GOVERNOR OF BORNEO HERE

TELLS OF PROGRESS OF BRITISH DEPENDENCY

Island's Trade is Forging Ahead---Other Official Goes Home on Furlough.

A tall, military-looking gentleman, upon whom the wear and tear of sixty summers have left but few imprints, a man with keen steely blue eyes, and complexion bronzed with Oriental suns, reached Victoria to-day on board the steamer Athenian, in the person of E. P. Gueritz, who, with his wife, was going home to England on a furlough of six months.

E. P. Geuritz has been governor of Borneo for many years past and the last time he made a journey home by this route was in 1897. He is on his way via Montreal, and will cross the Atlantic on the Allan liner Ionian, leaving St. John on the 23rd inst. On his arrival in London he will have an audience with the king at Buckingham Palace as soon as His Majesty returns to England.

Mr. Geuritz spoke of the development of Borneo in optimistic terms, and in truth the figures which he quoted would go far to prove his views.

"The seal has been set on this development'," he said, "by the construction of a railway through the northwest of the island, which will shortly be in operation. This new railway will tap many towns, hitherto difficult to reach, and will open up industrial districts if which there is great hope in the future."

"We already have a railway on the west coast of the island, but the one which is now being built is of more far-reaching character. In fact, it is the best piece of work that has been undertaken during the last 20 years, and as far as our little island is concerned, it is a question of large import."

Mr. Gueritz then proceeded to give some figures to show the rapid strides that the island—which to the majority of the world is only known as the portion of the globe where wild men from Borneo hail—has been making during the past decade.

In 1897 the revenue from all sources was $436,000, whereas in 1906 this had reached a total of $1,000,068. The expenditure ten years ago was $341,000; last year a sum was spent totalling $828,000. The last census taken five years ago was 105,000 souls, but in the intervening time this has been largely increased. Of this population the major portion is made up of natives, of whom one tribe, the Dusuns, number 33,000 souls. This tribe inhabits the interior of the island and lives altogether on rice, whih is also made into arack for consumption. In the entire island there are only from 300 to 400 English speaking people.

The most recent compilation of the imports of the island show a grand total of $2,896,271, the principal commodity imported being rice from the Straits Settlements. The rice grown in the island is of an inferior character and is usually consumed by the natives. The amount of the exports for the same year reach a total of $4,537,486, the main article exported being tobacco leaf, which is shipped to Holland, the great market for that commodity.

"During the past few months," said the Governor, "there has been a great boom in the rubber industry. Eight companies have amalgamated and have acquired a tract of country comprising 38,000 acres. The amalgamation will organize the industry, and already a large portion of the tract is under cultivation. The capital of the syndicate is $3,500,000, and the future of the rubber industry, which is of comparatively recent development in Borneo, is assured.

"To help this industry we have invited the Chinese to come to the island. We have none of that antipathy to yellow labor which I believe exists on this side of the Pacific. Indeed at present the Chinese are coming of their own accord and are welcome. We have also entered into an agreement, or rather an arrangement, with the Dutch government to bring in Japanese to our island. They of course immigrate under certain conditions, and we find that they are far more easily trained for working on the rubber plantations than the Chinese."

To preserve order in the island we have a small military force and a body of 460 police, who are divided among forty-five stations. Notwithstanding the wild tales which you may hear, we have but little trouble. The present is a season of prosperity in the Island of Borneo, and affairs in that portion of the Empire are moving very smoothly. The future is as promising as I could wish it to be."

Mr. Gueritz and his wife are accompanied by Mr. J. W. Wilson, accountant-general of the dependency, who is on his way home to London, having obtained a period of leave of indefinite length as he is suffering from the effects of sunstroke. The party will leave from Vancouver to-night, and are in hopes of reaching England by the end of the month.

SCOTLAND'S VICTORY.

Wins the International Rugby Championship—Did Not Lose a Match.

London, March 18.—Scotland won the last football match of the rugby international series at Blackheath to-day, defeating England by 8 points to 3.

The final score is Scotland 3, Wales 2, Ireland 1.

MINERS ENTOMBED.

Richmond, Va., March 16.—Ten men are reported entombed by an explosion in the Bond Coal Company's mine at Greenvale.

ANOTHER MEMBER DEAD.

Dr. A. A. Stockton, of St. John, N. B., Passed Away at Ottawa.

Ottawa, March 15.—Dr. Alfred Augustus Stockton, M. P., St. John, N. B., died at Water street hospital at 6.30 this morning.

Deceased was taken ill over four weeks ago, and was removed to the hospital, where he has been ever since.

For a quarter of a century Dr. Stockton was identified with the political life of his native province. The immediate cause of death was acute pleurisy. His daughter was with him at the time of death, and Mrs. Stockton arrived from St. John to-day.

Deceased was 65 years of age, and had been in the Dominion House since the last general election.

This is the eighth death since the present session opened.

To-day the funeral of the late Mr. Martin, M. P., takes place at Mount Forest, Ont.

The flag has been floating half mast over the parliament buildings for about half the session.

In the House this afternoon Sir Wilfrid Laurier spoke of the loss sustained through the death of Dr. Stockton, and R. L. Borden said his death was a loss to the public life of Canada. Dr. Daniel, Dr. Stockton's colleague, endeavored to speak, but dropped in his seat sobbing like a child. E. G. Foster rose to say something, but could not proceed, sitting down with tears rolling down his cheeks.

LEGISLATURE OF ALBERTA.

The House Prorogued—Strathcona to Be Incorporated as a City.

Edmonton, March 15.—The second session of the Alberta legislature has reached its close. The last bill was passed last night at 11 o'clock, and nothing remained but for the Lieutenant-Governor to give his assent to the bill. This formality took place at 2 o'clock this afternoon, and prorogation followed. Yesterday was a busy day for the House, but the members were determined to finish, and voted down all suggestions of delay. Premier Rutherford's resolution asking the Dominion government for a land endowment for an Alberta university was passed. The bill to incorporate Strathcona as a city was also passed.

EIGHTY-SEVEN MINERS KILLED

SIXTY-FIVE DEAD AS RESULT OF EXPLOSION

Breaking of Cable Attached to Cage Caused Death of Twenty-two Men.

Rorbach, Germany, March 16.—An explosion of fire damp in the coal mine at Kleinresseln, near here last night coused the death of 65 miners and injury of 12 others.

Twenty-Two Dead.

Saaelouis, Rhenish Prussia, March 16.—Twenty-two miners were killed this morning at the Gerhardt coal mines.

They were descending one of the shafts in a cage when the cable broke near the top, and the miners plunged down several hundred feet. They all met instant death.

The mine belongs to the Prussian government, which has already begun an official inquiry into the accident.

J. N. STEARNS DEAD.

New York, March 16.—John Noble Stearns, founder of the Jerry McAuley Cremorne Mission and a prominent Episcopal layman, died on Thursday at his home here of apoplexy. He was 77 years old.

FOWLER'S CHARGES.

Ottawa, March 15.—In the House today H. Bourassa gave notice that he would discuss a week from Tuesday next Fowler's charges.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

Issued By Officer Commanding the Fifth Regiment, C. A.

The following extract from G. O., January 7th, 1907, is published for general information:

"Fifth British Columbia Regiment: To be provisional lieutenants, William Alexander Irving, gentleman; vice C. E. Stephens, retired, and Basil Gawler Prior, gentleman, vice M. B. Scarth, retired, December 20th, 1906."

The officer commanding has been pleased to approve the following change in No. 2 Co.: Co. Quartermaster-Sergeant W. H. Keatinge reverts to his former rank of sergeant at his own request; to be Co. Quartermaster-Sergeant, Sergeant A. Brayshaw, vice W. H. Keatinge, reverted.

The following men having been granted their discharge are struck off the strength of the regiment: No. 14, Corpl. C. S. McKilligan, 12.3.07; No. 165, Gnr. C. H. Mason, 13.3.07; No. 208, Gnr. W. S. Clark, 11.3.07.

Lieut. Robert P. Clark, of the Diamond Fields Field Artillery (South Africa), is hereby attached to the Fifth Regiment, C. A., until further orders.

The regiment will parade at the drill hall on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at 8 p.m. Staff and band will attend. Dress: Drill order.

In the action for libel brought by William O'Brien, member of parliament for Cork, against the Freeman's Journal, in which Mr. O'Brien claimed $25,000 damages, the jury rendered a verdict for the plaintiff, awarding him one farthing damages on each of the six counts.

INQUIRY INTO LUMBER BUSINESS

CALGARY WITNESS BEFORE COMMITTEE

Mr. Grogan Denied Existence of an Agreement Between Associations Regarding Prices.

Ottawa, March 15.—Mr. Grogan, of Calgary, secretary of the Alberta Retail Lumber Association, was up again this morning at the lumber combine committee.

In regard to the statement that Mr. Taylor, who represents certain British Columbia lumber interests, had not been permitted to sell lumber in Calgary, Mr. Grogan said that he did not know anything about it. Witness was emphatic about there being no agreement between the retail association and the Mountain Lumber Association in respect to the price to be paid by the consumers.

G. W. A. Fowler, a member of the committee, produced a resolution passed by the retail association. This resolution set forth that if the wholesale mill men should sell to others than the regular dealers then the members of the association would not purchase from them.

W. Sloan asked the witness why it was that the Big Bend Lumber Company of British Columbia had written the retailers asking if a certain man was a member of the association, and if he was still refractory. The letter was written to see if the millmen would sell him lumber.

Mr. Grogan wrote to say that the man referred to was not a member of the association.

Witness said that he had never done anything to prevent anyone buying lumber. There was no rule of the association to do this.

Mr. Bekker, managing director of the Staple Company, which has seventeen yards, was also examined.

BIG STRIKE THREATENED.

Master Builders of Seattle Issue Ultimatum to Building Trades Assembly.

Seattle, March 16.—The building trades assembly, according to some of its members, is paying little attention to the ultimatum issued yesterday by the Master Builders' Association. After a session last night that did not adjourn until nearly midnight, and was attended by representatives from nearly every union in the city, it was declared that "nothing of interest or importance came before the assembly. The meeting was a regular one, at which routine business was disposed of." James Murphy, business agent of the assembly, remarked that the threatened strike was more of a "flare up" than anything else.

The Master Builders' Association yesterday morning, at a special meeting declared war on the building trades unions of Seattle by issuing a statement to the press, notifying the unions of their intention to stop all construction work on which the members of the association are engaged until such time as the questions affecting wages have been settled by the contractors and their employees.

These questions first arose with the organization last fall of the union among the common laborers on buildings. The organization was accompanied by a demand for $3 per day for all helpers, including concrete mixers, lumber carriers and men engaged in general cleaning up around buildings. This is held as unsatisfactory by the master builders.

In stating the position of the contractors, Otto Roseleaf, chairman of the publicity committee of the master builders, said:

"Yesterday the unions called out the carpenters on the apartment house at Thirteenth and Madison being constructed for A. Robinson for Jenkins & Jones, because the common laborers were said to be receiving less than the union scale. We want to arrive at a settlement of these disputes immediately. We want to know where we stand for the coming year. The building trades have been putting wages up in some line of the work every month or so. This morning we decided to call all the men off on Monday night until we get this thing settled. We have refused to pay more than the present scale of $2.50 per day. This is not a lockout, and we do not anticipate any very serious trouble in coming to an understanding.

In case no settlement is effected and a general lockout or strike results, every building trades union may be affected, thousands of men thrown out of employment, and the greater part of the construction now in progress suspended.

CHANCELLOR OF OXFORD.

Lord Curzon Defeated Lord Rosebery —An Exciting Contest.

London, March 14.—Lord Curzon of Kedleston, ex-Viceroy of India, was elected chancellor of Oxford university to-day by 1,111 against 430 cast for Lord Rosebery.

Hitherto in the history of the university chancellors had always been chosen without a contest. Although much influencial pressure was exerted to persuade Lord Rosebery to accept the nomination, there will be some adverse criticisms of his acceptance in the face of the almost certain election of Lord Curzon, who is a conservative, on the ground that it gave the contest a political aspect, Lord Rosebery being a Liberal. The polling was held in the Sheldonian theatre this afternoon, and a constant succession of trains brought eminent voters from all parts of the country, peers and members of the House of Commons, archbishops and bishops, and other men who had attained prominence in all the professions. The contest excited great interest.

ALARMING ACCIDENT.

Ceiling of Hall of the Tauride Palace Collapsed, Wrecking the Furniture.

St. Petersburg, March 15.—The ceiling of the hall in the Tauride Palace where the lower house of parliament meets, collapsed at six a. m. to-day, and caused widespread wreckage among the seats below.

Though many rumors were circulated to the effect that the falling of the ceiling was the result of a plot to interfere with the meeting of parliament, its purely accidental character was clearly established.

An examination shawed that the nails and other fastenings binding the ceilings to the rafters had not been replaced since the time of Catherine II, and broke under the extra weight of the new decorations. The aggregate weight of the ceiling material was so great that in its fall it twisted the massive bronze electroliers in such a way as to indicate that a terrible catastrophe would have resulted had the fall occurred a few hours later during the session of the House.

It was first thought that it would be necessary to abandon to-day's session of the House, but President Colovin ordered chairs to be placed in the rotunda at the entrance to the palace, where the session was held.

CONVENTION ADJOURNED.

Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia Will Meet at Moyie Next Year.

Greenwood, March 15.—The Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia adjourned this morning to meet next year at Moyie.

Strong resolutions were passed on the following lines: Against enforcement of the Lord's Day Act; demanding an inquiry into the coal and coke shortage, and the alleged shipment of coal into the United States by mines and railways during that shortage; asking the Dominion government to open up its coal lands in East Kootenay; and pressing for the passage of an act dealing with the arbitration of strikes.

Rykert & Co., a prominent firm of Montreal stock brokers, has suspended. The suspension is due to the demoralized condition of the market.

DECISIVE VICTORY FOR NICARAGUA

MAY END WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA

General Merino and Several Other Honduran Officers Were Killed in Last Battle.

Managua, Nicaragua, March 16.—The government has issued a decree recognizing the provisional government of Honduras and directing its members to be allies of Nicaragua.

The last battle fought between the Nicaraguans and Hondurans was so decidedly in favor of the former that it is belived it will result in the ending of the war, Gen. Merino and other Honduran officers were killed.

Arrives With Arms.

New Orleans, La., March 16.—A cablegram received here yesterday announced the safe arrival at Puerto Cortez, Honduras, of the steamer Harry Tinge, which sailed from New Orleans March 7th with munitions of war for Honduras. Some uneasiness has been felt here by representatives of the Honduras government as it was understood that a Nicaraguan man-of-war would attempt to overhaul the steamer and seize the arms, which included 1,000 rifles.

THE LATE J. A. DOWIE.

Remains interred in the Cemetery at Zion City.

Chicago, March 14.—The funeral of John Alexander Dowie was held in Zion City to-day, the interment being in Lake Mound Cemetery, Zion City.

Early in the day, workmen who were constructing the vault in the cemetery broke a gate, and the management demanded a warrant for the arrest of Gladstone Dowie, charging him with the damage. The matter was smoothed over.

The funeral was unostentatious. The hearse was decorated in white, and was drawn by white horses. A small portion of the magnificent choir that formerly officiated in Zion City tabernacle sang several hymns. The body of Dowie was arrayed in the white robes which he had worn since he assumed the title of "First Apostle of the Christian Catholic Church." The oration was delivered by Attorney V. V. Barnes. The funeral cortege was attended by hundreds of members of the church, and when the body was lying in state, a constant stream of visitors called. Many of these sought to be cured of disease by touching the hem of Dowie's robe.

FOR NEW LIFEBOAT.

Plans are Being Prepared by Hutchison Bros., Who Will Tender.

To obtain plans for the construction of a lifeboat which will be non-capsizable, and able to put out in the roughest of weather, is the present object of the Lifeboat Association of Victoria. Messrs. Hutchison Bros., whose works are situated on Rock bay, on the inner harbor, are at present preparing plans and will tender for the proposed life-saver. Their plans as prepared up to the present, provide for a 40-foot boat with a fourteen foot beam, to be propelled by either gasoline or electrical power. The other items for the construction as yet remain in abeyance, but it is thought that the engines of the new craft will be of a powerful description.

OHIO SUFFERS FROM FLOODS

NUMBER OF TOWNS ARE UNDER WATER

Houses Swept Away and the Occupants Drowned--Enormous Losses in Pennsylvania.

Cincinnati, March 16.—Flood conditions in southern Ohio were worse to-day. Of the many flooded towns in this region, Parkersburg, W. Va., and Marietta, Ohio, seem to be the greatest sufferers. At Parkersburg the public light plant was put out of commission and the city is in darkness. Telephone and telegraph service is badly crippled.

The loss at Marietta will be enormous. Water has flooded the main street, and many residents have been forced to vacate their homes. There is considerable suffering, as only a few scattered groceries in the hills are able to supply food. The city was in darkness to-night. Much damage has also been done in the oil fields, and there is considerable suffering in the surrounding country. Two men were discovered drowned to-day.

Ask For Aid.

Columbus, Ohio, March 15.—This appeal has been made to Governor Harris for state aid to relieve the destitution in the Hocking valley, occasioned by the recent terrible floods:

"Two thousand miners out of employment; one half in need; 500 lost household goods. Clothing and provisions needed quickly. High Gormley, Mayor."

Families Drowned.

Steubenville, Ohio, March 15.—Ten members of two foreign families are reported to have been drowned to-day at Mingo junction in the flood, the houses having floated away with their occupants. Every house in the east side of Mingo junction is submerged, and a thousand people there are homeless.

Flood sufferers are being sheltered and fed in the mayor's office, lodge rooms and school houses.

Fire at Bridgeport.

Bridgeport, Ohio, March 15.—Fire broke out to-night in the four-story building occupied by the Scott Lumber Company. The water system is out of commission owing to flood conditions, and at 10 o'clock the fire was spreading rapidly. At this time it is believed the town is threatened with extinction. Over two hundred houses are in the path of the flames.

Losses in Pennsylvania.

Pittsburg, March 15.—With the rapid receding of the water in the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers, which was taking place here to-night, conditions are fast assuming normal proportions, and the greatest and most destructive flood in the history of the city is at an end. At nightfall the approaches to the bridges were cleared of water, and several hours later street car service in the flood district was resumed.

Ten square miles were inundated. The loss in actual dollars will probably never be known, but an estimate thus far in Allegheny county may be summarized in the following tables: Loss in output of steel mills, $3,000,000; loss of output of others industries, $2,000,000; loss in wages of employees, $1,837,000; estimated damage to industrial plants, $2,500,000; total, $9,337,000.

Houses Washed Away.

Parkersburg, W. Va., March 15.—Thousands of people are homeless here as a result of the flood. Mayor Leonard to-day appointed a large number of special policemen, but the county and the city jails are under water, and no arrests are being made. A number of the residences in Beechwood and Riverside have been washed down the Ohio river. The Little Kanawha is alling. The crest of the present rise is expected on Saturday at noon at the 51-foot bank.

GOVERNOR AND ADMIRAL.

The Kingston Incident Discussed in the House of Commons.

London, March 14.—The incident involving Governor Sweetenham of Jamaica and Rear-Admiral Davis of the United States navy, in connection with the Kingston earthquake, was brought up in the House of Commons to-day in a hypothetical question by Jesse Collings, Liberal-Unionist member for the Bordesley division of Birmingham, who was in Kingston at the time of the disaster, which brought out from Foreign Secretary Grey a generous tribute to the American admiral.

Mr. Collings asked if it was in accordance with international etiquette for an admiral of a foreign country to land an armed force in a British colony without the permission of the governor.

The foreign secretary in replying said: "No; and I may add that no such rights were claimed in the incident referred to. What I am convinced is that while in the presence of such a catastrophe there was a certain amount of misunderstanding, the American admiral was inspired by single-minded motives and a desire to relieve suffering. Any other construction placed on his action is most unworthy and untrue."

Mr. Collings then asked if the fact did not remain that in opposition to the governor armed troops were landed where there was no cause or warrant for such action; but the foreign secretary replied: "According to my information, the question conveys a statement which is not borne out by facts."

The foreign secretary's tribute to Rear-Admiral Davis was heartily cheered by the members of the House of Commons.

WINNIPEG CLEARINGS.

Winnipeg, March 14.—The bank clearings for the week ending to-day were $9,473,924. The clearings for the same week last year amounted to $6,385,663, and in 1906, $5,396,844.

During last season 1,188 pupils at the Nottingham day schools have been taught the art of swimming.

SCHMITZ AND RUEF.

Applications For Writs of Habeas Corpus Denied by Supreme Court.

San Francisco, March 15.—The supreme court this afternoon denied the applications of Mayor Schmitz and Abraham Ruef for writs of habeas corpus.

In the case of the mayor the merits of his application were not dwelt on at all. The court held that his plea that he was unjustly held in custody on grand jury indictments was made merely to make out a case of habeas corpus, but his restraint was not actual, but technical, and that he became a nominal prisoner for the purpose of obtaining the writ. The court cited a previous decision in a similar case in which it was decided that hereafter the court will make strict inquiry in this class of cases, "whether the alleged imprisonment is actual or voluntary, and if it is found to be as in this case, a merely nominal restraint voluntarily submitted to for the purpose of making a case of habeas corpus the petition will be summarily dismissed."

Ruef's petition cited the allegations that the grand jury was illegal because one of the jurors had within a year served as a petty juror. The court held this plea to lack weight. Another allegation was that the indictment did not allege an offence. The court held that the charge of attempted extortion was clearly stated. On the subject of admitting the prisoner to bail, the court decided that that was a question entirely within the discretion of the trial court.

The application for another writ of habeas corpus made yeserday by Ruef was argued to-day.

DIED FROM INJURIES.

Montreal, March 16.—John Griffin, who was brutally assaulted at the iron foundry of Warden Ring & Co. on Thursday by a Russian named Boulsk, is dead. His assailant, who is charged with murder, is at large.

BURNED TO DEATH.

Engelwood, N. J., March 16.—In the fire at the Upton Sinclair Socialistic colony to-day Mr. Briggs, of Providence, R. I., carpenter, was cut off by smoke and burned to death on the third floor.

THE MARKING OF CANNED FOOD

THE WORD "CANADA" GUARANTEE OF PURITY

Sir Richard Cartwright's Statement Regarding Pure Food Bill at Senate Committee.

(Associated Press.)

Ottawa, March 16.—In the committe of the Senate on the bill respecting the inspection of meats and canned foods, Sir Richard Cartright said there had been objection by lobster packers and salmon canners to the provision providing that each package must be marked with the name and address of the packer and a statement of its contents. He had agreed the last time that the bill was up it would be amended to give the government authority to exempt tins of lobsters and salmon from this provision.

Sir Richard said it had now been decided to go a step further and give the government power to exempt from marking all articles prepared for food in cans or in any package whatever. Sir Richard said he thought the time was coming, if it had not already arrived, when the word "Canada" on any package of food would be all that would be desired by the buyer.

The bill was reported.

RESIGNATION INVOLVED.

Mr. Hyman Will Have to Resign Over Again.

Ottawa, March 14.—At the privileges and elections committee to-day letters from Mrs. Hyman were read showing that last November and December Mr. Hyman was a nervous wreck and on some days was unable to sign his name.

Mr. Duffield, of London, was examined and showed he had got a telegram from Mr. Hyman asking him to have his resignation properly attested.

The sub-committee reported to the general committee that Mr. Hyman's resignation was invalid and inoperative, and the committee reported the whole matter to the House.

This means that Mr. Hyman will have to resign over again.

A telegram from Mr. Hyman to Mr. Duffield said that any insinuation that he had resigned for anything other than that contained in his letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier was absolutely untrue. This was said in answer to cuttings from Toronto newspapers after Mr. Fowler made his speech in the House.

HONDURAS DEFEATED.

Many Were Killed and Wounded on Both Sides—Seventy Officers Captured by Revolutionists.

Managua, Nicaragua, March 14.—The Honduras revolutionists yesterday defeated the forces of President Bonilla of Honduras near Tegucigalpa, after fifteen hours' fighting. The revolutionists captured seventy officers. Many men were killed or wounded on both sides. The Honduras commander was General Sotero Barehona, minister of war of Honduras.

This dispatch has been received here from President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, dated Sanchez, Honduras, March 13: "The enemy was completely defeated at Maraita to-day after two days' fighting. I have confiscated at Corinto a thousand rifles destined for the Honduran government."

TWENTY-FOUR PERSONS DROWNED

THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES DRIVEN FROM HOMES

Enormous Damage Caused by Floods in Pennsylvania--Fires Added to Devastation.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 15.—The crest of the flood passed this city at 6 a. m. At 8 a. m. the rivers began to show signs of falling. No immediate danger is apparent at this hour. The rivers are rushing out at a terrific rate, and at this point fears are considerably alleviated.

Pittsburgers were amazed at the immensity of the flood in the Mononghela, Alleghenny and Ohio rivers, which has submerged

Ten Square Miles

of down town sections of the city. After passing the highest stage ever known, 37 feet, the water slowly receded. Enormous damage has been caused, and over 100,000 persons have been temporarily thrown out of employment. Every transportation company in the city is interrupted. Skiffs are carrying hundreds of people to their places of business, and the utilization of wagons and horses as conveyances, which did valuable service yesterday, were discontinued owing to the strenuous protests by the Humane Society.

Twenty fatalities have occurred in Alleghenny county directly due to the high water.

Four massive bridges, the sixteenth, nineteenth, seventeenth and sixth street structures were threatened with destruction owing to heavy ice gorges, which came down the Alleghenny river, and are believed they have been greatly weakened. That the bridges were not swept away is considered marvellous by river men.

Frightened guests in the Lincoln, Colonial Annex and Anderson hotels, located in the midst of the flood,

Are Marooned,

and are watching the high water from the windows. Four theatres, the Gaiety, Alvina, Belasco and the Bijou, are flooded, and will be dark for several days. Most of the fire engines in the down-town district are pumping water from buildings along Fifth avenue.

The First National Bank building, Fifth avenue and Wood street, the basement is submerged to a depth of several feet and strenuous efforts are being made to protect the dynamos which generate power to the Western Union Telegraph Company. The office of the Associated Press is located in the building, and it was expected throughout the night that the wires would fail. Strenuous efforts of a force of men assisted by a fire engine saved the dynamos, but shortly before 9 o'clock the electric light dynamos succumbed to the effect of the water.

Many towns are cut off from this city. Thousands of families have been

Forced From Their Homes,

and it is expected the conditions will prevail for several days.

At Wheeling great damage has been done, and train and telegraph service is shut off. The crest of the flood has not been reached at that point.

To add to the confusion in Pittsburg two early morning fires broke out. The firemen experienced difficulty in fighting the flames, owing to a lack of water in the mains, caused by the volume of water, which has demoralized everything.

Two Fires.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 15.—Fire today destroyed the plant of the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company at the foot of South 14th street, and slightly damaged the bolt works of the Oliver Iron & Steel Works adjoining. The loss to the tin plate company was about $25,000, and to the Oliver Company, $10,000. The fire originated from a car of lime, which was set on fire by the high water.

A second fire broke out on Mount Washington, across the Mononaghela river about the same time, and at 10 o'clock four business houses and 15 dwellings had been destroyed. Two attempts were made to stop the flames by dynamiting adjacent buildings, but the wreckage caught fire. No water is available, and the flames are being fought with chemicals and a bucket brigade. Several of the residences were tenements.

Four Persons Drowned.

Parkersburg, W. Va., March 15.—Four persons were drowned last night in an effort to escape from their home at Riverside to a place of safety from the floods. William Francis, his wife, daughter and son are the victims. They had proceeded only a few years from their house when the torrent overtook their boat.

Houses Flooded.

Wellsville, Ohio, March 15.—Twenty-three streets here are under water and about 300 houses are flooded.

GOLD IN ENGLAND.

Cottages Built of Gold Quartz Taken From Rich Reef.

A gold reef, equal to those of the Rand, it is claimed, exists in England, and within 200 miles of London, says the London Mail.

Where this second Johannesburg is only five people know. They are the directors of a syndicate which was founded a few months ago for the purpose of developing it.

The latest rumor as to the whereabouts of the reef places it in Gloucestershire, where it is stated cottages built of gold quartz stand above the reef, the cottagers little knowing that their humble abodes may contain gold worth many pounds.

The directors intend keeping the position of the reef, which is said to be thirty-one miles long, a profound secret until options have been obtained over all the land in the neighborhood.