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THOUSANDS KILLED BY SERIES OF EARTHQUAKES AND VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS ON JAPANESE ISLAND

Towns Destroyed By Quakes And Inhabitants Killed By Belching Volcano--Property Loss Reaches Millions

Tokio, Jan. 13.—Fifty or sixty thousand people may have perished in Japan as the result of the eruptions of Sakurajima, a volcano of Southern Japan. Communication with the stricken city is cut off and the information comes by wireless from a warship that has been sent to give relief. The ship cannot approach close enough to gain accurate information. Kagoshima, with a population of 64,000 is destroyed. Two villages on Onsakura Island destroyed altogether, population 16,000. Earthquake did no great damage but the eruption of Sakurajima was terrific.

Tokio, Jan. 13.—Kagoshima, Japan, is totally destroyed by the eruption of the volcano Sakurajima, according to messages tonight from a warship which has been sent to bring relief to the stricken people of the district. The town has 64,000 population most of whom are employed as Sastuma and pottery manufacturers. It is believed that thousands have perished. Fugitives from the island of Sakura

estimate that at least five thousand had perished. Inhabitants of the island of Kiusiu insisted on remaining after they had been warned by 150 shocks. Of these it is estimated that half have been killed. Reports are current that another volcano in Central Japan has burst into activity.

Thousands killed by series of quakes Tokyo, Jan. 13.—Thousands are believed to have been killed by volcano eruptions and violent earthquakes in the South end of Kiusiu Islands since Saturday. There have been 150 earthquakes during that time but the volcano Sakurajimo on the small island of Sakura three miles off the city of Kagoshima, the capital of Sastuma province, did not burst into activity until yesterday. Few details of the catastrophe have been learned here but the latest reports indicate however, that two towns with a total population of 16,000 have been almost depopulated and the towns destroyed. The city of Kagoshima is being evacuated and property loss will probably reach into millions.

ANNUAL MEETING COMMERCIAL CLUB TO BE HELD TONIGHT

Tonight is the annual meeting night of the La Grande Commercial club and the election of officers for the ensuing year. Tom Richardson will arrive in the city tonight at 8:30 and will meet informally with the members after the election which takes place promptly at 7:30 p. m. Tomorrow he will address the high school students and in the evening will speak to the business men and the ladies of the city. He is desirous of having a large attendance of the women at this meeting and informs the secretary of the Commercial club that he has a special message for them. He is sent out by the Oregon Development League and the Commercial club of Portland and is arousing enthusiasm for special exhibits for the coming year on account of the World's Fair and the resultant traffic through Oregon.

Dead Horses Draw Pay.

Washington, Jan. 13.—"Paying for a dead horse," is no more agreeable to the United States than to a private individual, even when the defunct animal is assessed at the modest price of \$50. Comptroller George E. Downey, of the treasury, has just issued a ruling that under certain circumstances Uncle Sam will pay for a horse that dies in the service of its country hereafter, but that nothing will be paid for the horse that sacrificed its life on the altar of patriotism on April 12, 1912.

On April 12, 1912, a member of the forestry in Colorado hired a horse which died late the same day. It was discovered that the secretary of the agriculture, under whose jurisdiction the forestry bureau comes, had no authority to pay for the animal. Accordingly on March 4, last, con-

THIEVES BREAK INTO THE IMBLER CO-OPERATIVE STORE AND CARRY OFF THIRTY CENTS

Imbler, Jan. 13.—(Special)—Loot to the amount of 30 cents is known to have been taken by a bold robbery of the Union County Co-operative store here about 4:00 o'clock this morning. While nothing definite exists to give clues, it is thought that earmarks are of a local color, and Imbler prob-

ably contributed the personnel of the robbers. In order to get at the sum of 30 cents the robbers were forced to carry the cash register to the back yard and there break it to pieces. A reward of \$50 for the apprehension of the thieves has been offered today.

MISS DOROTHY CAMPBELL



Miss Dorothy Campbell, the beautiful daughter of Congressman and Mrs. Philip P. Campbell of Kansas, was formally introduced to Washington society on December 16. She has just returned from a trip to Panama with her father.

WILLARD NOT GUILTY--JURY

CALIFORNIA FIGHTING GAME IS GIVEN SUPPORT.

Superior Court of Los Angeles Frees Jess Willard.

Los Angeles, Jan. 13.—Boxing was given a late approval in the superior court of Los Angeles county when the jury found Jess Willard, heavy-weight pugilist, not guilty of prize-fighting. The case grew out of the fatal match between himself and Bill Young last August. The jury retired late yesterday afternoon.

All California has been on edge awaiting the decision of this case and it was freely predicted that the fighting game was at an end in this state. The source of revenue from fight promotions has been heavy not only through the channels of gate receipts and license money, but principally from heavy traffic that preceded fights of note. Church societies have been fighting the permission relentlessly and had thought themselves victorious through he fatal accident that caused the case to come into court.

Congress passed a law permitting the secretary to reimburse owners of horses which in the future die in government harness.

Col. F. G. Gaffey, solicitor for the department of agriculture, in a recent opinion, held that as this act was of a remedial nature, it should work retrospectively as well as prospectively. But Comptroller Downey held otherwise; so only the dead horses of the future will be paid for.

Prisoners Clean Jail.

W. M. Houghton and Ed Parker, arrested and found guilty in municipal court on drunk charges and unable to pay their fines of \$10.00 were busy today earning their mid-day meal by thoroughly cleaning out the city jail.

Shipping Dried Prunes.

J. F. Dean is in the city today transacting business and looking after final details in the shipment of a carload of dried prunes from Cove to the Eastern market. A portion of the Dean crop at Cove will be handled by the La Grande grocery company.

EAST GRIPPED IN HARD COLD SNAP AND GALE

FOURTEEN BELOW ZERO RECORD SET AT ALBANY, N. Y., LAST NIGHT.

MERCURY FALLING WITH MARKED RAPIDITY TODAY

Various Sections of the East Within Zone of Cold Snap--Shipping Is Threatened With Serious Losses By Gale Sweeping Along the Atlantic Coast This Week.

New York, Jan. 13.—The east is in the grip of one of the worst storms in years. Temperatures are falling rapidly and a terrific gale is sweeping the Atlantic coast, and threatening heavy loss to shipping. The thermometer here is four above, but is rapidly falling throughout the state. At Albany it is 14 below, 10 at Rochester, and 22 at Toronto. Similar conditions prevail in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and other New England states. Suffering, among the poor is intense in New York and the charitable organizations are almost swamped with requests for relief and assistance.

Former School Teacher Back.

C. E. Oliver, of Lakeview, Lake county, Oregon, and superintendent of schools of that county, is in the city visiting some of his old friends and acquaintances. Mr. Oliver taught schools in this county for 25 years mostly in the neighborhood of Summerville. He is a son of R. A. Oliver of this city and a brother to Mrs. Fred Johnson also of La Grande.

Diplomats In Glory Tonight

THE MID-WINTER SOCIAL SEASON OPENS.

GRAND BRAID SHOW

President Wilson to Entertain Diplomatic Corps This Evening.

Washington, Jan. 13.—The first of the year's official social affairs at the White House will be held tonight when the president formally receives the members of the foreign diplomatic corps here. From time immemorial, the president has always opened the official social season with this reception to the diplomats. Of the four big functions, the diplomatic, judiciary, congressional and army and navy receptions, the diplomatic is always the most brilliant. Besides the cabinet officials and their wives, the higher officials of the government and of the army and navy attend the diplomatic reception. The dress uniforms of the service men make a handsome setting with the magnificent and sometimes spectacularly unique dress worn by some of the foreign diplomats, especially those from the Orient.

WILSON BACK AT HIS DESK

JUMPS INTO PILE OF CONGESTED MAIL.

Discusses Special Message Draft With His Cabinet Officers.

Washington, Jan. 13.—President Wilson returned today, arriving at 7:35 from his trip south. He was in excellent health. His automobile rushed him to his office.

The president immediately dove into a pile of mail and accumulated problems awaiting solution. The cabinet met and discussed with him the tentative draft of the special address to be made to congress next week.

JURISTS UPHOLD KAY IN LEGAL ADVISE AFFAIR

CLAUDE MCCOLLOCH IS DENIED RIGHT TO DRAW SALARY WARRANT FROM STATE.

STATE AND COUNTY ATTORNEYS ADVISERS

Supreme Court Rules That Kay Was Right in Denying Salary Bill to Baker Man and Further Sets Out That in All Cases Attorney General and County Attorneys Are Advisers.

Salem, Jan. 13.—Employment of State Senator McCulloch, of Baker, by Corporation Commissioner Watson as legal assistant to the corporation department, was not legal. State Treasurer Tom Kay acted properly in refusing to pay McCulloch's salary warrant.

Such is the gist of an opinion that was handed down by the supreme court today and with the opinion came the advice that the attorney general and the district, or county, attorneys are the proper officials to give legal assistance to the state or any department of the state.

To Visit Southern State.

Mrs. J. W. Faulk left last night for Southern California where she will live for the winter. At Pocatello she will join her daughter, Mrs. Lena Selway, who will accompany her to the south. She will also visit her son, M. A. Faulk, who is in the navy at San Diego.

Big Egg Shipments Made.

George Corpe, of Cove, is in the city today. Mr. Corpe has disposed of 3600 dozen of eggs in La Grande, this winter.

BIG STEAMSHIP IS FLOUNDERED

PASSENGERS AND CARGO IN DANGER OF BEING LOST.

Heavy Gales Make Assistance Difficult--Vessels Rushing to Aid.

St. John, N. B., Jan. 13.—The royal steamship Cobequid went ashore last night on Briar Island according to a wireless this afternoon. The vessel carried a number of passengers and a valuable cargo. Her position is dangerous owing to the gales that have been blowing and the consequent heavy seas. Distress signals have been picked up by several vessels and they are steaming full steam ahead to the scene of the trouble. It is not thought any lives have been lost as yet, but if relief does not reach the passengers in time they may be dashed against the rocks.

Large vessels will not be able to come within close range of the vessel in distress and all efforts to save the passengers and crew will have to be confined to whatever efforts can be lent from shore and small craft.

A GOOD MANY WILL TRY IT.



—Webster in New York Globe.