

EARLIEST COLD ON RECORD

VIRGINIA FROST HEADQUARTERS

East and South Are Swept by Ice Wave Which Breaks All Records in Many Sections. This Weather Bureau Announces That Winter Conditions Will Showly Rise To-Day and Saturday, Reaching Normal by Sunday. Blue Ridge in Virginia is the coldest part of the country, four below freezing being recorded at Snow Camp, East.

OVER 40,000 IN GEORGIA ALONE

Harvie Jordan's Estimate of Sales of Cotton Killed by Frost—Another Killer Due Thursday Night. Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 11.—A killing frost accompanied by freezing temperatures occurred in Atlanta and throughout north Georgia Wednesday night and the plains States and similar conditions will prevail again to-night. President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Association, estimates that between 40,000 and 50,000 bales of cotton were killed in Georgia alone. Freezing temperatures extend as far south as Monticello, Ga., and light frost is reported from Thomasville.

Snow at Asheville

Special to The Observer. Asheville, Oct. 11.—This city and section was given a taste of genuine winter yesterday in the earliest form. The first snow fall of the season in Asheville occurred early last evening when the "beautiful" began drifting downward and, while little showing was made on the ground, the flakes were nevertheless noticeable to the eyes and more than one citizen looked for a considerable fall.

No Great Damage in Virginia

Richmond, Va., Oct. 11.—Reports from the various sections of Virginia are to the effect that frost formed generally in the State last night, the temperature falling to about 24 and vegetation being pretty thoroughly killed. In parts of the South Side and the Shenandoah Valley ice formed. In Tidewater the cool snap was welcomed as killing out mosquitoes and making No great damage is reported, the crops being all housed.

No Frost in Florida

Jacksonville, Fla., Oct. 11.—The cold snap in Florida has not effected crops in the least, there being no frost. The lowest temperature in Jacksonville was 45 degrees above zero, the lowest reached anywhere in the State.

At Key West the minimum was 74

At Jupiter it was 72.

Killing Frost in Upper South Carolina

Columbia, S. C., Oct. 11.—South Carolina is in the grasp of a cold wave. Reports from the upper portion of the State indicate that a killing frost fell last night. It is regarded as not only the heaviest but the earliest fall in a decade. Cotton, corn and other vegetation suffered severely.

Snow in Wilkes

Special to The Observer.

Winston-Salem, Oct. 11.—Passengers coming in from North Wilkesboro to-day report that they encountered a snowfall at Rising Gap. The cold snap last night was much less to be expected. Reports from 100,000 brick near this city.

\$200,000 INCENDIARY FIRE

Even in Prince Edward Island, Gulf of St. Lawrence, Has Destructive Blast. Charlottetown, P. E. I., Oct. 11.—More than 50 buildings were destroyed by a fire which raged one fourth of the town of Summerside, the capital of Prince County, to-day. The total loss is estimated at \$200,000, with insurance of only about \$50,000. A path three hundred feet in width and nearly a mile long was burned through the town. The buildings destroyed included the court house, jail, electric light station, postoffice, four hotels and two churches, besides the railway station and many dwellings. It is believed that the fire was of incendiary origin.

TO WASHINGTON NEXT YEAR

American Society of Municipal Improvement Adjourns at Birmingham. Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 11.—The convention of the American Society of Municipal Improvement to-day adjourned at Birmingham.

MR. ROBERTS WHOISTED

Representative H. Yates Webb Outdoes His Opponent at Gastonia

The Tribune's Editor Speaks Special to The Observer. Gastonia, Oct. 11.—Hon. E. Yates Webb and Dr. Frank K. Roberts, Democratic and Republican candidates respectively for the House of Representatives, met in joint debate here this morning at 11 o'clock. It is a unanimous verdict that the gentleman from Shelby badly worsted Dr. Roberts. Mr. Webb's speech was brilliant, while that of Mr. Roberts was simply an ordinary debate rendered in a commonplace manner.

DOWN DEFORMED SPELLING

United Spanish War Veterans Almost Unanimously Against Comrade Robert's Letter. "Dumb-Word Negro" to be Used Instead of "Colored" for Separate Camps. Washington, Oct. 11.—At the final business session of the United Spanish War Veterans, a joint installation of the officers of the organization of the United Spanish War Veterans, a resolution was adopted condemning the practice of burying distinguished citizens without war records in national cemeteries.

NEW ORLEANS NOW HAS SEWER

Final Connections With \$24,000,000 System Are Made in Business Section, Ending Dangerously Unsanitary Conditions. New Orleans, Oct. 11.—For the first time since this city was founded, 115 years ago, a modern sanitary and underground sewerage system was put into operation to-night. The pipes connected are part of a \$24,000,000 sewerage drainage and water system, building of which began eight years ago.

BOTH CHIEFS KILLED IN CRASH

Five Trainmen Meet Death in Head-on Freight Collision on Union Pacific. Cheyenne, Wyo., Oct. 11.—Five men were killed in a head-on freight collision on the Union Pacific Railroad at Ridge, near Laramie, Wyo., last night.

San Domingo Government Secures Peace

Washington, Oct. 11.—Cable advices received here from San Domingo state that a truce has been reached between the government and insurgent forces in the neighborhood of Monte Cristi, whereby the insurgents will surrender to the government to-morrow and General Limardo, who conducted the campaign for President Cocheo, will become Governor of Monte Cristi.

Four More Bodies Found on Coast Near Mobile

Mobile, Ala., Oct. 11.—Reports from the South coast, the result of disaster during the tropical hurricane of Sept. 27, tell of the finding of four dead bodies of the following: One, the land, captain of the Never Tell; Charles Witt, Wm. A. Byron, W. R. Steiner.

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AN ANSWER TO STRIKERS

SOUTHERN REVIEWS SITUATION

General Manager H. B. Spencer, of the Southern Railway, Issues Letter to Striking Machinists in Which It is Shown That Increases Already Granted Withhold Law. The Yearly Has Been Out of Proportion to Increases Granted. Have Been Substantial—Believed That Differences Will be Amicably Settled.

TO SOUTHERN RAILWAY MACHINISTS

Your action, declining to accept the proposition offered by the company respecting rates of pay and rules and regulations, has been brought to the attention of your officers.

Because of the difficulty of acquainting a large body of men, by means of personal interviews, with the attitude of this company on these questions, it is deemed expedient to present the situation in the form of this letter.

It is the desire and effort of this company to pay its employes a rate of wages fairly commensurate with the character of service rendered and the conditions surrounding the employment.

That this policy is being observed is shown by the fact that the basis of wages paid by the company is always kept substantially standard.

You will also recall that while the cordial attitude of the company towards its employes has been further shown by the fact that it has, from time to time and whenever desired, received representatives of the respective trades and occupations, for the purpose of discussing adjustments of rates of pay and conditions pertaining to such trades and occupations, and these questions have been in all cases amicably adjusted.

It is believed that the company has not now departed from its attitude of cordiality and justice towards its employes, and that the proposition offered by the company to you through your committee at the recent conference was just and equitable and should be accepted by you.

LARGE DECREASE IN NET EARNINGS

For the past two months the operations of the lines of this company affected by the strike, as demonstrated the following result:

Increase in gross earnings, 16.78 per cent. Increase in operating expenses and taxes, 17.63 per cent. Showing a decrease in net earnings for the last two months of \$19,874,041.

As the aggregate net earnings of pay requested amounted to a large sum, thereby adding largely to the already heavy operating expenses, a general increase is not considered reasonable, and therefore could not be granted.

In addition to this, the company is confronted by a serious situation because of decreased rates of freight and passenger charges, which, if put into effect, will mean large additional decreases in the net revenues of the company.

Under these circumstances it will be appreciated that the time is not propitious to consider a general increase in wages to employes, and that the company feels that its employes should in fairness realize the situation and not insist on the general increase in wages demanded.

INCREASES HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIAL

In this connection, it must be remembered that the company has not been unkind in its employment. This is shown by the increases of the rates of their pay within the last five years, which, as you are aware from your own experience, have been most substantial.

Notwithstanding the conditions mentioned, however, and the foregoing increases of machinists' pay, the company, with a view of removing any inequalities that may exist in the scale of wages, and to show its good will to the machinists, has decided to increase the rates of pay of the machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour; Charleston, all machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour; Augusta, all machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour; Atlanta, all machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour; Birmingham, all machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour; Selma, all machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour; Knoxville, all machinists to be increased one-half cent per hour.

In view of the situation as above outlined, of the friendly spirit manifested by your committee, and of the fact that the increase in wages mentioned, we ask you to consider whether it was just to leave our employes and precipitate a strike without notice to this company.

WON'T GOBBLE ISLE PINES

TAFT LETS IT REMAIN CUBAN'S

American Settlers Will Get Comfort From Provisional Government in Their Long-Standing Project for Erection Into a United States Territory—Entire Matter Declared One for Adjudication by State Department—Mrs. Taft and Mrs. Bacon Hold Successful Reception—Louisiana and Virginia to Sail To-Morrow With Taft-Fanston Party.

Havana, Oct. 11.—The provisional government will have nothing to do with the question of the sovereignty of the Isle of Pines, or with the separation of the government of the island from the rest of the Cuban republic. But executive authority of the United States already has declared that the Isle of Pines belongs to Cuba, and has embodied that affirmation in a treaty conceding the sovereignty of the island to Cuba, and this treaty is now pending ratification in the American Senate.

The mode of government of the Isle of Pines and of the Cuban republic may be altered or amended, but the desire of Americans in the Isle of Pines for territorial or municipal government as part of the United States cannot be conceded by any act of the Cuban government.

ONE CONCESSION TO SETTLERS. The president of the American Association of the Isle of Pines has not interviewed Taft on this matter, but the most that is likely to be gained will be the placing of an American military officer as temporary Governor of the Isle of Pines, with whom the relations of the American residents have not been pleasant.

The American residents of the Isle have adopted unanimously a resolution exonerating Secretary of State Root and General Leonard Wood from all blame in connection with the turning over of the Isle of Pines to the Cuban government.

RECEPTION HELD AT PALACE. Mrs. Taft and Mrs. Bacon held a reception this afternoon in the main saloon of the palace. It was attended by several hundred Cubans and others, including all the army and navy officers here.

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TRUST AN ARTFUL DODGER

OIL MAGNATE TELLS QUIBER

Under Order of Court Handing Him Inmate From Prosecution, President Cuthbert, of One of Standard Oil's Oil Companies, Tells How Anti-Trust Law is Evaded—Ownership of His Company Held by a Company Chartered in England, Which Complies With Independentists, But Not Trust—Higher Price Paid From Where Independentists Do Business.

Findlay, O., Oct. 11.—Evidence was brought out by the State to-day in the trial of the Standard Oil Company of Ohio, for conspiracy against trade, showing the ownership of the Manhattan Oil Company, of Ohio, to be in the General Industrial Development Company, Limited, of London, Eng. Also that the Manhattan, which buys and pipes crude oil, does not compete with independent companies.

These facts were brought out in the testimony of T. C. Cuthbert, president of the Manhattan. A similar criminal suit to that on trial is pending against his company and he testified under the order of the court, which rendered him inmate from future criminal prosecution. This course was taken, at the suggestion of the prosecution, upon the appeal of Mr. Cuthbert to the court for professional reasons.

OWNED BY ENGLISH COMPANY.

The witness had been ordered to bring the books of the company, showing the record of stockholders' meetings. The books were produced. The record of the last annual meeting showed that Mr. Cuthbert had been elected president by voting of the stock, owned by the English holding company; that this comprised the entire stock of the company with the exception of a small amount which each held by the president and four directors of the company, who are all residents of Lima, O., the home of the company. Mr. Cuthbert said he had been president since 1904, and that he had held the office for five consecutive years since that time. He knew nothing about the English company, had never seen any one connected with it, but had corresponded with J. W. E. Francis, its secretary, and W. W. Johnston, its managing directors, whose addresses were London. He remits money to them. Mr. Cuthbert said he had been connected with the company since 1904, and that prior to his election as president had been its controller. Previous to this he had been an expert accountant for the National Transit Company, a pipe line company.

HOW PRODUCERS FARE.

Explaining the nature of business done by the Manhattan in answer to questions, Mr. Cuthbert said that before he became its president the company did a general oil business; that it owned producing properties, pipe lines and refineries. It had at one time disposed of all but its pipe line to the Ohio Oil Company, but he did not know who was now operating the refinery at Galena. The Manhattan Company now does exclusively a pipe line business.

It buys the oil of the producers, transports it to storage stations and sells it to F. Triner, purchasing agent of the Standard, who also buys oil from Jesse H. Brown, secretary of the Buckeye Pipe Line Company. In what is known as the South Lima field, where the Manhattan and Buckeye pipe lines both buy oil, the price paid to the producers is 10 cents a barrel less than the North Lima field, where what are regarded as the independent companies make their purchases.

ASKED TO EXPLAIN WHY THIS WAS, MR. CUTHBERT SAID.

"To protect our pipe lines from the encroachment of creditors." The witness was not cross-examined.

DIE UNDER LONG ISLAND CITY.

Three Killed and a Dozen Rendered Inconscient by Explosion From Unknown Cause, Followed by Fire on Pennsylvania Railroad Tunnel. Wild Rush for Exit by Frightened Workmen. New York, Oct. 11.—Three men were killed and a dozen others rendered unconscious by an explosion and fire which occurred in the Pennsylvania Railroad tunnel under Long Island City, today.

The dead men were Supt. George Chapman, a lock' turner named Michael Daly and a foreman named Joseph Pearce. The cause of the explosion is unknown. It took place under the Long Island Railroad station in a lock at the end of one of the four tubes which are being dug to connect with tubes running under the East river to Manhattan Island to connect with subways leading to the proposed Pennsylvania Railroad station. There were 28 men at work in the lock, and three of them were rendered insensible either by the concussion or the smoke of a fire which followed it. Elsewhere in the tunnel there were more than thirty men at work.

Woodwork supporting the tunnel caught fire instantly and great clouds of choking smoke poured into all parts of the tunnel. A wild rush for the shaft, a thousand feet away and which was the only means of exit, followed the explosion.

The ucket by which the men were taken from the shaft to the street above could carry not more than six men and there was a desperate struggle among the frightened workmen to be the first to be taken out.

When the last of the conscious men was brought to the surface he declared that several men were lying unconscious at the bottom of the shaft, a thousand feet away, and a dozen or more of the tunnel workers promptly responded. Two of them were lowered into the shaft and taken to the bottom where they quickly brought up the stretcher.

THREE NEGRO CHILDREN FROTH IN BURNING HOME.

Columbia, S. C., Oct. 11.—A special to The State from Fort Mill says: Three negro children were burned to death this afternoon in a fire which consumed the home of Mr. J. S. Sprall's plantation near Fort Mill. The negro parents locked the children in the house when they went to their day's work, and the children probably started the fire.

MRS. DAVIS MUCH IMPROVED.

New York, Oct. 11.—At the request of the Board to-night it was stated that Mrs. Jefferson Davis, who has been in the hospital since she was injured in a fire which occurred in her home in Washington, D. C., was much improved. It was said that Mrs. Davis had spoken several times to-day.

WANT TOTAL PROHIBITION.

Cumberland Physicians Will Ask Legislature to Prohibit Sale of Whiskey in the County on Prohibition. Special to The Observer. Fayetteville, Oct. 11.—The Cumberland County Medical Society met today and took the very important action of formulating a petition to the Legislature to repeal section 4 of the Cumberland prohibition law which permits druggists to sell whiskey and other spirituous liquors of a physician's prescription.

EX-JUDGE STARBUCK DECLINES.

Special to The Observer. Winston-Salem, Oct. 11.—Ex-Judge H. R. Starbuck having declined to accept the nomination for county commissioner, the Republican executive committee has asked Mr. L. B. Brickens to make the race.