

IN GOOD CONDITION

Financial Institutions of Greater New York

REPORT TO COMPTROLLER

Made Quick Recovery From Effects of Panic

Unwavering Confidence of Great Body of Depositors Manifested—State Banks Did Their Share in Relieving Financial Situation in Other Cities—Statements of Trust Companies Interesting.

New York, Dec. 26.—Under the call of the state banking department for reports of condition on December 19, twenty-one trust companies and 29 state banks of Greater New York have filed formal statements. While the effects of the recent storm are plainly evident, especially in regard to these few institutions against whom the attack seemed most direct, the statements as a whole bear testimony of the quick recovery generally made and unwavering confidence of the great body of depositors. The reports also show that certain of the state banks of New York city did their share toward relieving the financial situation in other cities. They accomplished this by accepting from the local national banks a large quantity of clearing house certificates, leaving the national banks in position to employ their cash in relief of their customers and correspondents in the interior.

The 29 state banks of New York, Brooklyn and other borough of Greater New York which have so far reported show aggregate deposits of \$225,000,000.

Of this enormous sum of deposits the withdrawals since August 22 last amounted to only \$3,056,117.

The losses were distributed among 13 of the banks, with total withdrawals of \$13,925,761, while eleven banks showed an aggregate gain of \$10,869,644.

The state banks indicated their prosperous condition by maintaining cash reserves in some instances far in excess of the 15 per cent. required by state laws.

Only one bank took advantage of its membership in the clearing house association to issue certificates which are now outstanding as a liability item of \$520,000.

Nine of the state banks hold clearing house certificates to the extent of \$7,100,000. Loans and discounts show a decrease in the statements of nineteen of the banks while the values of stocks, bonds, mortgages, etc., as an item of resource also show a general shrinkage. A majority of the banks show an increase of cash on hand.

The official statements of the trust companies of Greater New York are perhaps fraught with the greatest interest. These institutions were forced to bear the brunt of the financial storm which broke with the suspension of the Knickerbocker Trust Company.

The twenty-one companies which have thus far reported show a falling off of deposits from \$278,056,300 on August 22 last to \$190,256,500 on December 19. The loss of deposits was accompanied by the calling in of loans the reduction in the latter instance amounting to \$78,000,000. The market values of stocks, etc., show a decline of about \$20,000,000. In spite of the 21 trust companies show a loss of less than \$2,000,000, while the legal tenders and bank notes, held as reserve, show an increase of nearly \$1,000,000.

The report of the Trust Company of America, which withstood a run of many days, shows a net decline in cash reserve of less than one per cent. since August 1st. The capital of the Trust Company of America, as with all the other companies submitting reports, remains unimpaired. This showing of the company is made despite the fact that during the run it paid out more than \$50,000,000. Part of this came from the \$20,000,000 fund turned over to the institution by the committee of the trust companies which came to the relief of the Trust Company of America when it was most in need. Loans to directors, which six months ago amounted to \$3,500,000 do not appear in the December statement, all directors having paid up during the crisis.

BONAPARTE ON THE PANIC.

Denies Statement That He Made a Joke of the Calamity.

Washington, D. C., December 26.—Attorney General Bonaparte stated today that, while in Chicago recently he had been asked by some members of the press what were the causes, in his opinion, of the recent panic and present hard times, and that he had replied that he could not speak with any authority as to the cause, but could speak rather feelingly as to some consequences, inasmuch as certain incidents indirectly caused by the hard times had led to his losing considerable money. The attorney general added that this statement had not seemed to him in any wise jocular, but apparently had so impressed some of his hearers, since he found himself accused the next morning by one Chicago paper of treating a "great national calamity with unfeeling and unbecoming levity." In connection with all good people," added the attorney general. "I sincerely hope that the hard times may soon end and may be followed by a long period of business prosperity upon a basis of sound and conservative financial management and strict obedience to the law on the part of those entrusted with the direction of our great industrial and commercial enterprises. It is not within my province to suggest measures of legislation and administration which may promote these ends, but I can promise a thorough-going, impartial and inflexible enforcement of all the laws, which it is the duty of this department to enforce to the extent of its ability and resources."

124 BODIES RECOVERED.

Rapid Progress Made in Rescue Work at Darr Mine.

Jacobs Creek, Pa., Dec. 26.—Rapid progress is being made in the removal of bodies from the Darr mines. All of the entries except 27 have been cleared and a total of 124 bodies have been brought from the mine. A number of other bodies have been located and it is expected that they will be brought to the surface some time during the night.

Preparations have been made to resume rescue work in entry No. 27 early tomorrow and it is expected that 100 bodies will be found there as the indications are that the explosion occurred in this working. All the bodies recovered today were decomposed and badly mutilated. Rescuers report that drivers were found 50 yards from their horses and nothing remains of their wagons but the trucks. All that was found of a trapper boy was the headless trunk and one leg. The body was entirely nude.

General Manager Schleuderberger of the Pittsburgh Coal company, said: "Providing nothing unforeseen occurs, the exploring parties ought to finish their work by tomorrow evening. Some falls occurred in the rooms where the men were working, covering up the corpses, and these will be cleared as fast as possible. It may be days yet before the body of every man who was killed by the explosion is recovered."

JUMPED IN FRONT OF TRAIN.

Financial Troubles Cause of Suicide of E. G. Stedman.

New York, December 26.—Ernest G. Stedman, vice president and a director of the J. C. Lyons building and operating company, against which a petition in bankruptcy was filed last Friday, committed suicide today by jumping in front of a subway train at the 14th street station. The fatality occurred at the rush hours, precipitating a panic among the hundreds of waiting passengers. Women became hysterical and it was with difficulty that the crowd was controlled by the subway police.

A valuation of over \$7,000,000 is placed upon the real estate owned by the Lyons company, which includes office, buildings, apartment houses and hotels in various parts of New York. Its solvency is laid at the doors of recent business depressions. It is said that previous to the slump every office in the corporation building at 235 Fifth avenue was rented. Last week all were vacant. The concern has admitted its bankruptcy and receivers have been appointed.

Edmund Clarence Stedman, the banker poet, cousin of the dead man, said he knew of no reason for the suicide. Mr. Stedman was a man of strong character and good balance, he said, "and little likely to do anything of this nature."

Escaped With Reprimand.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 26.—The local steamship inspectors Bray and Tapley yesterday found Henry Wobbe, first assistant engineer of the naval cutter Brutus, guilty of misconduct for deserting his post, but imposed only a reprimand, because of extenuating circumstances.

Wobbe, it seems, is a merchant engineer employed in the service and quit because of some violation of union rules to which his attention had been directed.

THE PROHIBITIONISTS WIN

Dispensary Voted Out by Majority of 547

Raleigh Takes Her Place Among "Dry" Towns—Discriminating People Beaten in Every Precinct—Rumor That Election Will Be Contested on Ground of Irregularity.

(Special to The Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., December 26.—The anti-dispensary people swept the deck in today's election here. The total vote registered was 1,982, that cast was 1,309, of which 928 was for prohibition and 381 for dispensary. The dispensary did not carry a single precinct. The nearest was in the second division of the 4th ward where the vote was 65 to 67. In that precinct every negro vote, 21 in all, was cast against dispensary. Every ex-barkeeper voted for prohibition except two, who voted for saloons. It is no secret that the expectation of the ex-saloon keepers is to get a vote two years hence and vote in saloons; even if they could get a vote the legislature would checkmate it, as it is practically certain the legislature will enact a sweeping prohibition law for North Carolina. It is said that all the city administration people except four voted for dispensary. An ex-saloon keeper claims that if the issue had been saloons or dispensary the former would have carried but prohibitionists deny this absolutely.

The dispensary closed today at sunset and will not reopen tomorrow. It is said that it will not reopen any more. There was a statement tonight that the dispensary people would consult lawyers as to contesting the election on the ground that it was irregular.

Governor Glenn was delighted at the victory and said to your correspondent, "I am very much pleased at the result; I believe it will have a splendid influence all over the state for the cause of temperance." President John A. Oates, of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League, who was in the governor's office said, "We are gratified at this result and at prohibition's progress and feel that the state, voting as unit, is going to put saloons and dispensaries out of business."

Manager Batchelor of the Raleigh dispensary announced some days ago it would not reopen if the vote was adverse. He is really a prohibitionist; the dispensary treasurer, W. N. Snellings, voted for prohibition. The result here is felt to be of the highest importance as Raleigh is the largest town in the United States which ever voted for a dispensary.

(By Associated Press.) Raleigh, N. C., December 26.—By a majority of 547 Raleigh today voted out its liquor dispensary and becomes a prohibition city. The dispensary closed at noon tomorrow. In the city there were 928 votes for prohibition, 381 for dispensary and two for saloons. The dispensary has been in operation here for four years, twenty-four saloons having been voted out in favor of the dispensary. The sales have amounted to about \$250,000 a year, with about \$75,000 profit, this being placed to the credit of the school fund and the road fund and the city expense account. It reduced taxation, but the voters here felt that its influence was not for the city's best interest and voted it out. The election was a perfectly quiet one.

OFF FOR VIRGINIA.

Cross Country Riding and Turkey Shooting Will Be President's Pastime.

Washington, Dec. 26.—President Roosevelt and family left Washington at 11:10 o'clock today for Pine Knot, Virginia, the country home of Mrs. Roosevelt, where they will remain until Monday afternoon next. The trip was made in the special car Twilight, attached to the regular train on the Southern Railway. The nearest station to Pine Knot is North Garden, a few miles below Charlottesville.

Miss Carew, sister of Mrs. Roosevelt, accompanied the party. The personnel of the party included the president, Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Ethel, Archie and Quentin, and Miss Carew Clerk J. L. McGrew, accompanied the president in place of one of the assistant secretaries, and will make daily trips from Pine Knot to Charlottesville. In this way the president will be put in possession of important messages and mail.

Cross country riding and turkey shooting are the president's pastimes at Pine Knot.

FIRE AT PINE BEACH.

Several Hotels Burned Loss Between \$25,000 and \$30,000

Norfolk, Va., December 26.—Fire of unknown origin near the west boundary of the Jamestown exposition grounds early today destroyed a dozen or more frame structures, including several small hotels, with a loss of between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The burned buildings are the Hotel Portsmouth, the headquarters of the Virginian (Tidewater) railway terminal construction employees, where the fire started, the hotels Chesterfield, Pamlico, Chancellor, Virginia Inn, the Owl and Colonial restaurants.

The States' Hotel, Adams hotel and Hotel de Ville were threatened, but several hundred fire fighters who assembled did good work in preventing the spread of the flames. A number of people were asleep in the hotels and other places when the fire started but all escaped. This is the third large fire that Pine Beach has had in the last eight months.

TRAGEDIES OF CHRISTMAS DAY

Many Fatalities Reported From All Sections

Policeman Kills Drunken Man—Husband Empties Contents of Gun Into Wife's Body—Brothers-in-Law Kill Each Other—Negro Slays Deputy Sheriff.

Knoxville, Tenn., December 25.—Christmas week in the eastern section of Tennessee has been an unusually bloody one. Tragedies reported thus far are:

At Newport, today Robert Knowles, a special policeman, tried to arrest William Allen for drunkenness. A scuffle ensued, Allen fell on top, and Knowles pulled a pistol, shooting Allen through and through. Allen lived two hours.

Near Del Rio, Ike Murray and Luke Norton, brothers-in-law, literally shot each other to pieces, using pistols and shotguns. Norton, it is said, while drunk went to Murray's home and created a disturbance. The shooting followed.

Near Strahl, Alexander Wright, who had returned from Missouri to visit his wife, who has been living with her parents near that place, called her from church and emptied the contents of his pistol in her body. Jealousy was the cause. The woman is still alive but cannot live. Wright is still at large and says he will not be taken alive. He told friends that he has five others to kill and then he will be ready to die.

At Isabella, Polk county, John Hall, it is charged, shot and killed his brother-in-law, W. M. Crowder. The latter's dead body was found in a public road this morning. A woman of bad character is mixed up in the case. She says Hall did the shooting.

Luther Wallace, aged 20, shot and killed Lee Eldridge, a prominent man of Holston Valley, this afternoon, using a shotgun. Wallace, while intoxicated, broke into the postoffice at Harris this morning. A warrant was placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff White who deputized Eldridge to assist in making the arrest. Wallace surprised the two men and after killing Eldridge made his escape, going into Virginia.

Philadelphia, December 25.—Leaving a letter that they had died for love, George A. Green, aged 35 years, early today shot and probably fatally wounded Miss Edith Wonderly, aged 22 years, and then turned the revolver upon himself, inflicting probably fatal wounds. Green is married but is separated from his wife.

New York, December 25.—Christmas day in New York city was ushered in with two murders. Because he refused the price of a drink to a passing stranger, John Sweeney was struck over the head with a blackjack and died later at a hospital.

Mariano Gaeto was called to the door of his apartment in West Twenty-eighth street and shot to death by an unknown man. John Frank, janitor of the building, pursued the murderer, who fled up the stairway, but Frank stopped to arm himself with an iron bar, and by the time he reached the roof the fugitive had disappeared. Although Gaeto's wife said her husband had no quarrel with any one, the police believe the murder was the result of a vendetta.

Pottsville, Pa., December 25.—Stanlius Coleash, a boarding house boss, was shot and killed here today by Frank Cashmere, following a trival quarrel at the dinner table. Cashmere, who was a boarder complained because Coleash had not provided a turkey for the Christmas dinner. Coleash, according to witnesses, arose from the table in a rage, rushed to the side of the room and seized a shotgun, with which he shot at Cashmere. The charge of shot went wide and Cashmere fled up stairs, where he got his own gun. As Coleash was mounting the stairs Cashmere shot him, the charge striking Coleash in the side, tearing an immense hole and causing death in a short time.

Sharon, Pa., December 25.—William VanBush cut his wife's throat with a razor and then cut his own throat at their home in Sharpville early today. The bodies were found by a son-in-law. Several others were sleeping in the house, but none heard a struggle. Van Bush was a machinist 45 years old and his wife about 53. Van Bush was her second husband. It was said Van Bush was jealous of a young man lodger.

Chicago, December 25.—Two men, both unconscious and each suffering from a number of knife wounds, were found within a few feet of each other today at Grand avenue and Desplaines street. They evidently had slashed each other until both fell, weak from loss of blood. The pair were placed in an ambulance and together taken to a hospital. When they recovered consciousness they refused to talk beyond giving their names.

Pottsville, Pa., December 25.—Harry Morrell, of Turkey Run, a small mining settlement, was shot and killed

while trimming a Christmas tree in his home today by Fred Taylor, a fellow miner. Taylor had been visiting at Morrell's home, but was asked to leave after a quarrel. He went home, according to the police, and securing a rifle, returned to Morrell's house. Taylor, it is said shot through the window, mortally wounding Morrell, who died within an hour. Taylor has not been captured.

Waycross, Ga., December 25.—Will Waddell, colored, was shot and killed today while in the custody of Deputy Sheriff C. E. Cason, who was bringing him to this city upon a charge of having fired the shot that killed Wallace Dvall yesterday. Dvall, after falling, had drawn his revolver and fired into the negroes from among whom the shot that felled him had been fired. Two were killed by the shots.

Cordele, Ga., December 25.—Duncan Sheffield, a very prosperous farmer living at Winona, near here, was killed last night. Details of the affair are meagre, but it is said Sheffield and his son became involved in a quarrel about a horse and buggy. As yet the son has not been arrested and no warrant has been issued.

Hyde Park, Mass., December 25.—Dr. Walter R. Amesbury, of Milford, shot and instantly killed his wife, Anna, a teacher of music in Roanoke college, Danville, Va., as the family were about to sit down to their Christmas dinner at the home of Mrs. Jennie Rees, Mrs. Amesbury's mother, at 20 Metropolitan avenue, here, today.

Riverside, Cal., December 25.—P. V. Swanguen, constable at Tomacula, this county, and Louis Escallier, a Frenchman, were shot and instantly killed last night by Horace Magee, a half breed Indian, in the Degoumes billiard room. Magee was struck on the head by a billiard cue by John Jackson, a bystander, and will die.

Pittsburg, Pa., December 25.—Jackson Stille, 50 years old, of West Elizabeth, near here, while stealthily trying to escape the eyes of the younger members of the family and hide Christmas presents, fell down stairs and broke his neck.

KILLED BY A WILD BULLET.

Baggage Master of Eastern North Carolina Railroad Instantly Killed by Bullet Fired by Reckless Youth at Passenger Train—County Authorities Pursue and Arrest the Slayer, Who Confesses to the Killing.

Elizabeth City, N. C., December 25.—One of the most horrible and unfortunate crimes which has occurred in this section was the killing today of Mr. Stevens, baggage master on the Virginia and Carolina Coast railroad, and whose home is in Suffolk, Va. As the regular southbound passenger train was passing through an open field near Hobbsville, a small station about 2 miles north of here, five men were seen standing near the track, one of whom fired into the train and young Stevens, who was standing at one of the windows of the rear coach, received the entire load in the mouth, killing him instantly.

The train was stopped as soon as possible, and run back to the spot where the men were seen standing, but they had escaped to the woods. The body of Stevens was hurried to this city where a coroner's inquest was held, the jury's verdict being that Stevens had come to his death at the hands of unknown parties.

As soon as the necessary arrangements could be made the deputy sheriff and a party of men left here on a special train for the scene of the crime and surrounded the woods and soon captured the fugitives, one of whom was John White, 30 years of age, who confessed to having fired the shot into the train, although he said that he and his companions had been drunk and had no idea of doing injury to any one. He said he saw the young man on the train fall when he fired the shot and, at once realized that he had made a terrible blunder. The young fellow was arrested and carried to Hertford, where he is confined in jail.

Young Stevens was well known here and all along the line and was very popular with all his acquaintances.—Special to Charlotte Observer.

STORM DAMAGED VESSEL.

Steamer Nan Smith Returns to Hampton Roads in Leaking Condition.

Norfolk, Va., December 26.—Following a heavy gale encountered, discovering that her hold contained water and that its depth was slowly increasing, despite the use of the ordinary pumps, the steamer Nan Smith, which left Baltimore, Saturday, loaded with coal for the fleet, to be delivered at San Francisco, returned to Hampton Roads today, going direct to the Newport News ship yard.

The vessel was 250 miles south of the gulf stream and the skipper reports that the gale on Monday was one of the severest he ever encountered. Flute bolts on the bottom of the vessel gave way, causing the leak. The commander deemed it wise to return to the Roads for repairs before attempting the long voyage. It is declared that the cargo of coal has not been injured. The ship will be docked at once.

THE NAVY MUDDLE

Brownson Refused to Execute President's Orders

Reasons for His Actions

Objected to Surgeon Commanding a Naval Vessel

Feeling Between Line and Staff Officers Intensified—Application for Brownson's Statement Met With Refusal at White House—Matter Will Probably Be Subject of Congressional Investigation.

Washington, December 26.—Not since the day's preceding the passage of the personnel law ten years ago has feeling between line and staff of the navy been so acute as it is today as the result of the refusal of Admiral Brownson to transmit orders from his superior officer, the president, assigning a naval surgeon to command a vessel in the navy. In the case of the personnel act it was Mr. Roosevelt, then assistant secretary of the navy, who acted the part of pacificator and succeeded in bringing the two warring factions together in support of the measure. In the present instance, however, the efforts of the president to reconcile the surgeons and the line officers has failed and it is probable that the whole controversy will be threshed out in congress. This is much deprecated by conservative officers in both line and staff, as likely to prove prejudicial to the navy's interest as a whole, for they believe that in order to succeed in securing from congress the four great battleships, the cruises, scouts and submarines which form a part of the year's naval estimates, in addition to securing legislation that will better the lot of naval officers personally, the navy must present a united front.

Through the published statement of Surgeon General Rixey, the merits of the doctors' side of the case in this instance have been clearly set forth. Line officers believe that in common fairness they should also have a hearing. Admiral Brownson preceded his resignation by a cold, clear and logical presentation of the reasons why he objected to the assignment of physicians to command a naval ship, even though that vessel were exclusively devoted to hospital uses. That statement was submitted to the president, and notwithstanding the staff has had its say in print, applications at the White House for the letter are met with refusal. Now it is clearly impossible for Admiral Brownson or any of his line officers to make public a copy of the letter without incurring the risk of a court martial. So they can look for a change in the executive mind or for the congressional investigation which will develop all the facts.

Admiral Brownson's objection to the execution of the president's order to place a surgeon in command of the hospital ship Relief was two-fold. In the first place, like every officer, he believed that the subordination of any line officer to a staff officer on shipboard was bad policy and subversive of naval discipline. But a stronger objection in his mind was that the proposed action was clearly illegal inasmuch as it is forbidden by law or naval regulation to assign a staff officer to command a ship. It is only fair to the staff side to state that this is debatable ground and that it would not be difficult to construe the naval laws and regulations in either way.

There was no developments today in the controversy, owing to the absence from Washington of the President. Admiral Brownson relinquished his position as chief of the bureau of navigation yesterday and the duties of that office were today discharged by Commander Cameron McRae Winslow.

The difference between the line and the staff is something about which the public mind is more or less confused. A line officer is one whose sole duty is to fight the ship, while the staff officer is one who either provides the means for line officer to do so or acts under his direction in carrying out his general orders.

Secretary Metcalf again today declined to enter into any discussion of the issues which prompted Admiral Brownson's resignation as chief of the navigation bureau.