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O'MALLEY DENIES FISH ARE STARVING

SUPERINTENDENT OF BUREAU PUTS QUIETUS ON ABSURD STORY.

THOUSANDS OF FRY TO BE LIBERATED

Fish in Healthy Condition And Perfectly Able To Care For Themselves—More Money Needed.

Henry O'Malley, superintendent of the United States Bureau of Fisheries in charge of operations in this state and Washington, Tuesday emphatically denied the report made to the Chamber of Commerce and Commercial Club in Portland that nineteen million young salmon at the government hatcheries in this city and White River are on the verge of starvation.

"There are no fish starving at any of the stations," said Mr. O'Malley. "Such a statement is entirely wrong. While it is true the United States Bureau of Fisheries will liberate a large number of fry within a few weeks, this is a practice that has been carried out, not only by the government in this state, but by the states and government in California and Washington. These fish are being liberated in a healthy condition at the time of the absorption of the yolk sac."

"It is true that the government has not the funds, nor available space to successfully feed such a quantity of fish. It would mean an expenditure of between \$15,000 and \$20,000 for food and labor."

Mr. O'Malley said that the fish that would be liberated were perfectly able of caring for themselves. It was reported here that the Chamber of Commerce and the Commercial Club of Portland would send resolutions to Oregon's representatives in Congress to urge the passage of the bill before the House carrying an appropriation of \$50,000 for the maintenance of the government hatcheries.

"The state hatcheries at Clatskanie and Bonneville on the Columbia," said Mr. J. McKinney, member of the State Fish and Game Commission who started the report denied by Mr. O'Malley, "have about 10,000,000 young fish on hand, all they can take care of, and enough money to barely carry them through the season with some assistance that we hope to get, but the government hatcheries have reached the end of their resources and the young fish will have to be liberated so I am told, unless some means be provided whereby food can be secured. I have communicated with the packers and fishermen at Astoria and have had the promise of some temporary aid, but not sufficient to bring the desired result."

"Experiments have established the fact that to release the fish when only a few weeks old means the death of a great many, whereas if fed till about three inches in length most of them will mature. The natural spawning grounds have been shut off by industrial and irrigation projects and hence the young fish have to be liberated in the large streams which under natural propagation they would not enter until pretty well along in growth."

"The government appropriation is insufficient to care for the large crop of fish hatched this year, in quantity enough to restock the Columbia and assure very good catches for some years to come, since the total catch of the river this season was about 2,000,000 fish, the cash value of which is estimated at between \$4,500,000 and \$5,000,000."

"I have visited the government hatcheries and have been told it will take about \$10,000 to feed the young fish until they attain the proper size for release, and this money should be appropriated at once. The salmon fishing industry of the Columbia river is of the greatest importance, and can easily be made to bring the state an annual income of \$10,000,000."

"The fishing industry on the Pacific coast brings an annual revenue of \$50,000,000, and of this enormous amount Oregon draws about \$7,000,000, about \$5,000,000 coming from the Columbia river."

"The state hatcheries this year have about 10,000,000 young fish in their ponds and they will be fed until next fall and released. If the fish in the federal hatcheries he held until that time, 29,000,000 fish will be ready for release and the season can be put down as the most successful in the history of fish propagation on the Columbia. But if the 19,000,000 fish have to be released from the federal hatcheries now, a very large percentage of them will die."

Other members of the State Fish and Game Commission are C. K. Cranston, Pendleton; J. F. Hushes, Salem; G. F. Stone, Klamath Falls and George H. Kelly, of Portland and Eugene. R. E. Clinton, Master Fish Warden, and W. L. Finley, Master Game Warden, have also interested themselves in the problem now confronting the Federal hatcheries on the Columbia.

The Universal L. and A. I. Co.
By M. QUAD
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It was an eventful day when a smiling and well dressed stranger left the cars at the town of Stratford and walked up to the best of the two inns and announced himself as the state agent of the Universal Life and Accident Insurance company. He tried to buy out the inn, but as the landlord and owner did not wish to sell J. Parsons Watson, as the stranger was named, engaged the ladies' parlor, the ballroom and ten of the best located bedrooms. Then he bought the privilege of hanging out signs, and after a couple of days the inn was covered with them. They were garishly painted signs, reading: "The Universal Life and Accident Insurance Company." Stratford was surprised, then started. Then it began to inquire what it was all about. J. Parsons Watson was right there on the veranda to greet and tell them.

Stratford read the signs, heard what the agent had to say and then declared the thing a fake. J. Parsons Watson smiled and insured the landlord against accident, pushed him off the veranda and paid him \$50 cash. The landlord said he wasn't even scratched, but the agent knew better.

A man named Robinson was dying of consumption. The doctors said he couldn't live a week longer. J. Parsons Watson gave him a life insurance policy and when death came handed over the money.

A Mrs. Graham, a washerwoman, was given an accident policy. She fell down and skinned her knee and drew \$25 for it. Mr. Stors, carpenter, had insured against accident for the trifling sum of 10 cents a week. On the third day after the policy was taken out he hit his thumb with a hammer and received \$15 for doing it.

These things were advertised and talked about, and there was a change in public opinion. Then there was a rush for insurance. J. Parsons Watson and three clerks were kept busy most of the time. They wrote 1,000 policies before there was any let up. Then came something to renew the rush. J. Parsons Watson announced that any person that so elected could take out a policy, accident or life, on another and reap the benefits. Yes, ten, twenty, fifty, could take out policies on one and the same person. There was Graham, the well digger. He was liable to death any day, and fifty different persons could get \$1,000 insurance in case the grim monster came. You could take out a policy on the life of the minister, the blacksmith, the carpenter, the merchant, even on your neighbor's child. In all such cases the agent would promise not to give you away. Death came and you put in your claim and got your money and no one was the wiser.

J. Parsons Watson had struck the key note. Those who had insured themselves now wanted to insure some one else. Those who had no insurance didn't propose to benefit others by getting hurt or dying. The rush kept the insurance force working day and night. It did more than that. It stirred up the town until gossip, scandal and rows were the order of the day. The fact that Smith had taken out insurance on Brown looked out of was strongly suspected, and when they met there were hard words.

"So you expect me to die, eh?" demanded Brown in menacing tones.
"Why, no, neighbor."
"Then why did you get a policy on me?"
"Why, you see, you may possibly die, though I hope not, and I might as well make a thousand dollars out of it."

"You are a blamed hyena, sir!"
"Don't get excited. It's business."
"Oh, it is! Then you listen to me. I'll get insurance on you and on every member of your family clear down to the baby. Yes, sir, I'll get the policies on your uncle and aunts and nieces and nephews."

Stratford had been a peaceful town. It had boasted of its law and order. It had advertised that its residents had a neighborly feeling toward each other in the matter of lending tea and fat irons. All this had been changed. They wanted each other to get hurt, to get off the face of the earth, to be no more. There was hardly a husband in the place that didn't glare at his wife across the table and feel that she was keeping him out of a small fortune by living on. He encouraged his children to climb trees, by gunpowder and play around the mill pond, and when they came safely through it all he realized that he had been defrauded of his rights.

"This state of affairs could not go on forever. J. Parsons Watson didn't intend that it should. He thought six weeks would turn the trick, but it took ten. During this time he paid out several hundred dollars, and how many thousands he took in was only to be guessed at. The rush roused itself out, and people began inquiring about the Universal in a way that seemed to express a doubt, and one night the man picked up his grip and vanished in the darkness. Only the next day three of his insured died of old age, and seven others were badly hurt at the cost of time by the fall of a scaffold. He had slipped in time.

And there was no Universal Insurance company. J. Parsons Watson was it. He had simply got the blanks printed and done business on his cheek. Stratford wanted something for nothing and got it.

IRRIGATION IS AIDING THOUSANDS

\$67,000,000 SPENT BY GOVERNMENT IN RECLAMATION WORK.

WESTERN STATES ARE BENEFITED

Settlers in Many Sections Astonished At Modern Conditions Which Surround Them—Work To Continue.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Approximately \$67,000,000 have been spent by the government in irrigation work. This vast sum is less than half of the amount that will have been expended when Uncle Sam's engineers have completed the present program of reclamation. In nearly every Western state the flood waters of the streams are being impounded, and already thousands of families are benefiting by this stored water. The activities of the federal government in reclamation work have resulted in awakening a widespread interest in irrigation, which is no longer a local question confined to a particular country. Experience has shown that a more general application of its principles throughout the whole country would result in material benefit, especially in intensive agriculture such as truck farming and small fruit growing.

Many Eastern farmers have the idea that the irrigation farmer is in a chronic state of water shortage, and has to fight excess of alkali in the soil, or is so far from market that profits are eaten up by transportation charges. These things are sometimes true, but it is a grave mistake to believe that they are unavoidable defects or that they apply to all irrigated districts. In building its irrigation projects the government selects only fertile soil; then it gauges the size of the area to the available water supply. The reservoirs and canals are built as substantially as engineering skill can devise and when the farms have been built out and water is running in the canals then, and not till then, settlers are invited to use their homestead rights on the land. The money actually spent in building the irrigation works is prorated against each acre of land, and is repaid by the settlers in ten equal annual payments, without interest. Call it paternalism if you like—it is making homes by the thousand every year.

The statistician of the reclamation service states that success cannot be attained without work—either in the West or anywhere else—and the man who expects to farm an irrigated homestead without hard work will be grievously disappointed. Neither will he get rich over night. The government holds out no promises of fabulous profits per acre or of land values increasing like a snowball rolling down hill. The simple facts are these: Tracts of first class farming land varying from 40 to 160 acres are now open to entry; in their raw condition they produce nothing and are worth very little. When properly irrigated they produce large crops of alfalfa, grain vegetables and fruit; in fact, all the crops common to the region in which they are located, but in greater abundance and more surely than in states where farmers must depend on the rainfall. Cultivated land with an assured water supply is worth from \$100 an acre upward, and in some of the older and more highly developed sections the price of such land is \$2,000 or \$3,000 per acre have been frequently recorded. These high figures are due to a perfect state of cultivation, a thorough knowledge of packing the fruit for market, and well organized selling associations.

Settlers locating on government irrigation projects are frequently surprised at the modern conditions which surround them. The Huntley project in Montana is an example of what can be accomplished in three or four years by progressive people. It includes an area approximately twenty miles and five miles wide, divided into farms averaging 40 acres of irrigable land, and about 500 families now live there. Two railroads passing through the project afford transportation facilities and four small towns with stores and business houses, are exhibiting a steady growth. A telephone system, which reaches about half of the farmers will soon be extended to cover the entire project, and 13 modern schools, employing trained instructors, provide for the education of the children. In order to be successful the average man needs from \$100 to \$200 to cover the cost of necessary equipment, a house, fences, and preparing the land for crops. He must also provide for himself and family until his farm begins to pay expenses and this will require at least one crop season. Forty acres of this land intensively farmed will yield a net annual profit of from \$500 to \$2,000. This is not theory but a simple statement of results already accomplished. While previous farming experience is desirable, it is by no means essential, and some of the most successful homesteaders on the various systems were men whose preparation had never handled a plow before they made their filings.

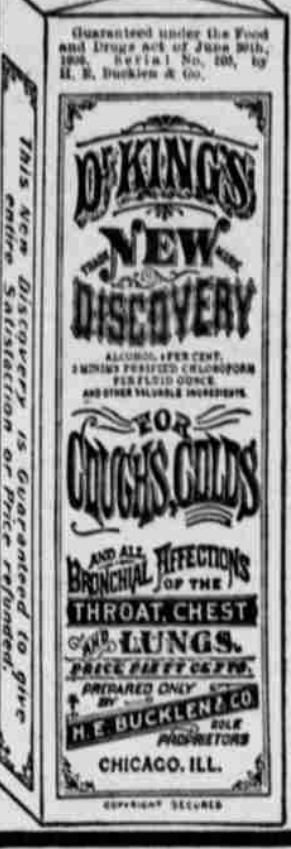
A Poet's Custard Bath.
A custom which has now disappeared used to exist in the household of lord mayor of London in the household of the lord mayor there existed the offices of jester and city laureate. On the day of the feast a huge quaking custard was made in a dish as large as a bathing machine. It was the duty of the laureate, clad in official garb, to spring from his chair into the depths of the custard, splashing the contents over the table and the nearest guests. In return for this feat the laureate was allowed to eat as much of the custard as he wished which was probably very little.—London Tatler.

A Beggar's Luggage.
A woman who described herself as "a poor lone Irish widow woman," arrested for begging at Wells, England, had the following articles distributed about her person: Tea, sugar, fresh cut beefsteak, piece of bacon, two blisters, bread and cheese, four buns, bag of biscuits, cooked ragout, two apples, onions, two city pipes, tobacco, cigarettes and snuff.

A Medicine.
That lives ten years must have merit. Dr. Bell's Pine-Tar-Honey has been sold for sixteen years, and sales have increased every year. So you run no risk. We guarantee it. At all dealers. For sale by Harding Drug Store.

Memory Feast.
Our notion of a wonderful memory is that possessed by a man who can tell how many days there are in a given month, without going through the "thirty days" hath September thing.—Metropolitan Magazine.

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KING'S UNCLE DECLARES NEW YORK HAS UNDERGONE GREAT CHANGE.

PARTY GREETED BY LARGE CROWD

Roosevelt Meets Distinguished Guest At Home Of Reids—Sky-scrappers Interest Britisher.

NEW YORK, Jan. 23.—The royal trio of Connaughts—the Duke, Duchess and Princess Patricia—had their first opportunity tonight to make something like an intimate acquaintance with American life. They viewed it in at least three distinct phases. From the tower of the highest of free building in the world they surveyed the forest of downtown skyscrapers, and with the aid of glasses they viewed the entire metropolitan district for twenty-five miles around.

At the foot of the tower, after they had shot down forty-eight floors in an elevator, they came face to face with their first American "mob." More than 500 persons beset the Ducal party and by sheer force the party made its way to automobiles.

The royal visitors tonight met nearly 300 of New York's society folk at a ball in the home of Ambassador Reid.

The impressions New York has made upon the Duke have been but meagerly told in the exclamation that the city has changed wonderfully since his visit here as Prince Arthur in 1868. He has given no interviews, but he has seen much of the New York newspapermen, especially the reporters.

The party's trip today included a visit to the private art galleries of J. P. Morgan. This was followed by a luncheon at the Reid home, at which Colonel Theodore Roosevelt was a guest. The afternoon also included trips to Grant's tomb, Columbia University and to the new Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine.

ATELL TOYS WITH 'KNOCKOUT' BROWN

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Abe Attell bested "Knockout" Brown in a ten-round fight at the National Sporting Club tonight. Brown being unable to land to any advantage. Attell had Brown groggy in a mixup in the tenth round.

Brown forced the fighting throughout, but Attell's defense was impene-trable, all of Brown's blows going for naught.

In the first round Attell toyed with the local lightweight and not a heavy blow was struck. In the second Attell landed several uppercuts without a return and closed one of Brown's eyes and badly damaged the other.

PINCHOT SPEAKS FOR LA FOLLETTE

NEW YORK, Jan. 22.—The political atmosphere in the East was further changed tonight by the first appearance in this section of Senator R. M. La Follette, of Wisconsin, since he announced his candidacy as a "progressive Republican" for the Presidential nomination.

In connection with the Senator's coming here was political gossip to the effect that Colonel Roosevelt also might appear at the Carnegie Hall mass meeting which Mr. La Follette addressed and possibly lend assistance to his boom, but the Colonel was not present. Instead he attended a dinner of several prominent leaders in charity work.

Gifford Pinchot, a close friend of President Roosevelt, who has been regarded as a staunch Roosevelt lieutenant, appeared with Senator La Follette, however, and presided at the meeting. He presented the Senator as the "candidate I support for the Republican Presidential nomination."

53 DROWN AS SHIP CRASHES INTO ROCKS

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Fifty-three members of the crew of the steamer Winslow it was learned today, perished when the vessel was battered to pieces in a terrific storm off Peter Head rocks near the coast of Scotland. Four sailors clung to a portion of the wreckage and finally were rescued, more dead than alive. This is the vessel which was sighted in distress off the coast of Scotland yesterday, but whose identity at that time could not be learned.

The vessel was bound for Liverpool with a cargo of merchandise, but carried no passengers. All day yesterday the steamer, with bunkers flooded, battled with the storm, but finally was dashed to pieces on the rocks. Repeated efforts were made by life saving crews to aid the Winslow, but without avail.

The storm is reported to have caused enormous damage on both land and sea. The British steamer Ashgrove of Glasgow was driven upon the seawall at Merthyl, on the Firth of Forth, and four members of its crew drowned. It is feared that many smaller craft were lost.

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FIRST FIGHT IS WON BY SINGLE TAXERS

SALEM, Or., Jan. 23.—Upholding the contention of the single taxers in the Clackamas County single tax writs and ordering a peremptory writ of mandamus directing Secretary of State Oloott to place the single tax petitions on the ballot, but reversing the Jackson County road bond case and holding that the county road bond amendment is self-executing only in a negative way as a power against incurring indebtedness, the Supreme Court today decided vital points in two important amendments passed by the people at the last general election.

Justice Bean wrote the opinion in the Clackamas County single tax case, or the Schuebel case. Justice Burnett dissented, Justice McBride concurring, but in effect his concurring opinion being offered specially.

Only questions of law were involved in this case. A proceeding in mandamus was instituted and to the alternative writ of mandamus defendant answered in effect that under the laws the petition should not be filed. The Attorney-General and attorneys for the defendant contended that the amendment in question is not self-executing; that counties are not municipalities; and that procedure indicated by section 2479 does not apply to them. The plaintiff held the theory that article IV, Ia, does confer upon counties power to legislate; that through the act of 1907 the machinery for the exercise of such rights is provided and that article IX, section 1a, does give to counties the power to regulate taxation within their boundaries.

Primitive Man and Exercise.
Exercise in primitive times was the price of life. It was only after we had learned to live by our wits and exercise became a luxury that it began to run into fads. If primitive man neglected his athletic muscles they simply provided a tender titbit for some of his confederates, carnivore or cannibal. It was a case of eat or be eaten, and his motto was, "Do it first." The gorgeous possibilities of power through repose had not yet dawned on him. In those days man didn't exercise. He just "humped." He had to—From "Exercise and Health," by Woods Hutchinson.

As to Humor.
"Yes," said the lecturer, "humor is a difficult thing to define. I remember appearing in Boston once with a humorous lecture, and I labored for two hours with that audience, and not one of them cracked a smile; but, by Jove, as I started to leave the platform I tripped on a rug and fell flat on my face, and, would you believe it, the house was convulsed?"
"Yes," said Dolson, with a grin. "Humor is a very funny thing."—Pittsburgh Press.

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