

MUCH LOSS OF LIFE REPORTED

Information of Disasters All Along Coast—Beaches Are Strawn With Wrecks by Gale.

RELIEF IS PROMISED TONIGHT OR TOMORROW

The Suffering in Europe Has Been Intense—Seven People Were Frozen in New York.

New York, Jan. 14.—While temperatures hovered about zero or below in the eastern and New England states this morning, yet relief from the two days' reign of cold weather is promised tonight or tomorrow.

Reports from the west indicated that the rising temperatures which brought relief there yesterday would reach the lake region today and weather forecasters say they are extending eastward.

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GIVES REASON FOR INTEREST DEFAULT

"Abnormal Circumstances," Says Huerta—Return of Fugitives Desired.

Mexico City, Jan. 14.—Provisional President Huerta's decree suspending payment of interest for the next six months on bonds of the internal and external debts of Mexico is as follows:

"In view of the abnormal circumstances in which the country is placed its ordinary income is not enough to cover the expenses occasioned by the work of pacifying the nation and in view of the fact that it will be necessary to continue these expenses until the result promised by the government has been accomplished, the executive by virtue of the authorization conceded by congress last December (the authorization to direct the affairs of departments of war, finance and the interior) decrees the following:

"Article 1.—There is suspended for six months the service of the national debt with the understanding that the sums which during this time shall become due will draw interest at the same rate as the obligations to which they correspond.

"Article 2.—From the date of the promulgation of this decree the customs duties will be paid in cash to the respective federal offices."

Want Refugees Returned. Mexico City, Jan. 14.—Formal reports for the return to Mexico of Gen. Salvador Mercado, who commanded the federal troops at Ojinaga, together with his comrades who crossed into American territory, is to be made to the United States by General Blanquet, Mexican minister of war, according to an announcement by him today.

ALLEGED UOXORICIDE HAS NOTHING TO SAY. John A. Ottinger, Returned Here on Murder Charge, Is Silent.

When seen this morning in the county jail, John A. Ottinger, who was brought back here yesterday afternoon from Newport, Tenn., charged with uxoricide, refused to make a statement to a Gazette-News reporter, saying his counsel had advised him not to talk for publication.

Ottinger is a small man and, when seen this morning in the jail, was dressed in good clothes. He is smooth of face and appears to be about 40 years of age. The interview with The Gazette-News reporter was of course, written, as Ottinger is a mute; but he wrote a very legible hand.

MANY DRIVEN INTO COLD BY FLAMES

Fires Rage Over Country—Hotels, Lodging Houses, And Stores Destroyed.

New York, Jan. 14.—More than 1,000 persons were driven out into the cold here today by four fires in widely separated sections of the city. A bowery lodging house fire sent more than 500 persons from that structure and nearby buildings scurrying out into the cold.

One hundred and fifty men, women and children were routed out by a fire in the Glendennings, a Harlem apartment hotel; fifteen families were driven out by flames in an apartment house at Columbus avenue and Sixty-first street and later 300 persons sought refuge in the street when fire attacked a lower eastside tenement.

Jewelers Burned Out. Providence, R. I., Jan. 14.—Fire in the Manufacturers building, a seven story structure occupied by thirty jewelry manufacturing firms caused a loss of \$100,000 today and the enforced idleness of 4,500 operatives.

Priests and Students Escape. Catskill, N. Y., Jan. 14.—Thirty students and several priests escaped today when St. Anthony's Seraphic college and Novitiate overlooking the Hudson river near Catskill point was destroyed by fire. The loss was estimated at \$100,000 with \$20,000 insurance.

Boston, Jan. 14.—Joseph A. Hockell, a fireman, was killed by a falling wall in a fire which destroyed the department store of W. & E. A. Bason on Washington street in the Roxbury district early today. The blaze caused a loss of \$150,000. This was the most serious of nearly 50 fires which sent the firemen into the biting cold during the night. Many were caused by torches used to thaw water pipes and others by defective chimneys. The temperature was 10 below zero.

THOUSANDS OF TONS OF BEEF TO BE IMPORTED

Competition Expected to Cause Appreciable Reduction in Prices.

New York, Jan. 14.—Arrangements for importation into this country of thousands of tons of beef and other meat products from Argentina, Australia, and New Zealand have been completed by American capitalists whose identity has not been disclosed. It became known yesterday that the syndicate has leased four large warehouses here with an extensive water front.

"S. O. S." COMES FROM COBEQUID

Faint Wireless Messages Revive Hope For Safety Of Mail Liner and Passengers.

MAKE SEARCH HARD WEATHER CONDITIONS

Wireless Not Strong Enough To Give the Location—Wreckage on Short Of Nova Scotia.

St. John, N. B., Jan. 14.—Faint "S. O. S." calls from the missing steamer Cobequid, picked up in the bay of Fundy at 10 o'clock this morning, revived hope for the safety of the vessel and the 120 people on board.

The wireless was not sufficiently strong to give the Cobequid's location but indicated that she had survived a tempestuous night and that there was still a chance for her passengers and crew. The Canada Northern liner Royal George caught the cry of distress three times and heard the steamer Lady Laurier replying.

The Lady Laurier went out from Halifax yesterday to take part in the search and ought to be near the wreck today. Belief prevails that the Cobequid struck on one of the Grand Manan ledges. Weather conditions were a little more favorable for the search for the Cobequid today. The snow storm had passed but the temperature remained several degrees below zero and a thirty-knot northwester whipped the sea. Hope for the vessel rests chiefly on the efforts of the United States revenue cutter Woodbury was thought to be close to Grand Manan.

St. John, N. B., Jan. 14.—The steamer Cobequid, which was wrecked at 10 o'clock this morning according to a message received by the agents here. A telephone message from the Canadian Northern Steamer Royal George in port here announced that the Royal George had just caught an S. O. S. call from the Cobequid.

Efforts to ascertain the stranded steamer's position failed as there was no response to the Royal George's queries. It was also reported that the steamer Lady Laurier had caught the Cobequid distress call. The Lady Laurier should have been near Briar island, the reported scene of the wreck of the Royal Mail liner, when the latter's call was heard.

Nothing From Kronprinzessin. New York, Jan. 14.—The North German-Lloyd liner Kronprinzessin Cecilie reported, yesterday to be one of the vessels racing to the stranded steamer Cobequid, was passing Nantucket at 4:30 a. m. today and should reach her pier here this afternoon. No word had been received this morning from her command as to whether she had received the Cobequid's wireless calls.

Wreckage Seen. Yarmouth, N. S., Jan. 14.—Wreckage drifted ashore here this afternoon. It was not possible to determine whether it came from the wrecked steamer Cobequid. The weather continues unfavorable. St. John, N. B., Jan. 14.—The fate of the Royal Mail steamer Cobequid, with 120 persons aboard, remained unknown early today, twenty-four hours after receipt of her wireless message saying she was caught on a ledge in the bay of Fundy and was filling. Vessels sent to her assistance ploughed through heavy seas all day yesterday and last night without catching a glimpse of the Cobequid. A thick vapor overhangs the bay making the search exceedingly difficult.

TRUST LEGISLATION BEFORE PRESIDENT

Hopes to Be Able to Approve Of Any Bills Members Introduce.

Washington, Jan. 14.—President Wilson conferred today with congressional leaders on trust legislation. He talked this morning with Chairman Newlands and democrats of the senate interstate commerce committee and reserved the late afternoon for a second conference with Chairman Clayton and democrats of the house judiciary committee.

So far as possible it is the intention of the administration to obtain from these committees bills upon which they all are agreed, and before the measures covering the desired field are introduced it is the president's hope that he may be consulted and that the bills will be launched with the stamp of administration approval.

An effort will be made to distinguish for the business world those measures which have the backing of the president and those which may represent the individual views of members of congress, though the president's friends in congress hope to reduce the number of personal bills to a minimum. It was said today that the president's forthcoming message satisfies the trust views of every member of the cabinet, and that those members in close touch with the business world believe the industry of the country will find healthful reassurance in it.

INDICTMENTS RUMORED AGAINST MOYER ENEMIES

Two Men Who Are Alleged to Have Had Hand In Deportation.

Houghton, Mich., Jan. 14.—Interest in the recent deportation from the strike zone of Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, was renewed here today when it was rumored that a special grand jury had returned indictments against two men who were said to have helped in forcing Moyer to leave Hancock.

Reports also were in circulation that other true bills—several against members of the Western Federation—had been returned.

Appeal Without Merit; Judgment Increased. Chicago and Erie Pays Damages Because of Unnecessary Litigation. Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 14.—Because the Chicago and Erie railroad company prosecuted an appeal held to be without merit was one of the reasons the Indiana Supreme court today added ten per cent to the amount of a judgment when the decisions of a lower court were upheld. Henry L. Lane, a brakeman, secured judgment for \$14,000 against the railroad for injuries in 1900, but eight years later the case was returned to the lower court because the plaintiff's complaint was insufficient. He then secured a judgment for \$7000 damages, and the railroad company again appealed. In its decision the Supreme court said: "Except that a verdict for a larger amount might well have been given, it is hardly conceivable that unbiased minds could disagree over the justness, under the law, of the result reached by the jury. We feel that the litigation has been unduly prolonged and considering this, together with the fact that the amount awarded is not fully compensatory give to judgment to affirm with 10 per cent damages."

JAPAN LOOKING ON AWFUL RUIN

ANNUAL MEETING HELD YESTERDAY

Officers and Directors of Central Bank & Trust Co Re-elected—Good Reports.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Central Bank and Trust company was held yesterday afternoon in the offices of the bank and, after receiving the reports of the officers of the institution, all the directors and officers were re-elected for the coming year, as follows:

C. W. Brown, president; M. B. McEwen, vice-president; Wallace B. Davis, cashier; C. W. Brown, J. R. Oates, P. R. Moale, C. N. Brown, J. C. Arbogast, Chas. French Toms, Dr. J. A. Sinclair, J. W. Rutherford, Judge H. F. Stevens, W. B. McEwen, J. D. Earle, Thomas S. Rollins, Eugene Carland, Wallace B. Davis, directors.

The report of the cashier showed that the bank had gained in deposits during the last year over \$100,000 and showed very healthy earnings for the institution. The total deposits at the present time amount to more than \$300,000. The Central Bank and Trust company is just one year and nine months old, but during that time it has taken its place among the old established banking institutions of Western North Carolina and its growth shows that it is climbing steadily and solidly to the forefront in the banking world.

14,475,953 BALES OF COTTON TOTAL SUPPLY

Washington, Jan. 14.—The supply and distribution of cotton for the four months period ending December 31 announced by the census bureau today shows:

Total supply 14,475,953 bales, made up of stocks at beginning of period, 1,598,428 bales; cotton ginned 12,532,428 bales; lint production to December 1,289,118 bales; and net imports 36,422 bales. The distribution was: consumption 1,977,471 bales; exports 5,180,172 bales; and stocks at end of period were held as follows: in manufacturing establishments 1,801,252 bales; in independent warehouses 3,771,352 bales and quantity held elsewhere (amount arrived at by deduction) 2,127,661 bales.

Sakura-Jima at the height of its eruption is pictured as a terrifying mountain of fire. The air for miles around is thick with ashes and smoke. The police and soldiers of Kagoshima (Continued on Page Nine).

Energetic Nation Trying to Succor Victims of Terrible Eruptions and Earthquakes.

NUMBER OF PERISHED IS NOT YET KNOWN

Eruption of Sakura-Jima is Abating—Search of Sakurajima Island to Be Made.

Tokio, Japan, Jan. 14.—Official reports this afternoon from southern Japan where volcanic eruptions and earthquakes have caused heavy loss of life and great property damage are that the eruption of the volcano of Sakura-Jima which was responsible for most of the devastation is abating. Just how many persons have perished cannot yet be estimated. Sakura, where the greatest loss of life undoubtedly occurred, cannot be reached because of the eruption of Sakura-Jima continues. Troops and warships are now in the vicinity and a search of the island will be made at the first opportunity.

Kagoshima, the nearest big city to Sakura, suffered great damage from the earthquakes but does not appear to have sustained a severe loss of life. H. Ijima, a Japanese statesman who lives in Kagoshima, has informed the foreign office that ten persons have been killed and thirty injured there. He also stated that great confusion prevailed in the city. Other telegrams report that the barracks, governors residence and the temples were among the buildings wrecked in Kagoshima. The soldiers are camped in the squares of the city while the population has sought refuge in the shrines and temples in the hills.

The postoffice was one of the first buildings to collapse in Kagoshima at the start of the earthquake. The staff escaped, erected a hut in a field and are now repairing the telegraph department. Kagoshima is protected from the looters by patrols of police and troops.

All Americans who were in the vicinity are safe. Several American missionaries were stationed at Kagoshima.

Sakura-Jima at the height of its eruption is pictured as a terrifying mountain of fire. The air for miles around is thick with ashes and smoke. The police and soldiers of Kagishima (Continued on Page Nine).

Where is that Coupon? Right here. Cut it out.

COUPON Save it for a Copy of THE PANAMA CANAL by Frederic J. Haskin Author of "The American Government" Gazette-News, Wednes. Jan. 14 Colonel Goethals says: "Accurate and Dependable"

HOW TO GET THIS BOOK On account of the education value and patriotic appeal of this book, The Gazette-News has arranged with Mr. Haskin to distribute a limited edition among its readers for the mere cost of production and handling. It is bound in a heavy cloth. It contains 400 pages, 100 illustrations and diagrams, an index, and two maps (one of them beautiful bird's-eye view of the Canal Zone in four colors). IT IS ACTUALLY A \$2.00 VALUE. Cut the above coupon from six consecutive issues of the paper, present them with 50 cents at our office, and a copy of the book is yours. Fifteen cents extra if sent by mail. OUR GUARANTEE: This is not a money-making scheme. The Gazette-News will not make a penny of profit from this campaign. It has undertaken the distribution of this book solely because of its educational merit and whatever benefit there is to be derived from the good will of those who profit from our offer. The Gazette-News will cheerfully refund the price of the book to any purchaser who is not satisfied with it. Present Six Coupons of Consecutive Dates FIFTEEN CENTS EXTRA IF SENT BY MAIL