the material of the American Bridge company. The decision to take a referendum vote in reference to the matter of striking against the material of the American Bridge company was taken after careful deliberation. In case the vote carries, it will result in many big building projects being tied up in many parts of the country, further complicating the general strike situation, which at present is confined to the American Bridge contracts and sub-contracts. The American Bridge company at present furnishes the large percentage of all the structural steel and iron used in building operations throughout the United States. The strike will not apply to the raw material of the American Bridge company, but will apply to the material in its fabricated form ready to be placed on the building or the building project.

Another action of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers is a move to accumulate a defense fund for carrying on the fights in which it is now engaged. Not long ago an assessment of 10 per cent was levied on the membership and it is likely that another assessment will be made soon.

SIX BODIES ARE RECOVERED

Remains of Victims of Snowslide at Alta, Utah, Dug from Debris.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Jan. 21.—The last of the six bodies buried by the snowslide at Alta Friday night was recovered this afternoon. Since communication with the mining camp has been restored it has been learned that the avalanche came about midnight. It swept a half mile before striking the boarding house and adjoining saloon in which the men were sleeping. Both buildings were wrecked and the former was completely hidden from view.

Three of the five men sleeping in the saloon managed to crawl from under the debris and snow and, attired only in their night clothing, worked for hours in an effort to reach their companions. Their feet were badly frozen. At 7 o'clock Saturday morning fifty men were at work seeking the hidden bodies, but not until noon was the first corpse recovered. The work of rescue continued without cessation until today. The men who lost their lives in the boarding house are:

ALBERT BENNETT.
GEORGE CLAYBOURNE.
JOHN ERICKSON.
JOHN GRAY.

Those killed in the saloon were:

JERRY MURPHY.
WILLIAM POWELL.

Gray was a stranger from California and was looking for work. The other men came from various parts of Utah and were employed at Alta. The three men who escaped from the wreckage and worked so heroically are Ross Armhurst, John Baker and J. Lee.

CONFERENCE AT WHITE HOUSE

President Discusses New York Federal Appointments with Lieutenant Governor Woodruff.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21.—President Roosevelt had a conference at the White House tonight with former Lieutenant Governor Timothy L. Woodruff and the four republican members of the house of representatives from Brooklyn, mainly with reference to the appointment of a successor to Robert Sparkey, the naval officer at the port of New York, whom the president has declined to reappoint because of the findings of the Civil Service commission as to alleged violations of the civil service law in the administration of Mr. Sharkey's office. No conclusion was reached.

There was also some talk of the chairmanship of the republican state committee in successorship to former Governor Benjamin B. Odell, jr., but this was rather general in character. Mr. Woodruff later took occasion to say that he was not a candidate for the chairmanship. His business interests, he explained, require practically all his time and in the present circumstances he did not see how it would be possible for him to so adjust them as to take up the burden of the work of the chairmanship of the state committee. The president, he said, did not intend to interfere in the matter of a choice of a chairman. The president, he added, wanted the republicans to get together and select a good and satisfactory man for the position.

Mr. Woodruff returned to New York on the midnight train.

CHICAGO HOTEL IS WRECKED

Explosion of Boiler in Basement of Windmere Kills Engineer and Causes Panic Among Guests.

CHICAGO, Jan. 21.—A panic among the guests of the Windmere hotel, Fifty-sixth street and Cornell avenue, followed the explosion early today of a steam boiler in the basement, which resulted in the death of John Rapkoch, engineer, and the serious injury of Mrs. Seeta May, a guest. The explosion partially wrecked the hotel building and damaged adjacent residences and apartment buildings. The guests of the hotel were left in darkness by the destruction of the lighting plant and many were obliged to await the arrival of firemen, who battered down the doors of their apartments and released them. Fire followed the crash, but was soon under control. The damage was estimated at $15,000.

Two Buried in Snowslide.

LAKE CITY, Colo., Jan. 21.—A snowslide today carried Harry Yomans and Fred Davidson into Nellie gulch. The former succeeded in digging himself out and hastened to organize a searching party to rescue Davidson, who was buried beneath the avalanche. It is scarcely possible that he will be found alive.

NELSON TELLS ALL

Member of Holdup Gang Recites Tale of Nels Lausten Murder.

CONFESSION MADE TO CHIEF DONAHUE

Prisoner Goes Into Minute Details of the Plans of the Gang.

HAD NUMEROUS VICTIMS ON THEIR LIST

Several Places Were Passed Because of the Presence of Patrons.

FOUR KNOWN MEMBERS OF GANG TAKEN

Oldest is 23, Youngest 19, and the Alleged Leader, Jay O'Hearn, Has a Wife—Was Cold-Blooded Campaign.

Leo Angus of 413 North Twenty-fourth street, Jay O'Hearn of Fifteenth and M streets, Joe Warren of 902 South Twenty-fourth street, all of South Omaha, and Raymond Nelson of 2401 North Eighteenth street, Omaha, are booked at the city jail with the charge of murder against their names. They are held for the murder of Nels Lausten, saloonkeeper at 2101 Cuming street, Saturday night.

Nelson made a complete confession of the whole thing to Chief of Police Donahue Sunday afternoon and Angus and Warren told of their implication in the holdup and murder. O'Hearn would not talk of the affair. Nelson also confessed to a number of holdups committed in Omaha and South Omaha during the last few days and told of plans made by himself and companions to rob other places, the most daring job to have been the street car barn at Twenty-fourth and Vinton streets Saturday night.

Angus and Warren, the less experienced of the four prisoners, said they were glad the whole thing was over with, so far as the arrests were concerned. They cried like children when talked to by Chief Donahue and Captain Dunn. The ages of Angus, Warren, O'Hearn and Nelson are 19, 23, 23 and 22, respectively. All but O'Hearn are single. The best known to the police is Nelson, who has been arrested on numerous occasions for till tapping and who but recently finished a sentence of six months in the county jail for stealing a watch and $30 from the store of Tom Stribling at 314 South Twentieth street last July.

Nelson's Story of the Crime.

In substance Nelson's confession to Chief Donahue was as follows:

"I met O'Hearn for the first time last Friday, being introduced to him by Angus, with whom I had served a sentence at the county jail. We were together all that afternoon, but I cannot just recall who first suggested the holdups. We went to the Collins barn on Cuming street, hired a rig, drove down to the King Wing laundry at 1306 Jackson street and held up the Chinaman for a small amount of money. I stayed outside in the rig while Angus and O'Hearn did the job. We drove around and came to a Chinese laundry at Sixteenth and Chicago streets, but seeing two men in the place we called that deal off.

"I sent the rig back by a boy and we walked to a Chinese restaurant at Fifteenth and Webster streets with the intention of making a holdup, but found the place locked. We next went to a nearby cigar store, but there were too many men in the place for our liking, so we proceeded to the cigar store of G. H. Peterson at 521 North Sixteenth street and made a touch there.

"From that place we went to Robinson's drug store, 618 South Sixteenth street, and got $18. At the drug store I took the money while O'Hearn told Robinson and his wife to sit still. We agreed to meet again on Saturday evening and hold up the car barn at Twenty-fourth street, the grocery store of Frank Swoboda at Sixteenth and William streets, the drug store of J. Tuchek at 2413 South Thirteenth street and the saloon at the northwest corner of Nineteenth and Cuming streets.

"We were to meet at Nineteenth and Cuming streets, but on the car I met a son of Sheriff McDonald, who recognized me, so I rode on a ways and walked back and met the other boys, who said there were twelve men in the saloon at Nineteenth street, so we decided to hold the Lausten place.

Slaughter of Lausten.

"I and O'Hearn went inside, Angus took the front door, while Warren watched the side door. O'Hearn ordered three glasses of beer and as the beer was being served said, 'Throw up your hands or I'll shoot you, —— —— you.'

"Lausten said he would not throw up his hands, so O'Hearn fired at him, and I walked around inside the bar and took the money from the drawer while O'Hearn held his gun on a man who happened to be standing at the bar.

"We went to Washington hall and divided, O'Hearn going to South Omaha, while I and Warren went to the Dewey hotel, where we spent the night in room No. 57. Warren and I left the hotel at 9 o'clock, I giving him $5.20 as his and Angus' shares of the robbery. I then went to O'Hearn's house at South Omaha and gave Mrs. O'Hearn $4.50 to give to her husband.

Also Held Up Eckerman.

Upon being questioned further Nelson confessed to the robbery of the drug store of H. F. L. Eckerman at South Omaha shortly after 8 o'clock Saturday evening. Two shots were fired at the retreating druggist and his revolver was taken. Eckerman's gun was brought to the police station Sunday afternoon by William Hyland of 1232½ South Thirteenth street. Hyland told the police Angus gave him the weapon at Washington hall Saturday night.

Nelson was visibly affected after his lengthy interview with Chief Donahue and Captain Dunn. The boy's father was waiting on the outside of the room and when father and son met both cried. Then the father turned away in sorrow as his son was led to a cell.

Police Had "Tip" in Advance.

The arrests of the four youthful outlaws was attended by much hard work by every member of the police department. The feature of the apprehension of the men was that they were being looked for hours before the commission of the murder and robbery at the Lausten saloon.

The police had a tip Saturday that the men now under arrest were implicated in the holdups Friday night and they were advised of the car barn and grocery store holdups planned for Saturday night, the result being that the Swoboda grocery was guarded Saturday evening and nearly every business place in the southern portion of the city called on and the proprietors told to be on their guard.

Angus, who was arrested at Washington hall by Detectives Dominic and Davis and Officer Wooldridge, was in custody before