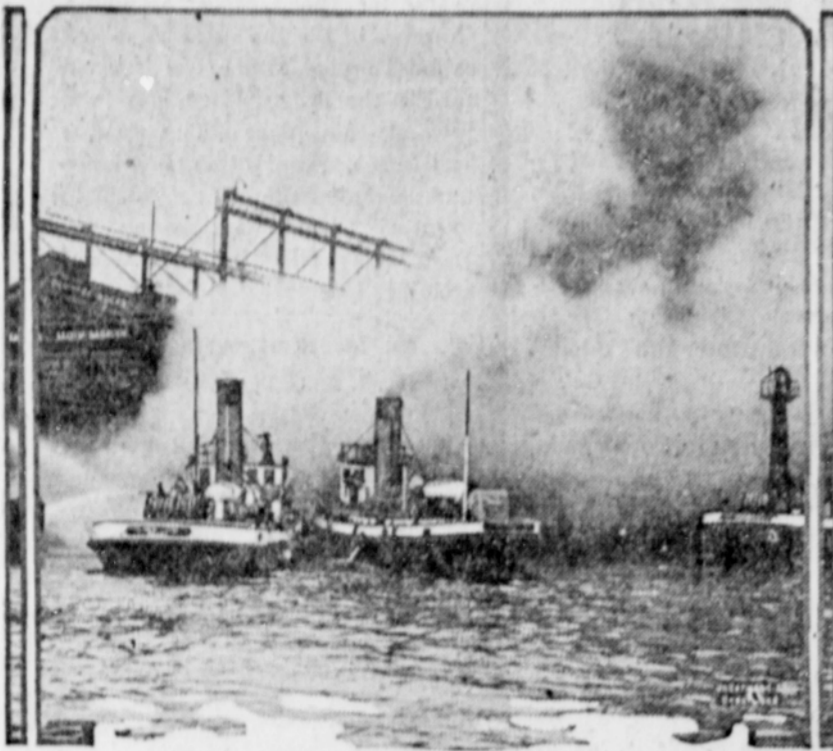


Flames Destroy a New York Pier



Scene during the big fire that wrecked the Furness Bermuda pier at Fifty-fifth street and the Hudson river, New York.

Many Claimants for Old Estates

Some Seek Ancestors' Property, Others Money.

New York.—The recent court action brought in Washington, in an effort to clear the title of an inch-and-a-half strip of land held by an asylum for 58 years is only one of a series of lawsuits involving old estates and wills made scores of years ago.

A suit which bore striking similarity to this and which was likewise brought up in the nation's capital about a year ago involved a claim for property in Maryland and the District of Columbia worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Mrs. Nellie Drake Pascoe, the plaintiff, said that just before her father died he told her of the possibility of her becoming immensely wealthy and gave her documents showing that what are now the District of Columbia and Prince George's county were at one time the property of James Anthony Drane II, who came to America with Lord Baltimore's party in 1634.

Acreage Not Known.

Drane, according to one of the papers, bought land in the neighborhood of Beltsville, Md., and settled in Prince George's county. How many acres this property included is not definitely known, but it was supposed to take in part of Washington, and it also extended five miles north and ten miles west. Although no information exists that would throw any light on just how the land got out of Drane's possession, it is believed by the claimant that "squatters" took it.

Although Washington has had its share of such cases, it cannot compare with New York city as the claimants' paradise. It is estimated that at least one suit is brought every year in an effort to recover old Manhattan estates. In July, 1924, a New Jersey woman, eighty-two years old, announced that she intended to try to obtain a portion of the land supposed to have been left by Anneke Jans Bogardus. This myth, like many others of its kind, originated in the tales that ancient estates remain unsettled on Manhattan island.

The myth, however, had its inception in real history, for Anneke Jans inherited the land from her first husband, Roelofs Jans, who purchased it in 1636. According to this story, she left the property under a 99-year lease to its occupants, with a clause that it would revert to her heirs when the period expired. A will is sup-

ODD TREE BRINGS EIGHT-YEAR-OLD CHILD A NICE NEST EGG

Gets \$6,000 for Early Reddening Apple Limb.

Mullica Hill, N. J.—Through a quirk in the process of the evolution of an apple tree, an eight-year-old boy here has on deposit for him in the bank \$6,000—a sum that has been set aside to give him a college education.

A biological sport is the term horticulturists and agriculturists apply to the chance production that gave the boy the money. "Peculiar," said neighbors around here, casting a passing look at the valuable apple tree.

Recently the biological sport, or natural phenomenon, came in for its share of acclaim, when fruit growers, farmers, agriculturists and horticulturists from many states journeyed to the farm of Lewis Mood, several miles outside of Mullica Hill.

Almost 1,000 persons gathered in the 50-acre orchard to look at the phenomenon that appeared on Mood's farm. A graceful, low-sweeping apple tree, with its limbs heavy with the burden of green fruit. In appearance like any other apple tree.

At first there seems little difference between this tree and hundreds of trees in the orchard, except that it is confined in a wire cage. Closer ob-

posed to have been made, but actually the property was transferred to the governor of the province, and later Queen Anne presented it to Trinity church.

Other Claimants.

Two more claimants for Manhattan land were lured in February of the same year, when a woman in the South wrote to E. L. Brooks, assistant solicitor of the Title Guarantee and Trust company, in regard to ten acres, now densely populated, which she thought she had a right to claim. The other claim was concerned with an area in Greenwich village, including Washington square.

Other ancient lawsuits based, however, on stronger evidence, such as a deed or will, have lately been fought and won, after many years of litigation costing thousands or millions of dollars. In December last, for instance, a woman at eighty-three won

Shows That Winds Blow Up and Down

Accident to Shenandoah Due to Vertical Blast.

Washington.—That winds blow up and down as well as horizontally was forcibly brought home to many people for the first time by the destruction of the Shenandoah. Far from being unusual, such "vertical winds" lie at the heart of some of our best-known weather phenomena, according to a bulletin from the Washington headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Every flash of lightning that you see, or that you hear as thunder, and every pellet of hail that falls is probably due to a 'vertical wind,'" says the bulletin. "These are the fruits of rather violent upward and downward blasts. If you consider as well the gentler rising and falling currents—the 'vertical breezes,' let us say—you must take pretty much the whole field of weather for your sphere.

Important Weather Factor.

"Practically every surface wind, whatever be its direction or speed, is moving along to replace air which has risen. Clouds, too, are built by rising

servation reveals a splash of red among leaves and the green apples that hang from the bough.

Then it is seen that one of the limbs has apples already red, while all of the other apples on the tree are green.

For that one limb, on which the apples color three weeks in advance of all the other apples on the tree, a western nursery firm four years ago paid Mood the sum of \$6,000. Now with grafting to other trees the firm will be able to supply thousands of fruit growers with small trees of the early coloring fruit.

Eleven years ago Mood found red apples on one limb of a tree bearing fruit still green. He called in neighbors. They thought nothing of it, but he realized the commercial importance of the development. Apples that developed a rich, red color before they had ripened could be picked at once, kept through the winter and sold at a higher price in the market.

He got in touch with the nurserymen from whom he had purchased the tree. They came East to see the phenomenon, and four years ago purchased the limb for \$6,000. This sum Mood immediately put aside for the education of his son, Lewis, Jr.

Suicide Warns Papers and Cops of His Plans

El Centro, Cal.—X. Yale Zamora, forty-five, press agented his own death here when he notified the papers and the sheriff's office he was going to take his own life.

He wrote a glowing description of himself, then concluded with a statement that he was in ill health and friendless and wanted to die. He gave a messenger boy \$20 to deliver the note to the sheriff and triplicate carbon copies to the local newspapers.

Officers hurried to the hotel where Zamora was staying and broke down the door just as he died from taking cyanide.

a will fight extending over thirty-eight years by finally establishing her rights as legitimate daughter of George M. Chapman, who died in 1887.

Another aged woman early this year obtained, at the age of sixty-six and after waiting near 15 years, \$5,242 left her by an aunt. The money had been placed in a bank to her credit, but it was brought out at the trial that the niece had not known of the deposit or of the existence of the book among her aunt's effects.

Electricians' Union Bans Cursing on Job

Montreal.—The modest claim of the "well-bred captain of the Pinafore that bad language or abuse I never, never use," shortly may be the proud boast of the workmen of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power company, if the efforts of H. Blanchett and W. P. Lavertue, president and secretary of the electricians' union, are successful.

In a communication to the company they announce that the union has resolved to place a ban on the use of bad language by its members, "while on the job" and they ask that the company co-operate in the enforcement of their resolutions.

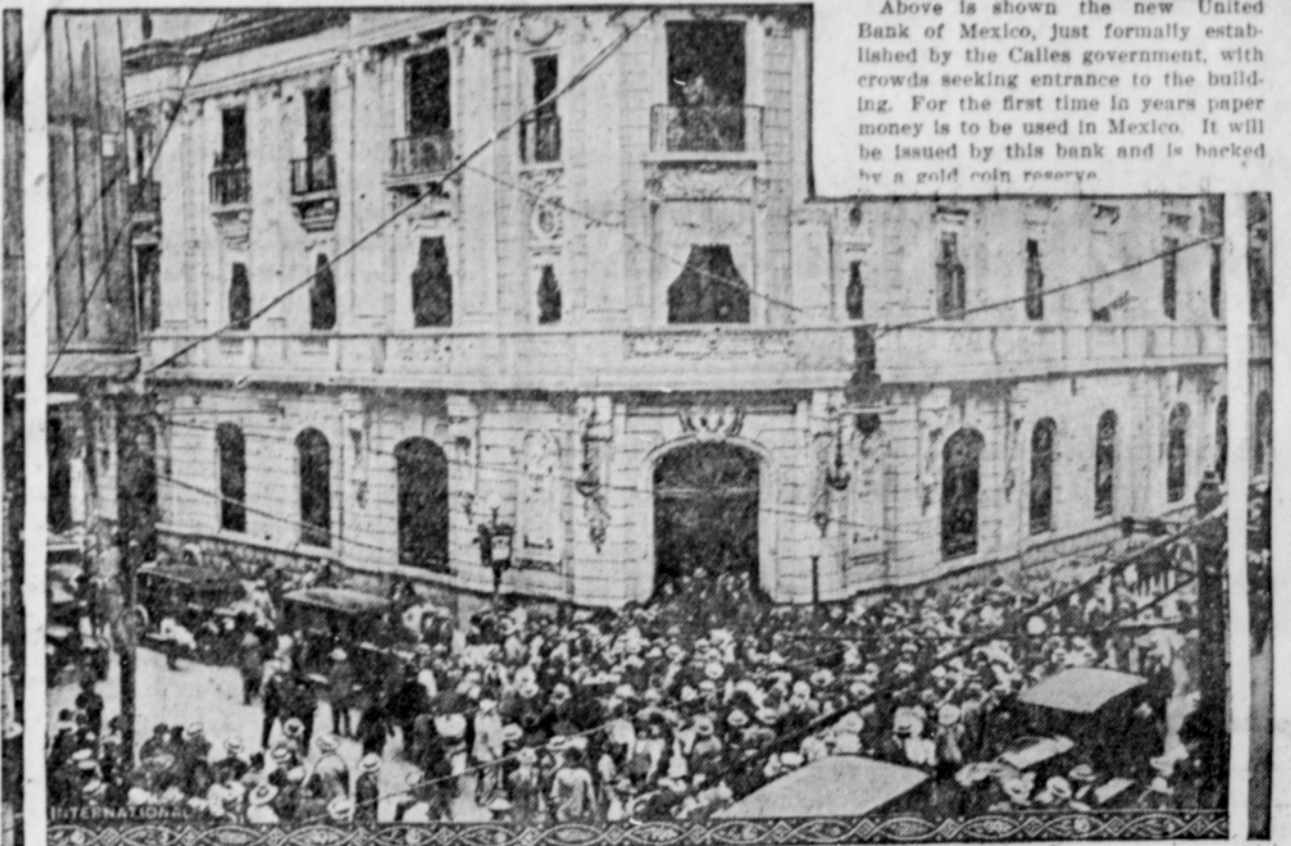
The public is being asked not to irritate workmen or tempt them to use "cuss words."

Kick Causes Stroke

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—Laurence Heaton, twenty-two, son of a farmer of Elberon, is in a local hospital, suffering from paralysis on the right side, caused by the kick of a horse. The boy was harnessing a team when one of the horses gave him a vicious kick.

Mexico's New Bank to Issue Paper Money

Above is shown the new United Bank of Mexico, just formally established by the Calles government, with crowds seeking entrance to the building. For the first time in years paper money is to be used in Mexico. It will be issued by this bank and is backed by a gold coin reserve.



Peaks of Pacific not Really Dead

Might Again Burst Out as Volcanoes.

Tacoma, Wash.—Ice-crowned volcanic cones along the Pacific coast generally are presumed to be dead. Scientists, however, agree they are not merely burned-out shells, but that it is entirely possible they may erupt at any time.

Mount Rainier and Mount Baker in Washington, Mount Hood in Oregon and Mount Shasta and Lassen peak in California are individuals in a great series of volcanoes that extends in a circle for 10,000 miles or more around the North Pacific ocean in both North America and Asia.

There was a time, in the opinion of the scientists, when these peaks were in violent eruption at the same time, so that a chain of fire bounds the Pacific coast, for the five peaks are so close together that any one in eruption could be observed from its nearest neighbors.

Lassen Alone Now Is Active. Since 1914 Lassen has been in frequent eruption, and it is regarded as scientifically established that not one of the volcanoes can be called dead. All except Lassen have been quiet for several thousand years, in the opinion of expert reckoning.

During the last century there have been several minor eruptions from Mount Rainier, the mightiest of the five volcanoes. It has been hundreds of years since the great peak blew off a half mile of its top and scattered volcanic ash to a depth of hundreds of feet over what now is Washington.

Almost every year faint earthquakes are recorded on Rainier, and steam still issues from the crater, which is half a mile across. This steam is so intense that great caverns

have been melted in the snow that fills the crater.

These caves, sheltered from the winds and warmed by the escaping steam, have often proved of advantage to persons scaling the peak.

Owed Lives to Warm Caverns. Stephens and Van Trump, the first white men to conquer Mount Rainier, more than half a century ago, undoubtedly owed their lives to these steam caves. It would have been impossible for them to have retraced their steps in the darkness, and they could not have lived through a night on the summit without blankets or other protection if it had not been for the timely discovery of the warm caverns.

The steam on top of Mount Rainier is so hot that it will transform a pan of snow to boiling water in ten minutes. Eggs can be cooked if placed in the hot pumice of the crater.

NEW YORK MAN HANDS OUT \$25,000 FOR RARE STAMPS

Collector Now Boasts Best Revenue Specimens.

New York.—In preparation for the international stamp exhibition in this city in October, 1926, many of the leading philatelists in the country are making efforts to complete their collections by the addition of rare specimens.

This effort toward the greatest possible perfection whereby the owners may carry off some of the coveted medals has already led to the sale of several old collections and stamp

dealers predict that several more deals of this nature will be made soon.

Edward Stern, head of the Economist Stamp company, announced that he had purchased the well-known collection of United States revenue stamps owned for many years by W. S. White. The White collection has long been known as one of the best in America.

Its outstanding feature was the assortment of unperforated pairs and blocks and the extremely rare second, third and fifth issues with the head of Washington inverted. The value of the collection is placed at approximately \$25,000. Mr. Stern has been making a specialty of revenue issues for some time and now boasts that it is the most complete in the world.

One of the biggest prizes in the White collection is a fine copy of the three cents, green and black, of the fifth revenue-stamp issue, having the Washington head inverted. Only five copies of this error are known, worth \$2,250 each. There is a fine copy of the inverted head error of the 15 cents of the third issue, valued at \$1,000, and a similar error of the 20 cents, second issue, valued at \$425.

There is also a block of fifty of the one-cent playing card stamp, the perforated variety, valued at \$500, the largest block known.

OCEAN DERELICT HAS BEEN AFLOAT FOR TWO YEARS

Abandoned in 1923, Still Menace to Shipping.

Washington.—Men who go down to the sea in ships are speculating about the early appearance in West Indian waters of one of the most noted derelicts of modern times.

While the Navy department's hydrographic office considers it unusual in these days of rapid radio communication and special coast guard patrol for a derelict to remain afloat longer than a week, the four-masted British lumber-laden schooner Governor Parr has been roving the high seas for nearly two years.

The last definite report received of the Governor Parr's whereabouts was in October of last year, when she floated creviceless down along the coast of Africa, but the British steamer Tortugero late in July sighted a derelict 300 miles northeast of the Virgin Islands.

If this proves to be the Governor Parr, which seems likely, it will be the first derelict on record in the hydrographic office to cover practically the circulatory drift of the North Atlantic.

The Governor Parr set sail from Ingramport, N. S., for Buenos Aires on September 27, 1923. She encountered rough seas and lost two of her masts. On October 3, 1923, the American steamer Schodack took off the crew.

Floating in the transatlantic shipping lanes, with a cargo of a million and a half feet of lumber, the derelict was picked up by the coast guard cutter Tampa early in January, 1924, and was headed for Halifax. Due to rough weather and the weight of the waterlogged vessel, the derelict was cast adrift.

In August of last year seamen from the British steamer Zaria sighted the Governor Parr and boarded it, setting it afire. She apparently survived this

experience, for later she was reported off the coast of Portugal, and in October last off the coast of Africa, near the Canary Islands.

If the Governor Parr has continued to remain afloat, men conversant with oceanic conditions believe it would likely be carried by the northeast trade winds and the north equatorial current across the tropical north Atlantic, and probably will be next sighted near the lesser Antilles.

QUITS JOB TO WED



A SUMMIT WHITE COURTSHIP romance came to light when Miss Margaret Carr, assistant cook at the executive mansion, announced her intention of leaving to become the bride of Jerry Kelly, chauffeur for Frank W. Stearns.

Cattle Thieves Sell Steer to the Man Who Owned It

Brooks, Alta.—Arrested in the act of skinning a stolen steer, two farmers in the Brooks (Alta.) district were recently sentenced to two years less one day in Lethbridge jail, with hard labor.

Their arrest was the result of detective work by a local constable, who received information which led him to believe that one of the pair who had been for some time suspected of cattle killing was about to deliver beef to a hotelkeeper. He watched the suspect's place for two days, and when the two accused left the place one evening with a car, the constable followed on horseback, but had to return, not being able to keep track of the car in the dark. The two returned at 1 a. m. with a carcass of beef, and were later in the morning arrested with the beef in their possession. The stolen steer turned out to be the property of the hotelkeeper to whom it was being sold.

Gets Sacred Monkey

Washington.—A member of the sacred monkey family of India was installed at the Washington zoo recently. The monkey, scientifically known as a langura, is held to be highly intelligent. He resembles a dwarf, with wrinkled face and a mantle of white hair.