AMOUS BIG TREES

Forest Fire Invades Calaveras **Grove and Forest Giants** May Perish.

DEAD TRUNKS ARE DOOMED

Prostrate "Mother of the Forest" Is Burning and Other Great Logs Will Probably Be Consumed. Rangers Fighting Fire.

SONORA, Cal., Sept. 2.—The Calaveras grove of big trees, one of the matural wonders of the world, is in serious danger tonight of destruction by fire. Starting from sparks thrown off by a locomotive used to haul logs, last Monday afternoon, the fire quickly spread to heavy timber a mile west of the North Grove of big trees. All the forest rangers in the district were quickly gathered and they, together with the settlers, many visitors living in camps around and in the grove, and the employes of the Big Trees Hotel, have fought the flames ever since.

They have thus far saved the hotel but have been unable to prevent the fire gaining headway in a direction that tenight menaces the giant sequelas that have withstood the elements for thousands of years and have been the wonder of innumerable travelers who have

der of innumerable travelers who have journeyed far to marvel at their big-

Reports Are Conflicting.

Conflicting reports have reached here us to the extent of the damage done by the fire up to this time. The nearest point of telephonic communication with the grove is Murphy's, some 15 miles distant, and from this place, late today, word was sent that the fire had reached the edges of the grove of the mammoth trees and, driven by a strong wind was threatening to wipe out wind, was threatening to wipe out everything before it. There is little, if any, undergrowth of brush among the big trees, however, and it is hoped and believed by the settlers and rangers that the fire will not readily take hold of the living trees. hold of the living trees.

Huge Log on Fire.

The dead giants, however, will probably be destroyed. Already "The Mother of the Forest," a great dead hulk, lying marvelously big at the edge of the grove, is aflame and, like a great, glowing torch, is threatening its living neighbors. "The mother" is 327 feet long with a trunk 78 feet in circumference, and it will take days and perhaps weeks for the flames to consume its great bulk.

Up in "The Bret Harte Country," as this section of Calaveras County is called, because it was in this section that the famous Californian lived and where he found many of the characters he put in his books, the destruction of the big-tree grove would be little short

the big-tree grove would be little short of a calamity. The only living species of the sequola gigantes, or big trees, are those found in California, and there are but four groups of these containing any notable specimens.

Shock to Sentiment.

Of these groups the Calaveras grove is probably the most remarkable. Its destruction would be a severe shock to the sentiment of the people of Callfornia, particularly to those who have lived almost in their shadows in Cala-

was thought last night that the fire had been finally brought under control, but this morning a strong wind came out of the west and quickly fanned the smouldering embers of dead trees into live coals and scattered the sparks in every direction.

The Calaveras group, consisting of two groves, "Calaveras" and "South Park," contains more and larger trees than the other three groups combined, there being 1350 trees from 65 feet to 164 feet in circumference in the Calaveras group and 97 trees with a circumference of 70 to 93 feet in the other. All these trees range from 300 to 365 feet in height. One prostrate specimen of the Calaveras grove—"The Father of the Forest"—was apparently 435 feet tall with a girth of 114 ly 435 feet tall, with a girth of 110

Practically all of the larger trees have been named and labeled. The "New York" is 104 feet in circumference; the "Ohio," 103 feet. In the "Tree of Refuge" 18 head of cattle once sought shelter during a heavy storm. In the "Grand Hotel" 40 people can stand without crowding. stand without crowding.

SIR SHOGO TO SEE KING

Japanese Statesman Secretive, Except About Reception to Fleet.

VICTORIA, B. C., Sept. 2.—Bound on a special mission from the Japanese Emperor to King Edward and President Falleres, the nature of which he declined to make public, Sir Shogo Nagaski, councillor of the Imperial Japanese court and personal secretary of the Japanese household, arrived by the steamer Tango Maru from Tokio today, He said:

day. He said:
"Other than that my mission is a
quiet one I cannot speak of it."
Sir Shogo Nagaski, who accompanied Fince Fushimi on his recent visit to England, said elaborate preparations were being made to welcome the United States feet to Japan, a special commission being appointed consisting of Naval officers and representatives of the foreign of feet or armost details. of the foreign office to arrange details. The Naval Department will build three special plers at Yokohama and arrange for 60 small steamers to transport the sailors between ship and shore. Tokio and Yokohama are also arranging expensive civic recessions. sive civic receptions.

TAKAHIRA'S VISIT EXPLAINED

Japanese Diplomat Consults Roose velt Regarding Tokio Exposition.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.-The recent WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—The recent visits of the Japanese Ambassador, Baron Takahira, to President Roosevelt at Oyster Bay and to Secretary Root at Clinton, it is officially stated, has no bearing on the question of Chinese-American alliance, nor were they for the purpose of discussing the presence of the Atlantic fleet in Asiatic waters. Acting Secretary of State Adee said toright, in Issuing a statement announcing the postponement of the Adee said toright, in lessing a statement announcing the postponement of the Tokio Exposition from 1912 to 1917, that the Japanese Ambussador's visits were entirely informal, and were for the purpose of securing the approval of the United States Government of the postponement of the Japanese world's fair. The possibility of a Chinese-American al-

Marquis Inouye Seriously III. TOKIO, Sept. 2 .- Marquis Inouye, one

of the most influential of the elder statesmen of Japan and foster-father of Katsunosuke Incoye, until recently Ambassador at Herlin, is critically ill. He is not expected to recover. Marquis Incoye was Minister of Foreign Affairs in Prince Ito's Cabinet, later was Minister of Finance, and has held numerous other portfolios. As one of the elder statesmen he has had much to do with the shaping of the policies of Japan.

Director-General Resigns.

TOKIO, Sept. 2.-Following the announcement yesterday of the Inten-tion to postpone the Japanese Inter-national exposition which was to have been held in 1912, until 1917, the 50th anniversary of the accession of the Emperor, Viscount Kaneko has ten-dered his resignation as director-general of the exposition.

Honduran Conditions Alarming.

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 2-According to a report received in this city, alarming conditions prevail throughout the Re-public of Honduras, which explains the dispatch of the gunboat Bravo to the port of Puerto Cortes by the Mexican Government, at the suggestion of the

PEARY WRITES OF ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION PROJECT.

Suggests Financial Plans and Says Campaign Should Be Outlined by Geographical Experts.

(Robert E. Peary to New York Times.) S. S. ROOSEVELT, Hawks Harbor. July 21 .- Now that the bigness of my objects and the splendid generosity of my friends have enabled me to make good in fitting out my present expedi-tion, I can define my position in regard to Antarctic work without giving ground for the impression that I was scattering my energies or diverting any of my strength from the work immediately at hand.

I believe in finishing the first cherry before making a bite at the second. I have, however, felt for some time that the time was nearly or quite ripe for this country to enter the arena of antarctic exploration, and endeavor to obtain its share of the honors and scientific information yet awalting the expiorer in that region. I stated my ideas as long ago as 1904 in an address before the National Geographical So-

clety of Washington. I repeated those ideas in another ad-dress before the same society in De-

cember, 1906.

At the recent organization of the International Polar Commission at Brussels, H. L. Bridgman, secretary of the Peary Arctic Club and United States Government delegate to that commis-sion, presented the following commu-nication from me: Grand Union Hotel, New York City,

May 20.—Dear Sir: I beg to state that on my return from my coming Arctle expedition I shall endeavor in every possible way, consistent with my other duties, to promote and organize a National American antarctic expedition, to secure for this country its share of the house and submit a state. the honors and valuable scientific in-formation still awaiting the explorer

formation still awaiting the explorer in that region.

The project would include the building of another special ship, on the same general lines and in the light of the experience gained in building and using the Roosevelt, and the utilization of the method and equipment evolved during my past if years of arctic work. It would not contemplate my personal association with the expedition in the field.

While it is too early now to make any definite statement, it is hoped that the Peary Arctic Club may lend its enuragement to the work.

This project, I am happy to state, has the approval of President Roose-

At a subsequent session of the com mission it is hoped to offer a more de-tailed presentation of the matter, for such action or suggestions as the com-mission may see fit. Very respectfully, (Signed) R. E. PEARY.

To the President of the International Polar Commission, Brussels, Belgium. The actual materialization of such an expedition might take one of sev-eral forms, depending upon circumstances.

The expedition might be entirely a Government affair, officered from the United States Navy, and manned by volunteers enlisted for that purpose.

Or it might be financed partly by the Government and partly by private in-dividuals and institutions, officered from the United States Navy, and manned by volunteers for the purpose.
Or it might be financed entirely from
private sources (individuals and organizations), and manned by officers of the navy, loaned for the purpose by the Government.

The promotion of such an expedition should be properly undertaken by a strong National Antarctic Committee located at Washington, and closely af-filiated with the National Geographical Society, with its thousands of mem-

The campaign of exploration for such an expedition should be outlined by a committee of geographical experts, the best in the country. The scientific pro-gramme should be outlined by a com-mittee of scientific experts, acting in conjunction with the geographical com-

My personal interest in the matter is First, the feeling that this country has a right, not to say duty, to be represented in every field of manly effort that is likely to mean an increase of National reputation and a strengthening of National moral and esprit; second, my desire to have the invaluable experience in methods, equipment, and construction, which the next and construction. construction which through years of effort have been wrested from the arctic regions by my own and my friends' money, do work in unlocking the se-crets of the South rather than be

R. E. PEARY.

Threatens Health Officer. SAN DIEGO, Cal., Sept. 2.—The avowed purpose of the city board of health to enforce the state vaccination laws in the case of public schools, which open on September 8, has caused much fill feeling. Tuesday, when the wife of Dr. Francis H. Mead, the health officer, opened the front door of their residence on Fourth street, she found a stick of dynamite attached to the door-knob, together with a note read-

"Mend, don't you attempt to vaccinate, you poor, unscrupulous quack. My chil-dren will not be vaccinated. The Black Hand is on your track. This is the last

Tennessee Miners Strike.

TRACY CITY, Tenn., Sept. 2.—Trouble over nettlement of the wage scale culminated in a strike being called at the mines of the Sewanee Coal. Coke & Land Company at Coalmont, about seven miles from here, yesterday. The plant has recently been acquired by the Alabama Fuel Company. Of the 300 union miners employed there it is said about 50 remained at work. All is reported quiet at the mines.

See the New Suits

Four times as many tailored suits here in good styles as you will find in any other store in Portland. Not an old suit in the lot, for good styles and big values in previous seasons have enabled us to sell clean and none carried over. Purchase early for first choice



Yard Taffeta \$1.50 \$1.19

Fine quality black Taffeta Silk; a new lot just received and unpacked. Rich, lustrous dye; yard wide; regular price \$1.50; special price for just do 1 one day-Thursday-

Thursday-Housekeepers' Day



A Housekeepers' Day special that will crowd our Drapery Section with eager buyers. In the very choicest patterns Tambour nets, filet lace, scrim, Irish Point and novelties. About 1500 pairs in the lot, and every pattern a good one. For Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Take prompt advantage.

Regular \$9.00 values, special Thursday, pair .	\$4.75
\$10.00 values	\$5.95
Regular \$11.00 values, special Thursday, pair	\$6.65
\$12.00 values	\$7.50
Regular \$12.50 values, special Thursday, pair	\$8.00
\$13.50 values	\$8.75
Regular \$15.00 values, special Thursday, pair	\$9.85
\$16.50 values	\$10.75
Regular \$17.50 values, special Thursday, pair	\$11.50
\$18.50 values	\$12.35
Regular \$19.00 values, special Thursday, pair	\$12.75
\$21.00 values	\$13.95
Regular \$25.00 values, special Thursday, pair	\$15.00

\$9 Lace Curtains \$4.75 Linen Table Sets \$7.48 up

Portland housekeepers watch our Housekeepers' Day specials with keenest interest. They are never disappointed, for there are always unusual bargains in everyday house needs. For today we of-fer a large number of Table Sets cloths and napkins to match—at very low prices. See the Washington-street window.

SET, with cloth 2x3 yards, in very handsome patterns; 1 dozen napkins to match; CLOTH, 2x21/2 yards, with 1 dozen nappattern; \$12 value, set \$10.25 CLOTH, 2x21/2 yards, with 1 dozen nap-\$13.50 value, the set...... \$11.50

ALL INEN CRASH TOWELING-Extra special quality; Thursday only, HUCK TOWELS—Hemmed ends, fancy border; splendid quality; regular



PILLOW CASES-Extra heavy, size 45x36 inches, special Thursday only, each

CRASH TOWELING-Good quality. 5000 yards, for Thursday,

Silverware Sale--4-Piece Tea Sets Special \$5.25

value; special Thursday Bread Trays, regularly sold at \$2.25 each, special......\$1.69 Bread Trays, regularly sold at \$3.75 each, special..... Bread Trays, regularly sold at \$3.25 each, special..... Bread Trays, regularly sold at \$4.75 each, special Bread Trays, regularly sold at \$5.70 each, special..... Bread Trays, regularly sold at \$8.50 each, special......\$6.80 Dessert Sets, \$7.50 values...\$5.95 Covered Butter, \$7.75 value.\$6.10 Dessert Sets, \$4.50 values...\$3.50 Covered Butter, \$9.00 value.\$7.15 Covered Butter, \$2.00 value.\$1.50 Nut Bowls, worth \$3.50, ea..\$2.45 Covered Butter, \$2.65 value.\$1.89 Comports, worth \$4.50, each.\$3.15



Berry Bowls, \$3.00 value. .. \$2.10 Cake Baskets, \$8.25 value. \$5.75 Baking Dishes, \$8.65 value. \$6.05 Almond Sets, \$3.00 value. \$2.25 Spoon Holder, regular \$3.50 value, special Thursday........\$2.40 Spoon Holder, regularly \$3.00 values, Thursday special.......\$2.05

CARVING SETS EVERY ONE IN OUR

Don't wait until Fall to buy your Carving Set, for now special prices enable you to save tremendously. They come in new and artistic designs and all are first-class steel. The entire stock bargainized as follows

3-Piece Sets, regularly sold at \$3.50 each, Regular \$4.00 val., special. \$3.19 Regular \$6.25 val., special. \$4.98 Regular \$4.50 val., special. \$3.58 Regular \$5.00 val., special. \$3.97 Regular \$5.75 val., special. \$4.00 Regular \$5.75 val., special. \$4.00 Regular \$10.50 val., special. \$3.35 special selling price only

Sewing Machine Oil for 10c Bottle

4-oz. bottles of best quality Sewing Machine Oil, regularly sold at 15c; special for Thursday, only 10¢

Toilet

soap;

only-

sold

Soap 6c

regularly

for 10c;

Large bar trans-

parent Glycerine

special Thursday

10c Pins Spc'l 6c Best English Pins, all brass, full count paper; regularly 10c paper; special, Thursday-

6 Cents

6 Cents Pears Glycerine Toilet Soap, extra special for Thursday, cake 12¢

Women's \$3.50 Shoes \$1.98

These are the famous La Bonte Shoes, made to sell at \$3.50. The rapid selling of the last few days has so depleted the assortment that, for a speedy clean-up, the price drops to \$1.98 the pair. They are kid and patent leathers; lightweight or extension soles; button or lace styles; in tan or black leathers.

Women's Oxfords \$3.19 | Men's Oxfords \$3.19 Pair

All of our fine low shoes for women are included in this offer. The best we have in patent leather, kid, gunmetal, Suede and in tan, brown or black. and widths, and a wide choice of leathers and Over 60 different styles; also a few broken lines in high-grade shoes; mostly Laird-Shober \$3.19 known, reliable makers—Values to \$6.00, Thursday. \$3.19

own; also a number of men's shoes, worth to \$6.00. The assortment is a big one-practically all sizes

Library Paste, 25c Jar, Thursday 17c

Photo Library Paste, in patent jar, with inside water well; regularly 25c the jar; Thursday only 17¢

15c NAIL | 15c GOLD BRUSH 9c PAINT 10c Japanese Gold Solid back, all bristle nail Paint; ready brushes; regularmixed; a regular

ly 15c each; spe-15c bottle, special, Thursday cial Thursday only9¢ | only10¢ Shelf Paper, with lace edge; all colors: 10 yds, to the piece; regularly 5e

the piece; Thursday, 3 for 10¢

They Occupy Time of Fleet Among Australians.

HEALTH OF TWO RULERS

Roosevelt and Edward Called Greatest Rulers and Sportsmen-Deakin Talks of Example Set by America to Australia.

MELBOURNE, Sept. 2 .- The weather ere has improved, and as a result there was a large attendance at the various outdoor entertainments arranged for the officers and men of the visiting American battleships.

The Victoria Racing Club provided a complimentary race meeting at Plem-ing. Before the meet the club enter-tained a number of officers at luncheon. The chairman of the club proposed the healths of King Edward and President Roosevelt, characterizing them as "The greatest rulers of white men and the two greatest sportsmen in the world."

There was a baseball match at the

Melbourne cricket grounds, in which a team made up from the fleet defeated the Victoria nine, 6 to 5.

Reception by Government. This evening the state government

entertained the Admirals and senior of-ficers at a reception. The function was elaborate, and there were present about

officers and nearly 2500 men of the fleet, went out to the racetrack at Flemington. Admiral Sperry was the guest of the Governor, Sir Thomas Gib-The officers lunched at the club while the men were furnished eatables, of which they partook in the open air.

America's Lesson to Australia. Speaking at the dinner tendered to Admiral Sperry and the senior officers of the American battleship fleet at the Royal Yacht Club last night Alfred

Deakin, the Premier, said:

The appearance of the American fleet indicates that it is on no holiday cruise. Its arrival marks for us no casual adventure, for the invitation was given in a spirit of despeat earnessness after sober consideration, and the concession made by the American Government in sending the fleet here is perhaps the most generous made in recent times by one nation to another. The American battleships show the last word in the art of naval construction and the lesson to Australians is that America was unable to take a first place in the world until the country had a first-class mavy, because until then only able to protest verbally against outside injustices and injury. So Australia can not be content ultimately to accept defense at any other hands thun its own and should begin provision for its own navy in a modest way. Deakin, the Premier, said:

SUCCESS IN TOWING ACHIEVED

Cruisers Arrive With Destroyers at Honolulu Without Damage.

HONOLULU, Sept. 2.—The cruisers of the Pacific fleet, commanded by Rear-Admiral Swinburne, finished the first stage of the crulse undertaken to test the practicability of towing torpedoboat destroyers when the flagship West Virginia, the Maryland, Pennsylvania and Tennessee docked at 1 o'clock this afternoon in the harbor octock this afternoon in the harbor and the remaining vessels, including the supply ship Solace, anchored out-side. The arrival of the warships was witnessed by many residents of the islands and a hearty welcome was ac-corded the officers and men. Except upon several occasions when the towlines parted or became so

chafed that alterations or stoppages were required, the fleet maintained the one-point echelon formation taken outside the harbor of San Francisco solo people. At the time this reception was being held, the state government entertained the American sailors and marines at a smoking party.

Great contingents of officers and men of the American fleet visited Ballarat and Bendigo. Admiral Sperry and his staff, together with a large number of the chelon formation taken outside the harbor of San Francisco until 6:30 o'clock this morning, when the torpedoboat destroyers were cast off and proceeded under their own the anchorage off the harbor. The destroyers Preble and Perry ware towed the entire distance with-

Whipple's line once became chafed and her consort was obliged to slacken speed while repairs were made. Each of the other destroyers had one or two broken towlines to its credit. In every instance the break was at the bow of the torpedoboat destroyer, which, as anticipated, proved the weakest point in the connecting line. weakest point in the connecting into.
The cruise was never attended with
danger or difficulty, the highest draft
indicated by any of the dynamometers
heing 50,000 pounds. Forty thousand
pounds was the highest average attained. In the fog and during a storm
prevailing the first day and night out,
the first was between 20,000 and

prevailing the first day and night out, the draft was between 20,000 and 30,000 pounds.

The only incident of the voyage was when Signalman Anderson fell from the signal tower of the West Virginia. He swam to a buoy thrown and was rescued uninjured by one of three boats which were lowered before the Prebble could slip her towline, as required to do in such emergencies.

Glass to Have Naval Funeral.

OAKLAND, Sept. 2.—The body of Rear-Admiral Henry T. Glass arrived tonight in Berkeley on board a special train, which left Paso Robles this af-No arrangements have been made for the funeral, nor will they be made until the members of the family consult with the Naval and Military authorities, who will conduct the fun-eral with full military honors.

Will Carry Supplies to Fleet. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 2.-The naval

transport Buffalo arrived today from the Bremerton Navy-Yard and proceeded di-ect to Mare Island. She took on a supply of coal at the northern port and is expected to sail soon for Hon plies for the Pacific fleet. Barred From Office-Holding. VALLEJO, Cal., Sept. 2 -R. O. Pierce

a candidate for Supervisor on the Repub-lican ticket and a civil service employe at the Mare Island Navy-Yard, has been notified by the Navy Department that he must either withdraw his name from the icket or resign his position at the yard

Government May Introduce New Zealand Forest Trees.

SEVERAL ARE APPROVED

Four Kinds That Excel White Oak in Strength and Hardness Are Specialty Recommended for Reforestation Experiments.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Sept. 2.—Far-off New Zealand is the latest country to which forest experts have turned in seeking sub-stitutes for the valuable American woods used by the furniture, cooperage, implement and similar wood-using

age, implement and similar wood-dains industries.

Manufacturers in this country have been facing a constantly decreasing supply of available hardwood timber for a number of years and the time is aiready at hand when efforts must be wade to look to the preservation of the made to look to the preservation of the American species most in demand, and to scour foreign lands for trees which to scour foreign lands for trees which may prove valuable as substitutes.

Seven different New Zealand hardwood trees have just been put through a series of tests by the United States Forest Service in co-operation with the University of California in the timbertesting laboratory at Berkeley The trees showed up remarkfully well in comparison with white oak, which is one of the strongest woods in the United States, developing under test when in an air dry condition a crushing strength of \$500 pounds per square inch, and a bending strength of 13,100 pounds per square inch.

Stronger Than White Oak.

Stronger Than White Oak.

Four of the seven New Zealand woods tested developed a bending strength

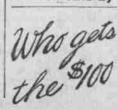
ven greater than white oak and three of the woods showed a greater crushing strength. The New Zealand woods found to have a bending strength as high or higher than oak were the black maire, matal, putirl and sliver pine, while the first three of these have in addition developed a greater crushing strength strength than oak.

An idea of the true strength of these woods is given in the technical report which shows that with white oak at 1.00 the compressive or crushing strength of the New Zesland woods is strength of the New Zealand woods is as follows: Black maire, 1.18; matal, 1.05 and puriti, 1.21. The woods which developed an equal or greater bending strength are as follows: Matal, 1.22; silver pine, 1.08; puriti, 1.41. and black maire, 1.56. The last figure shows that this wood has more than one and one-half times the bending strength of cak.

A Colorado currant bush will produce at ast one gallon of fruit. Some plants will least one gallon of fruit. Son

is a very nourishing food; in fact, an article of diet so nutritious in itself, would support life. On it you can feed with profit and with pleasure. Palatable and easy of digestion.

For sale by all Grocers



Watch for To gets Columbia Woolen Mills Co.'s 'Reason Why' Contest in Sunday Papera.