

THE WEATHER.

Rain today, colder west portion; Saturday fair, colder east portion.

THE MORNING STAR

VOL. XCI—NO. 103.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 24, 1913.

WHOLE NUMBER 13,229.

ADVERTISING PAYS.

The new Parcel Post opens up a wonderful territory to Wilmington merchants in all this section of the Carolina. We cover this territory like the morning dew.

WHOLESALE POSTAL FRAUDS UNEARTHED

Illegal Trafficking in Stolen Stamps Aggregates Millions

BROKERS HANDLE BUSINESS

Purchase Stamps From Postoffice Robbers and Dispose of Them for Prices Below Face Value—Confessions

Washington, January 23.—Illegal trafficking the country over in stolen postage stamps, aggregating several millions of dollars annually, has just been disclosed by postoffice inspectors, whose investigations were reported today to Postmaster Hitchcock. They involved so-called stamp brokers and confidential employees of large business concerns throughout the United States. Through confessions obtained by the inspectors from some of the brokers whose operations were investigated, it was learned that stamps of all classes and denominations, stolen by burglars from postoffices, and embezzled by employees from great business houses and manufacturing establishments, were purchased and resold by the brokers at prices far below their face value.

The postal laws make it a crime punishable by imprisonment to sell any stamp issued by the government for less than its face value. Investigations disclosed that, in addition to selling the stamps for less than a price they could have been purchased for from the government, the brokers knew that the stamps were stolen when they purchased them. Inquiries showed in some instances brokers entered into a conspiracy with employees of business houses to buy at prices well upon all the stamps which could be stolen from the postoffice. The first of a series of indictments resulting from the investigations was handed down sealed in New York city yesterday. Those indicted were Richard Fredericks, Irving (Izzy) Sevel and an Frank. District Attorney Whitman has informed the Postoffice Department there will be other indictments. 'Frauds against the government and various business concerns aggregating hundreds of thousands of dollars annually have been unearthed in New York city alone, while illegal trafficking in stamps in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Cincinnati, New Orleans, Kansas City, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland, Oregon and many other cities has reached large proportions.

New York approximately 20 so-called brokers made a business of purchasing postage stamps at a price ranging from 50 cents to 80 cents on a dollar and selling them to merchants at prices varying from 95 to 99 cents on a dollar. One stamp broker in New York city, who sells from \$500 to \$1,000 worth of stamps a day to merchants, it is said, has been purchasing some of his supplies from an employee of the New York State government at Albany. The employee confessed to postoffice inspectors that he permitted to the stamp broker from \$25 to \$50 a week in stamps stolen from the State. An official of a foreign organization, with headquarters at Chicago, confessed that for a long time he had been stealing stamps from the association and hypotheccating them.

One broker advertised by means of a sign carried through the New York financial district during the noon hour that he purchased printed uncancelled postcards. This resulted, it is said, in many office boys stealing cards from employers and selling them to him for 35 cents a hundred. The printed portions of the cards then were skillfully covered with a piece of thin paper and the cards resold. The culpable broker, according to his admission to the inspectors, sold during the last two years, more than 2,000,000 post cards.

The department redeems postal cards from original purchasers at 75 per cent of their face value. A few weeks ago a member of Congress and a former deputy commissioner of police of New York city requested the chief assistant postmaster general to redeem over a million cards for constituents of the Congressman. Inquiry by inspectors developed the fact that the cards were the property of a stamp peddler, whose business is declared by the department officials to be clearly illegitimate.

Two 'Brokers' Arrested New York, January 23.—Detectives arrested this afternoon Richard Fredericks, a stamp dealer, and Irving Sevel, a keeper of a news stand, on charges of having received stolen stamps. Other arrests of the detectives said, would follow soon.

Office boys in the Wall Street section pilfering the stamps from their employers, have done a thriving trade the past few months, the detectives said. Fredericks and several others are alleged to have received stamps thus stolen.

New embroderies and lace today. C. H. Fore & Co. (Advertisement.)

ASSURED OF A SQUARE DEAL

Knox's Note Contends for Toll Adjustment by Diplomatic Means

TWO POINTS OF DIFFERENCE

Domestic Coastwise Trade Won't be Allowed to Compete in Foreign Fields—No Increased Tolls Will be Laid.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Secretary Knox's reply to the British protest against the exemption of American coastwise shipping from Panama canal tolls, assured the British government that domestic coastwise trade will not be permitted to extend operations into foreign competitive fields and that increased tolls will not be laid on foreign shipping, to balance the remission to American shipping. If Great Britain is not satisfied on these points, America proposes a special commission of adjustment. The communication is devoted to the purpose of reducing to the smallest point and number the issues upon which the two governments failed to agree and as to these—only two—it is contended that they are entirely susceptible of adjustment by diplomatic means and without recourse to arbitration.

If this course should not prove acceptable to the British government it is suggested that the whole controversy be referred to a special commission of inquiry, provisions for which was made in the unratified Knox-Bryan general arbitration treaty. That convention was proposed by the Senate with an amendment which curtailed the power of the special committee on inquiry to mere investigation and report and refused to permit the committee to bind the country to a course of arbitration.

Because of this amendment, President Taft has so far declined to consummate the treaty by exchanging ratifications with the British government. To meet the needs of this present issue Secretary Knox now offers to give life to the treaty by an immediate exchange of ratifications, which would insure the existence of a general arbitration treaty between America and Great Britain after the lapse of the existing Hay-Pauncefote treaty June 4th, next. As an alternative the secretary is willing that a commission be created for the special purpose of ascertaining the facts in regard to the effect upon the British shipping of the Panama canal tolls act and the President's proclamation fixing the tolls.

Much of the secretary's argument rested upon his contention that Sir Edward Grey's protest, being made in advance of the issue of the President's proclamation fixing the tolls, is entirely inapplicable to the controversy in its present state, and that as a matter of fact, the British contention rests upon apprehension of things that may happen in the future to the injury of British shipping which, in all probability, never will occur.

Secretary Knox begins his note by the flat statement that he cannot agree with the British interpretation of the canal treaties, so far as they limit the freedom of action of America or infringe British treaty rights. Pointing out that the Grey note was issued without consideration of the President's toll proclamation, the secretary states that Sir Edward deals chiefly with the possibilities of what the President might do under the canal act, whereas the proclamation has entirely changed the situation.

Taking up the three objections made by the British government Secretary Knox first discusses that which applies to the exemption from tolls of the government vessels of Panama. The United States, he declares, always had asserted without challenge, that the status of the countries immediately concerned by reason of their political relation to the treaty in which the canal was to be constructed was different from that of all other countries.

In regard to a second British objection, that the Panama canal act might be thought to confer upon the President the power to discriminate in the use of the canal in favor of citizens belonging to the United States and its citizens, even in the foreign trade, by granting them reduced tolls, the note quotes from the memorandum attached to the canal act by the President when it was signed, as follows: "It is not, therefore necessary to discuss the policy of such discrimination until the question may arise in the exercise of the President's discretion."

As no question as yet has arisen on this point, which in the words of the existing arbitration treaty "it may not have been possible to settle by diplomacy," the note holds that the suggestion of arbitration is premature. Before passing from that stage of the question, Secretary Knox emphatically disclaims entertaining any doubt as to the right to exempt American warships and other government vessels from tolls, as they are a part of the government's protective system, and it is not understood that Great Britain challenges the right of the United States to protect the canal, or (Continued on Page Eight.)

CRUMBLING WALLS BURY 50 SHOPPERS

At Least Eight Persons Killed When Department Store Collapses

BUT ONE ESCAPES UNHURT

Cheeves Brothers' Department Store Gives Way While Thronged With Women and Children at a Bargain Sale.

McKinney, Texas, Jan. 23.—Thirty-five men, women and children are believed to have been killed or badly injured in the collapse here this evening of the Cheeves Brothers' department store. At 10 o'clock tonight the known dead numbered eight, and 13 persons seriously injured had been rescued from the ruins. Immediately after the collapse of the three-story building flames burst out and only were subdued after an hour's fighting by firemen and volunteers. The store had been crowded during the day by citizens and families of nearby farmers attending a bargain sale. According to Vernie Graves, the only person known to have escaped uninjured from the falling ruins, there were fully 50 people in the building at the time of the catastrophe.

Cracking of timbers and swaying of the building were quickly followed by the collapse. Excitement attending the accident was increased by the falling of a two-story store building adjoining the department store. Rescue work was impeded by the lack of mechanical facilities and practically the entire male population of McKinney joined in fighting the fire and searching the smoldering ruins. News of the disaster spread quickly and incoming interurban lines brought scores of farmers who joined in the work.

Many of those in the ill-fated building when the collapse came were women and children. Their cries spurred the rescue workers in their efforts to tear away the burned and splintered timbers behind which the inmates of the building were pinned. Two persons reached by the rescuers lived only a few minutes after they were taken from the ruins. An emergency hospital was hastily constructed in a nearby building and physicians from all parts of the town rushed to the scene to render medical aid. The dead are Rosa Welch, Miss Katie Milligan, Miss Bessie Wade, Russell Height, four years old; N. R. Preffly, clerk; Leslie Bush, Mrs. Mary Stiff, clerk; Miss Eva Searcy, clerk. The last two died after being removed from the wrecked building.

The seriously injured are Miss Annie Curtis, Mrs. Mort Shirley, Miss Jennie Barnett. A special sale was in progress at the time the building tumbled and a number of shoppers were said to have been in the store. Some of these are known to have escaped alive, but whether others were caught beneath the falling masonry has not been definitely established early tonight. Five dead had been removed from the wreckage at 7 o'clock, two others died shortly after they reached a hospital and of seven others injured, three are seriously hurt.

Mayor Finch estimates the dead in the department store collapse and fire at 35. Mary Stiff, who died shortly after her rescue, pleaded with the firemen working in the tangled mass above her to kill her as the fire was rapidly approaching. She was brought out barely alive. Mayor Finch estimates that the number of dead will reach, if not exceed, 35, but until the ruins are cleared the exact loss of life cannot be ascertained. At 10:30 o'clock tonight those rescued any of those still in the wreckage was abandoned.

The building adjoining the Cheeves Bros. establishment was occupied by a farm implement concern. The collapse of a wall in the implement house threw its weight against the corner building and with a noise that jarred the town to its foundations, both sank into ruins. A store of white goods was on in the three-story department store and men, women and children thronged its counters. At the harsh cracking of timbers (Continued on Page Eight.)

TURKISH POPULACE DECLARES FOR WAR

Government Surrenders to Public Opinion and Gives up Office

YOUNG TURKS IN THE SADDLE

Don't Want a Continuation of the War, But Are Determined to Keep Adrianople—New Officers Are Nominated.

Constantinople, Jan. 23.—A crisis in Turkey's affairs came today with dramatic suddenness. The grand vizier, Kiamil Pasha, and the Ottoman cabinet resigned and Mahmud Shekfat Pasha, formerly minister of war and commander of the constitutional army which enthroned Mehmed V, as Sultan, was appointed Grand Vizier. Yesterday the Grand Council, representing the intellect and wealth of the Nation, pronounced in favor of peace. Today a vast crowd drawn from all classes declared for war rather than peace, without Adrianople. And, because the crowd was backed by public opinion, the government surrendered and relinquished office, making way for the same men whom the popular movement brought to the top after the revolution of 1908 and 1909. The resignation of the cabinet was announced in the following: "The decision of Kiamil Pasha's cabinet, taken in response to the note handed to the Turkish government by the European powers, to abandon the fortress of Adrianople and part of the islands in the Aegean sea and the convocation of an extraordinary assembly of the Grand Council of the Ottoman Empire, to which the cabinet's decision was submitted—a course contrary to the prescriptions of the constitutional charter and violating the sacred rights of the people—roused the indignation of the Turkish Nation, with the result that the people made a demonstration before the sublime Porte and brought about the resignation of the government."

The council of ministers met shortly before noon to give final shape to the note accepting proposals of the powers. About 3 o'clock people from all quarters began to gather in front of the gate to the Grand Vizierate. Enver Bey, a leader of the Young Turks, who had been in Tripoli, and Nadje Bey, a prominent Unionist, arrived about this time and were deputed to inform the cabinet that it must retire. Enver Bey soon issued from the Vizierate and announced that he held the resignation of Kiamil Pasha, which he had taken to the president of the Council of Ministers, and that the resignation was accepted. The resignation was greeted with tremendous cheers which were frantically renewed an hour and a half later when he returned with an irate appointing Mahmud Shekfat Pasha grand vizier. After a flying visit to the Porte, on (Continued on Page Eight.)

NO RECEPTION TO WILSON

Canvass of Senate Shows Sentiment is Against General Public Function on the Night of the Inauguration.

Washington, Jan. 23.—As the result of a general canvass of the Senate today, announcement was made that in all probability there would be no general public reception to President Wilson after his inauguration March 4th next. When the Washington inaugural committee referred the subject to the Congressional Inaugural Committee and that body refused to take cognizance of it, the Senate members of the committee, led by Senator Overman, of North Carolina, interviewed practically all members of the Senate. They found a preponderance of opinion in opposition to any public demonstration during the evening of March 4th.

Reasons given for this conclusion were many. Necessarily the inauguration ceremonies, involving a trip to the capitol, participation in the inauguration of the Vice President and the proceedings in the Senate, the delivery of the inaugural address and the prolonged review of the inaugural procession are tiresome, and it is found that to follow these with a general reception would overtax the endurance of Mr. Wilson, especially because it would be impracticable to limit the attendance. It is estimated that from 50,000 to 100,000 people would be in the line of those who would want to shake hands with the new President. There also is apprehension as to the result upon the people themselves of getting together in such a throng. The President-elect's friends in the Senate are in favor of a reception, but it would be killed in the Senate.

Ten States to Participate Washington, January 23.—Ten States already have notified Major General Leonard Wood, grand marshal of the inauguration parade of their intention to participate in the inaugural ceremonies. The States thus far heard from which propose to send National Guards are the following: Georgia, Maine, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and Missouri.

These States will not take part: Utah, Kentucky, Idaho, Washington, Arizona, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Nebraska, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Oregon, Montana. President-elect Wilson's Virginia nativity will be recognized in the plans for the court of honor in front of the White House. The stand from which he will review the parade, after he has taken the oath of office, will be a representation of the portico of Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's home, while (Continued on Page Two.)

Wm. Corey, former president of the United States Steel Corporation, again a witness today in the hearings of the government suit to dissolve the corporation under the Sherman anti-trust law, gave further testimony in support of government charges that the corporation is a monopolistic corporation. He alleged that "understandings" to maintain prices were reached at the famous "Gary dinners" given in New York by Judge E. H. Gary, chairman of the executive board, at which a large majority of the steel manufacturers of the country were represented. He confirmed in testimony the existence of a plate and structural steel pool and declared Judge Gary had had knowledge of it. He said he himself had given orders for closing down blast furnaces of the corporation to maintain the price of pig iron. He said that the steel industry is a large consumer than to domestic and has furnished testimony intended to prove that the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company was a competitor of the Steel Corporation in the rail market prior to its acquisition by the corporation. Mr. Corey, who resigned as president of the corporation in 1910, made it plainly evident in his testimony that he had in many respects clashed with Judge Gary and members of the finance committee in matters of policy. He declared he had never favored the sale of the Hill one, which was the corporation in 1907, which was advocated by the corporation almost coincidentally with the filing of the present suit. "We paid double the price the ores were worth," he said, adding that the finance committee had overruled him. On the question of maintaining prices through the agency of the Gary dinners, Mr. Corey said he had been in "favor of competitive conditions" and that "prices were maintained longer than I deemed advisable." His testimony in regard to these dinners was in direct contradiction, it was pointed out by Corey tonight, to what the Steel Corporation said in its answer to the government's complaint. This denied that "at any of the meetings or at any time and place there was any agreement or understanding that prices should be maintained."

Mr. Corey said that the Gary dinners, which began in 1907, took the place of the government maintainings of various pools in maintaining prices in the steel trade. In his testimony concerning a number of these pools, Mr. Corey said the Steel Corporation was represented "in the plate and structural pool" by the Carnegie Steel Company. He admitted that the pool divided business and imposed penalties when the business of a member exceeded its allotment. "Was it known at the executive offices of the Steel Corporation that subsidiaries of the corporation were operating under the agreements which (Continued on Page Two.)

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Will Ride Horse in Suffrage Parade.



Miss Inez Miholland, called the "Most Beautiful Suffragette," has consented to be one of the officers in the mounted division of the great suffrage parade, which will take place in Washington the day previous to the inauguration of President-elect Wilson.

GARY DINNERS FIXED PRICES

Wm. Corey, Former President of Steel Corporation, Supports Government's Charges Concerning Price Agreements

New York, January 23.—William Ellis Corey, former president of the United States Steel Corporation, again a witness today in the hearings of the government suit to dissolve the corporation under the Sherman anti-trust law, gave further testimony in support of government charges that the corporation is a monopolistic corporation. He alleged that "understandings" to maintain prices were reached at the famous "Gary dinners" given in New York by Judge E. H. Gary, chairman of the executive board, at which a large majority of the steel manufacturers of the country were represented. He confirmed in testimony the existence of a plate and structural steel pool and declared Judge Gary had had knowledge of it. He said he himself had given orders for closing down blast furnaces of the corporation to maintain the price of pig iron. He said that the steel industry is a large consumer than to domestic and has furnished testimony intended to prove that the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company was a competitor of the Steel Corporation in the rail market prior to its acquisition by the corporation. Mr. Corey, who resigned as president of the corporation in 1910, made it plainly evident in his testimony that he had in many respects clashed with Judge Gary and members of the finance committee in matters of policy. He declared he had never favored the sale of the Hill one, which was the corporation in 1907, which was advocated by the corporation almost coincidentally with the filing of the present suit. "We paid double the price the ores were worth," he said, adding that the finance committee had overruled him. On the question of maintaining prices through the agency of the Gary dinners, Mr. Corey said he had been in "favor of competitive conditions" and that "prices were maintained longer than I deemed advisable." His testimony in regard to these dinners was in direct contradiction, it was pointed out by Corey tonight, to what the Steel Corporation said in its answer to the government's complaint. This denied that "at any of the meetings or at any time and place there was any agreement or understanding that prices should be maintained."

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THE JUSTICE BILL DOWNED IN HOUSE

After Fiery Debate "Invite" Resolution Killed by Vote of 65 to 50

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY BILL

Important Hearings Before Committees of General Assembly—Proceedings in Both Houses—Other Items of Action

(Special Star Telegram.) Raleigh, N. C., January 23.—The Justice resolution for the House to invite W. J. Bryan, Woodrow Wilson and R. M. LaFollette to address the members of the House on the initiative and referendum in spite of the fact that the Senate voted to down him on a resolution to that effect, went down in defeat again today in the House after the most fiery debate of the session, opposition to the measure making it clear, as did the Senate, that it is the proposed theme of these men and not the personality of those intended to be invited, that was voted against.

The vote was 65 to 50 against the resolution. It is notable that the first Justice resolution that the Senate killed passed the House 65 to 27. When the resolution came up as a special order today Williams, of Buncombe, offered a substitute that by joint resolution Bryan, Wilson and Underwood be invited to discuss any topics they desire and pleaded for this course. Revis, Republican, offered an amendment to the Justice resolution that Col. Roosevelt be invited instead of LaFollette and insisted that no invitations should enter into the movement for proposing constitutional amendments. Speaker Connor made a violent criticism of Justice for attempting to force the House to vote its sentiment on the initiative and referendum at this time, siding on to invitations to great Democratic leaders to address the Assembly. The members of the Legislature would not hesitate to invite these gentlemen if there was not saddled on the invitation this time of the initiative and referendum.

He favored Roosevelt instead of LaFollette as the Republican. When the vote was finally reached the Williams resolution was voted down 60 to 54. This vote was first a tie 57 to 57, and then votes were changed to make 60 against it. Then the revise amendment for Roosevelt instead of LaFollette was defeated 103 to 12 and the defeat of the original House resolution 65 to 50 followed.

Mr. Williams, of Buncombe, sent up a new resolution inviting Wilson, Bryan and Underwood to speak on any subjects they chose and this went over Friday. But it may be withdrawn and the matter left as it is. Employers' Liability Bill. Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 23.—After hearing from railroad attorneys on one side and locomotive engineers on the other, the Senate Committee on Judiciary No. 2, and the House Committee on Judiciary No. 1, voting separately, today, decided unanimously to report favorably the employers' liability bill, introduced in the Senate by Bryant, of Durham, and in the House by Keilum, of New Hanover. The bill is practically identical with the act of Congress of several years ago and applies the provisions of that act to employees engaged in traffic within the State.

It operates to abolish contributory negligence on the part of the employee as a bar to recovery in damage suits for injuries, and prevents any agreement that participation in a benefit of any relief or casualty to be rendered by an employee shall exempt the common carrier from liability for damages. The railroad attorneys to address the committees were Division Counsel W. B. Rodman, of the Southern Railway, General Counsel G. W. Williams, of the Atlantic Coast Line, and W. B. Guthrie, of the Norfolk & Western. Mr. Elliott said that he would not contend against the idea that seemed to prevail that the relief system, giving an injured trainman the option to accept the benefit of suit, was under the bar of public policy. As the result of this law, he said, the Atlantic Coast Line might abolish the system entirely.

The House Committee on Health and also the Senate Committee on Health decided to report favorably the Williams bill offered in the House by Williams, of Buncombe, for vital statistics. It requires the appointment of township registrars to record births and deaths and requires reports of these to county registers of deeds and the State Board of Health. There are penalties for failure of physicians to make reports to registrars and for registrars to fail in their duties. House Judiciary Committee No. 2, has voted unanimously to report favorably the Dillinger bill to require railroad companies to accept any good bonded employee instead of exacting that bonds be given in some specified bonding corporations. Educational Bill. "We are in the woods all right," said a prominent member of the joint legislative committee on Education tonight, after a three hours session of

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