

# YEAR 1907 LEAVES A RECORD OF DISASTER

Natural Phenomena and Direful Accident Furnish Long Lists of Dead.

## EPITOME OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

Recent Financial Disturbance—Oklahoma a State—Fine and Gift of Millions.

The chronicler who scans the record of 1907 that he may write of it finds himself confronted by an exhibit of destruction and disaster that he had not fully appreciated before. Since the opening day of the year the great catastrophes that have been accompanied by large loss of life have numbered 24, an average of slightly more than two for each month. Several of these have been great convulsions of nature. There was the earthquake that destroyed Kingston, Jamaica, out of which came the disagreeable Swettenham incident; subsequently occurred other earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in Mexico, Chile and China. An earthquake and mountain slide that destroyed the town of Karatagh, Russian Turkistan, snuffed out 15,000 lives, and a frightful typhoon at Hongkong, China, killed unknown hundreds of the inhabitants. A hurricane in the Caroline Islands wiped out 200 lives; a great flood in Japan caused 600 deaths. Among the catastrophes originating in the operations and enterprises of humanity there have been explosions—several of them in mines, others in blast furnaces and on shipboard—collisions of ships and of railway trains, the collapse of the great uncompleted bridge over the St. Lawrence river near Quebec, and the blowing up of the Du Pont powder works in Fontanet, Ind. All these produced long casualty lists.

The roll of eminent dead is also an extensive one. Sweden has lately been called upon to mourn the decease of its beloved king, Oscar II., and his son and successor has assumed the reins of government. In Persia, also, the old Shah has died and a new one rules. Not death, but abdication has also changed the governmental head in Korea. Politics, art, science, letters, and the platform have each paid its toll to death in the loss of some foremost representatives. Among the names may be recorded those of former President M. Casimir Perier of France, Senators Morgan, Pettus and Alger, Galusha A. Grow, James H. Eckels, Maurice Grau, Richard Mansfield, Joseph Joachim, Edvard Grieg, James McGranahan, Col. Will S. Hays, Prof. Alexander S. Herschel, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Dr. John Watson (Jan Maclaren), Theodore Tilton, Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, Francis Murphy and Mrs. Helen M. Gougar. Mrs. Wm. McKinley and John Alexander Dowie are also in the list of the well-known dead.

A financial disturbance of widespread influence has made itself felt during the last three months of 1907.

The number of States in the Union has been increased to 46 by the admission of Oklahoma.

That modern minds are not appalled by large amounts is shown by two of the year's transactions. The Standard Oil Company has been fined \$25,000,000 by a Chicago judge, and John D. Rockefeller has made donations of \$32,000,000 to educational projects.

Two great expositions have been held. That at Jamestown, Va., did not receive the patronage expected and is in the hands of a receiver. The other was in Greater Louisville, Ky.

A public work of vast magnitude was begun when Mayor McClellan of New York broke ground for the construction of the great Catskill aqueduct which in a few years is to convey to the metropolis an inexhaustible supply of pure water.

The Harry Thaw trial in New York and the general strike of telegraphers the country over were subjects of much interest to the public while they continued.

The principal happenings of 1907 are briefly given below:

- JANUARY.**
- 2—Wreck on Rock Island near Voland, Kansas, kills 35 persons. . . . Chas. M. Floyd, Republican, elected Governor of New Hampshire by Legislature.
  - 5—Bomb thrown in Fourth Street National bank, Philadelphia.
  - 8—Death of Shah of Persia.
  - 9—James Cullen lynched in Charles City, Iowa. . . . Gen. Vladimir Pavloff assassinated in St. Petersburg. . . . 30 miners killed by explosion in Pittsburg blast furnace.
  - 10—Typhoon in Philippines kills 100 persons.
  - 11—Fire near Strassburg, Germany, causes 20 deaths. . . . \$1,000,000 fire in Lancaster, Pa.
  - 14—Earthquake destroys Kingston, Jamaica.

- 19—Sixty lives lost in two Big Four railroad wrecks in Indiana. . . . Mohamud Ali Mirza crowned Shah of Persia. . . . Admiral Davis and American squadron sent away from Kingston, Jamaica, by Gov. Swettenham.
- 20—Death of Josiah Flynt Willard, tramp and author. . . . England apologizes for Swettenham incident.
- 23—Twenty miners killed by explosion near Primero, Colo. . . . Thaw trial begins in New York.
- 24—Death of Senator R. A. Alger of Michigan.
- 28—Explosions in mine near Saarbrueck, Prussia, kill 300 persons. . . . 100 lives lost by typhoon in Hongkong harbor.
- 29—Ninety miners killed by mine explosion near Thurmond, W. Va.

- FEBRUARY.**
- 7—John D. Rockefeller makes \$32,000,000 gift to educational work.
  - 12—200 lives lost by sinking of Joy line steamer Larchmont off Block Island, R. I. . . . Death of ex-Gov. Frank W. Higgins of New York.
  - 14—25 persons killed and 100 injured in train wreck on New York Central in New York City.
  - 20—\$173,000 stolen from U. S. sub-treasury in Chicago.
  - 21—English steamer Berlin goes down off coast of Holland; 180 lives lost. . . . Cornelius J. Shea and associates acquitted of conspiracy in Chicago. . . . Mrs. Dora McDonald shoots and kills Webster S. Guerin in Chicago.
  - 22—Pennsylvania railroad's 18-hour flyer wrecked near Johnstown, Pa. . . . Missouri Legislature adjourned by small-pox scare.

- MARCH.**
- 4—Fifty-ninth Congress adjourns sine die. . . . Three changes in President's cabinet take effect.
  - 7—Strother brothers in Culpeper, Va., acquitted of murder under "unwritten law."
  - 9—Death of John Alexander Dowie. . . . Will J. Davis freed of responsibility for Iroquois theater disaster by Judge Kimbrough of Danville, Ill.
  - 12—Death of M. Casimir Perier, former president of France. . . . Magazines on French battleship Jena explode at Toulon, killing 80 and injuring 500 persons.
  - 14—Death of Maurice Grau, impresario.
  - 16—Burning of Helicon Hall, Upton Sinclair's colony, near Englewood, N. J.
  - 18—Greater Louisville exposition opened.
  - 19—Death of Thomas Bailey Aldrich.
  - 22—Many persons killed in riots in Moldavia.
  - 25—Death of Alexander Reaubien, first white male born in Chicago.
  - 31—Death of Galusha A. Grow, former Congressman from Pennsylvania.

- APRIL.**
- 2—Chicago elects Fred A. Busse, Republican, Mayor and approves new traction ordinance by majority of 33,126.
  - 4—Hotel fire in San Francisco kills 17 persons. . . . Lunacy commission declares Harry K. Thaw sane.
  - 9—Howard Nicholas and Leonard Leopold convicted of murder of Mrs. Margaret Leslie in Chicago.
  - 11—Lord Cromer, British ruler in Egypt, resigns.
  - 13—Standard Oil Company convicted in Illinois court of rebating.
  - 14—Death of James H. Eckels of Chicago. . . . Earthquakes at Chilapa and Chilpancingo, Mexico.
  - 15—Great Northern's Oriental Limited derailed by wreckers at Bartlett, N. D.
  - 16-19—Volcanic eruptions in Chile.
  - 20—Great fire in native quarter of Manila.
  - 26—Opening of Jamestown (Va.) Exposition.
  - 30—Hurricane in Caroline Islands kills 200 people.

- MAY.**
- 2—Great loss of life from explosion in Canton, China.
  - 3—Sir Alexander Swettenham retires as Governor of Jamaica.
  - 6—Dr. John Watson (Jan Maclaren) dies in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. . . . Tornado rips out towns of Birthright and Ridgeway, Texas.
  - 10—Son born to King Alfonso of Spain.
  - 11—Mystic Shriner special wrecked at Honda, Cal., and 31 lives lost.
  - 12—Mine fire at Velardena, Mexico, kills 90 men. . . . Earthquake in China kills 4,000 persons.
  - 17—Isaac Stephenson elected United States Senator from Wisconsin.
  - 25—Death of Theodore Tilton in Paris.
  - 26—Death of Mrs. William McKinley.

- JUNE.**
- 5—Oscar II. resumes reign as King of Sweden.
  - 6—Sudden death of Mrs. Helen M. Gougar.
  - 7—Fatal and destructive tornado in Kentucky and southern Illinois and Indiana.
  - 9—Death of Julia Magruder, novelist.
  - 10—Great strike against government in wine growing regions of France. . . . 500 lives lost in burning of Chinese theater in Hongkong.
  - 11—Death of Senator John T. Morgan of Alabama.
  - 12—200 lives lost in hurricane on Caroline Islands.
  - 13—Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco convicted of extortion.
  - 14—Olympic Theater burns in Chicago.
  - 16—Czar dissolves the Duma.
  - 18—Death of Prof. Alexander S. Herschel, English astronomer.
  - 20—Mayor McClellan of New York breaks first sod for construction of great Catskill aqueduct.
  - 26—Fire destroys block of buildings adjoining Jamestown exposition.
  - 30—Death of Francis Murphy, temperance evangelist.

- JULY.**
- 3—Fatal windstorm sweeps western Wisconsin.
  - 6—John D. Rockefeller appears as witness in court in Chicago.

- 7—Tornado damages Long Pine, Neb.
- 8—Death of James McGranahan, gospel song writer.
- 14—Assassination of President Fallieres attempted in Paris.
- 15—Powder explosion on battleship Georgia kills 8 seamen and injures 13.
- 18—Emperor of Korea abdicates.
- 20—30 killed in Pere Marquette wreck near Salem, Mich.
- 21—Steamer and freight boat collide off California coast and 150 lives are lost.
- 23—Death of Col. Will S. Hays, ballad writer.
- 27—Death of Senator E. W. Pettus of Alabama.
- 28—Jury in Boise, Idaho, acquits William D. Hayward of murder of Gov. Steunenburg. . . . Big fire at Coney Island, N. Y.

- AUGUST.**
- 1—Standard Oil Co. fined \$25,000,000 for accepting railroad rebates by Judge K. M. Landis of Chicago.
  - 8—Beginning of telegraphers' general strike.
  - 12—Death of Robert A. Pinkerton.
  - 15—Joseph Joachim, violinist, dies in Berlin.
  - 19—Prince Wilhelm of Sweden at Jamestown exposition.
  - 26—Great fire in Hakodate, Japan.
  - 27—Nelson Morris, Chicago packer, dies.
  - 29—Great bridge over St. Lawrence river, near Quebec, collapses, carrying 84 workmen to death.
  - 30—Death of Richard Mansfield.

- SEPTEMBER.**
- 4—Death of Edvard Grieg, Norwegian composer.
  - 7—Anti-Japanese outbreak in Vancouver, B. C.
  - 9—Japanese battleship Kashima blows up at Kure with loss of 40 lives.
  - 15—25 lives lost in wreck of excursion train near Canaan, N. H.
  - 17—First election in Oklahoma. . . . Chicago defeats new charter.
  - 21—Frank J. Constantine convicted of murder of Mrs. Louise Gentry in Chicago. . . . Grandstand blown down in Hegins, Pa., and 50 people hurt.
  - 25—Flood in Japan drowns 600 persons.
  - 28—Eight lives lost in B. & O. wreck at Bellaire, Ohio.
  - 30—McKinley mausoleum dedicated in Canton, Ohio.

- OCTOBER.**
- 6—Death of Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, authoress.
  - 10—Steamship Lusitania crosses Atlantic ocean in four days twenty hours. . . . Death of Mrs. Cassie Chadwick in Columbus (Ohio) penitentiary.
  - 12—Steamship Cypress wrecked on Lake Superior and 22 lives lost.
  - 14—Town of San Jose del Cabo, Lower California, destroyed by cloudburst.
  - 15—Du Pont powder works near Fontanet, Ind., explodes, killing 50 people.
  - 16—Wall street flurry causes great slump in copper stocks.
  - 22-23—Panic in New York and the East marked by suspension of Knickerbocker Trust Company and of various financial concerns, appointment of receivers for Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, and wild scenes on Stock Exchange.
  - 23—Germans win balloon race from St. Louis with France second.
  - 27—New \$20,000,000 Union station opened in Washington.
  - 30—Earthquake and mountain slide destroys town of Karatagh, Russian Turkistan, and causes 15,000 deaths.

- NOVEMBER.**
- 1—Great railway strike in Great Britain called.
  - 5—End of telegraphers' strike. . . . Elections in many States.
  - 11—Death of Dexter M. Ferry, seedsmen, of Detroit.
  - 15—Death of Moncure D. Conway, American author. . . . Fire destroys town of Cleary, Alaska.
  - 16—Oklahoma admitted to statehood.
  - 24—Jury in Steve Adams case in Rathdrum, Idaho, disagrees.
  - 25—Thirteen lives lost in New York tenement house fire.
  - 26—Death of Gen. B. D. Pritchard of Allegan, Mich., whose regiment captured Jefferson Davis.

- DECEMBER.**
- 1—Explosion in mine at Fayette City, Pa., kills 40 miners.
  - 2—Sixtieth Congress opens.
  - 4—King Oscar of Sweden resigns government into hands of Crown Prince as regent.
  - 6—Explosion entombs 400 miners at Monongah, W. Va.
  - 8—Death of King Oscar II. of Sweden and accession of his son as Gustaf V.
  - 11—President Roosevelt reiterates his declaration that he will not again be a candidate for chief executive.
  - 16—Dust explosion kills 75 men in mine at Yolande, Ala. . . . Great war fleet sails from Hampton Roads for Pacific.
  - 17—Death of Lord Kelvin, English scientist.

**New Principle in Structural Work.**

A new principle in engineering practice is described by the Scientific American in the case of a lookout tower built by Alexander Graham Bell, in which the structure is composed of tetrahedrons, and is said to be the first iron structure built on this principle. Each tetrahedral cell, which is the unit of construction, is made of one-half inch iron piping, and measures exactly 48 inches from tip to tip. Two hundred and sixty of these cells were employed in the tower, which rises 70 feet above the ground. Some of the advantages claimed for this method of construction are lightness, great rigidity, rapidity and ease of construction, very little false work being required, and the facility with which any part may be renewed.

Yellow and black pearls are in demand in Europe.

More potatoes are eaten in Belgium than in Ireland.

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

FULL OF SUGAR.

**Good Report on Klamath Country Sugar Beets.**

Klamath Falls—Frank Ira White of the Enterprise Land & Investment company has just received reports from the department of agriculture relative to samples of sugar beets raised on the Enterprise tract. The beets were taken from the same tract as were those sent to Professor Knisely some time ago, but were fully matured, while the others were not. Professor Knisely's test showed from 17.40 to 19.35 per cent pure sugar, while the department test is one or two per cent higher, with a very high degree of purity.

These beets produced 8,286 pounds to the quarter-acre tract, or nearly 17 tons to the acre.

The department of agriculture in a letter to Mr. White says Klamath county's sugar beets are of the most excellent quality and that prospects are bright for the industry in this county.

**Signs of Oil at Bonanza.**

Bonanza—The possibilities of developing oil wells in this immediate vicinity are now more encouraging than at any previous time. In boring a well for a new livery stable in this town a strata of black oil sandstone was struck and specialists have pronounced it an unmistakable sign of the existence of oil. Several other places in Klamath county, especially in that portion surrounding Bonanza, show signs of oil. The prospects are good and the development of the same may result in the discovery of one of the richest oil regions on this coast.

**More Traveling Libraries.**

Salem—The Oregon Library commission held its regular session last week at the commission's rooms in the state house. W. B. Ayer and Miss Isom, members of the commission, were in attendance, besides the governor. It was decided to buy 25 more traveling libraries, making 90 in all, that will be placed in circulation as a result of the commission's first year's work. It was decided to establish an exchange station for Eastern Oregon at Baker City.

**Fruitgrowers Plan Meeting.**

Eugene—The Commercial club promotion department has decided to join with the Lane County Horticultural society in sharing the expense of the proposed mass meeting of fruitgrowers and citizens, to be held here Saturday, January 4. Prominent speakers will address the meetings and the people throughout the county will be asked to send in questions which they would like the experts to answer. The committee in charge has selected Dr. D. A. Paine to act as chairman of the mass meeting.

**Hood River Apple Crop.**

Hood River—Complete returns from Hood River's 1907 apple crop show that the growers will receive in round numbers \$200,000 for their product, notwithstanding the money trouble, car shortage and reduced crop. This is approximately what the Hood River crop brought last year when it was in the neighborhood of 20,000 boxes more, and is accounted for by the fact that the apples brought a much larger average price. The entire crop is now placed at 110,000 boxes.

**Colonizer at Klamath.**

Klamath Falls—George L. McDonough, colonization agent of the Union Pacific railway, who is expected to arrive in Klamath Falls next week, is now at MacDoel, the new Dunkard town on the California Northeastern railway in Butte valley. He comes to Klamath Falls to become familiar with colonizing possibilities here. He will be accompanied by a Dunkard elder, D. C. Campbell, of Colfax, Wash.

**Sawmill in Christmas Sock.**

Marshfield—The new office building of the big planing plant of the C. A. Smith Lumber & Manufacturing company was opened and dedicated Christmas Eve. Festivities were held and many citizens attended. The office building is now completed and in use. The mill proper will be finished and ready for operation in February.

**Select by Conventions.**

Salem—In answer to an inquiry from Chairman G. A. Westgate, of the Republican state central committee, Attorney General Crawford has rendered an opinion in which he says that delegates to the national conventions and candidates for presidential elector must be chosen at conventions and not under the direct primary.

**Shut Down on Keno Canal.**

Klamath Falls—The reclamation service has closed down on the Keno canal on account of the wet weather, keeping only the derrick gang and the engineering corps. The shutdown was made necessary on account of the wet weather.

APPLE SHIPMENTS INCREASE

**Railroads Give Out Figures Showing Oregon's Sale of Fruits.**

Portland—More than twice as many apples were shipped out of this state during 1907 than in 1906, according to reports compiled by the railroads. The Southern Pacific and O. R. & N. lines have completed figures showing the cars of apples shipped from every point on the allied lines, and the total number of cars is a surprise.

"Nearly all these apples were bought f. o. b. at the station nearest the orchards," said General Freight Agent Miller, of the Harriman lines. "This shows the fruit is in demand, and Eastern buyers come here in search of it. The prices this season are better than ever before. One station on our lines that never shipped an apple before this year sent away 40 cars to the East a short time ago. This indicates how the apple industry is going ahead. I predict it will only be a few years before apple growing will be one of the biggest activities of Oregon people."

**Can't Use Wood.**

Burns—The forest rangers of the Blue mountain forest reserve have fined several Harney citizens for cutting timber in the reserve without permits from the forest guards. The largest fine imposed was on B. A. Dickenson, who operates a sawmill about eight miles from Harney. He was caught taking timber from government land and fined \$300 for about 17 trees. The sawmill men have been making this a practice for years before the reserve was created, and thought it no harm to continue the practice. Last fall was the first time a forest guard has stationed here to give permits for cutting timber for wood and other purposes. There has always been plenty of timber outside the reserve for wood and timber for building purposes until lately, when it was all secured by outside people, to be transferred in time to large timber companies.

**Railroad Buys Laidlaw.**

Laidlaw—The rumor has been rife in this community for some time that the Laidlaw townsite had been sold to the Mount Hood Railroad company, but until now these rumors could not be verified. The verification comes from the fact that the abstracts of title are now being prepared at Prineville preparator to a formal transfer of the property to the purchasing company.

**To Indict Nevada Sheepmen.**

Pendleton—Through the efforts of Dr. W. H. Lytle, state sheep inspector, indictments will be returned against P. Anderson, a millionaire sheepman of Nevada, for bringing flocks over the state line into Oregon without first giving notice to the state sheep inspector.

**Wheat Moving Again.**

Pendleton—Now that wheat has gone up to 70 cents in the local wheat market some of the growers are selling. For a time the price was down to 66 cents, and very little was being sold.

- PORTLAND MARKETS.**
- Butter—Fancy creamery, 35@37½c per pound.
  - Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8½@9c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 5@6½c.
  - Poultry—Average old hens, 12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11½c; spring chickens, 11@12c; roosters, 8c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 15c; dressed, choice, 18@20c; geese, live, 15c; ducks, 14c; pigeons, 11@15.50; squabs, 12@13.
  - Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 32½@35c per dozen.
  - Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 6@6½c; packers, 6@6½c.
  - Wheat—Club, 83c; bluestem, 85c; valley, 83c; red, 81c.
  - Oats—No. 1 white, 428; gray, 428.
  - Barley—Feed, \$27 per ton; brewing, \$31; rolled, \$30.
  - Corn—Whole, \$32; cracked, \$33.
  - Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$16 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$22@23; clover, \$15; cheat, \$15; grain hay, \$15@16; alfalfa, \$15; vetch, \$14.
  - Fruits—Apples, 75c@82c per box; peaches, 75c@81c per crate; pears, \$1.25@1.75 per box; cranberries, \$9.50@12 per barrel.
  - Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets \$1 per sack; beans, 7@8c per pound; cabbage, 1c per pound; cauliflower, 75c@81c per dozen; celery, \$3.25@3.50 per crate; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peas, 11c per pound; peppers, 8@17c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1½c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach 6c per pound; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1½c per pound; tomatoes, \$1.50 per box.
  - Onions—\$1.75@1.85 per hundred.
  - Potatoes—50@65c per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, \$2.75 per cwt.
  - Hops—1907, prime and choice, 5@7½c per pound; olds, 1@2c per pound.
  - Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 13@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 18@20c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@30c per pound.