

BLAZE IN BASEMENT FRIGHTENS LODGERS

Auditorium Hotel Guests Are Routed by Fire.

\$20,000 DAMAGE ESTIMATE

Smoke in Basement Makes Fire Difficult One to Fight—Lot of Potatoes Destroyed.

Fire which started in the basement of the Auditorium building, 298 Third street, early yesterday morning caused consternation among the lodgers in the Auditorium hotel and resulted in damage estimated at \$20,000, the principal loss being stock and groceries of the D. C. Burns company store, occupying the first floor and basement of the structure.

Claude Chelson of McMinnville, one of the lodgers on the fourth floor of the hotel, jumped from the window to the court three stories below and sustained a broken foot.

The fire is believed to have been caused by either spontaneous combustion or one of the lights coming in contact with goods in the basement.

The fire was first discovered by John A. Johnson, one of the lodgers in the hotel, who noticed the smoke in the hallway. The alarm was immediately sent in.

Blaze Stubborn One.
The fire proved a particularly stubborn one to fight owing to the fact that it was confined to the basement and there was so much smoke there that it could not be entered. It was necessary to chop holes in the floor and turn streams of water through.

When the alarm was given pandemonium broke loose among the lodgers in the hotel occupying the upper stories of the structure. Many of them flocked to the street in scant attire. Besides Chelson, an unidentified woman and man also jumped to the court, but were unhurt. Chelson was treated at the police emergency hospital and later left for his home.

Fears that one woman, whose name was not learned, might jump from the fourth floor to the sidewalk below caused the firemen to get out one of the life nets. The woman appeared at the window and the firemen thought for a time that she intended to jump.

Car Traffic Held Up.
Owing to the network of fire hose and the large amount of fire apparatus in the street, car traffic on Third street was held up for about an hour while the fire fighting was in progress. The fire was finally gotten under control at 6:40.

A feature of the blaze was the exploding of a large number of cans of olives as a result of the heat in the basement, the effect being similar to that of miniature bombs.

After he had made his sensational jump Chelson reported to the police that he had left his purse containing between \$6 and \$7, under his pillow in his bed. It was recovered by Patrolman T. H. Whitt. W. H. Nichols, another lodger, reported that he had left his purse, containing several dollars, in his room and when he returned was unable to find it.

Lot of Potatoes Lost.
The loss to the groceries, stock and fixtures of the D. C. Burns company was estimated by Fire Marshal Day at \$15,000. This included a carload of salad oil, 75 sacks of potatoes and a large quantity of canned and bottled goods. The loss to the building, owned by E. E. Redfield, was estimated at \$3000. The hotel suffered only smoke damage. The loss is partially covered by insurance, it was announced.

JEWISH RECORD GIVEN

War Losses Enormous, Reports Zionist Church Delegate.

LONDON.—Dr. Max Nordau told the English Zionist federation the other day that in the world war the Jews had furnished 300,000 soldiers to the various armies. This, he said, was about seven per cent of the whole number of Jews, a proportion equaled by few and surpassed only, he believed, by the French. The Jews had lost 80,000 dead and had about 200,000 casualties.

But what had the Jews fought for? he asked. Even in the advanced and highly civilized countries of the west he continued, a huge wave of anti-Semitism was welling up in these countries that had arisen in the east. The most criminal passions were let loose against the Jews. In this dark picture there was one bright spot, the British declaration in favor of a Jewish national home in Palestine.

FLOTILLA HANDED OVER

Australia Receives Gift of Six Destroyers From Admiralty.

LONDON.—The flotilla of six destroyers presented by the admiralty as a free gift to the Australian navy has just been taken over formally by the Australian high commissioner, Andrew Fisher, and is timed to arrive in Sydney on Monday, April 25. They are the Tattoo, Success, Taemania, Stalwart, Anzac and Swardman.

Mr. Fisher states that these new vessels all of which have left the slips since the armistice, differ so greatly in design, armament, maneuvering speed and range from the destroyers already belonging to the Australian navy that if fitted against them not one of the earlier vessels could live for more than a minute.

"DOUBLE" NOT PRINCE

Woman With Eternal Autograph Book Is Given Surprise.

LONDON.—The Prince of Wales seems to have doubles in England. In the company of two officers a man entered a west end motion picture theater the other day. A lady sitting near the door arose, bowed and presented the eternal autograph book. The man took the book and, with a serene countenance, wrote "J. J. Smith," and handed back the volume with a gracious bow.

It was not the prince.

Lion Cubs Get Irish Names.
ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Three cubs born to Hans and Gretchen, lions at the municipal zoo on St. Patrick's day are to be named Bridget, Mike and Pat. It was announced. The parents formerly were owned by a German animal trainer.



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ALIENS CONTROL DISTRICT

JAPANESE AND HINDUS HOLD VALUABLE LANDS.

Sutter County, California, Has About 24,000 Acres in Hands of Little Brown Men.

YUBA CITY, Cal.—With a number of unretored leases and crop mortgages yet to hear from, it now is certain that data gathered in proof of the prediction that no less than 24,000 acres of Sutter county soil will be tilled by these foreigners in 1920 and succeeding years.

The Japanese are leading in the race to wrest the farm lands from the whites. Figures now obtainable show that they have brought under their control between 10,000 and 11,000 acres. Only where it is necessary for them to protect themselves as to details of a contract are the Japanese placing any instruments on record. Most of their crop mortgages given the owners of the land are brought in to be recorded, but they are not strong for placing on record their leases to land.

Data in such cases are being procured haphazard by County Assessor McQuaid, Farm Adviser Sullivan and County Horticultural Commissioner Stabler, who have been requested by the state board of control to get a line upon the Asiatic advances in Sutter county.

Hindus either own or lease 5729 acres of land in this county. Like the Japanese, they are prone to the rice industry. It is not an experiment with either, as already both Japanese and Hindu has to his credit healthy bank accounts. The acreage actually owned by Hindus, as shown by the county's roll, is 234. The acreage under lease is 5729.

Seventy-six acres of Sutter land are owned by Japanese. The Sutter Orchard company, a Japanese concern, has thirty acres; the Nicolaus Fruit company, also Japanese, has twenty-six acres; and a private individual, one K. Simuye, has twenty acres. These lands either are secure under the name of native-born Japanese or were procured before legislation prevented the purchase of California lands by Japanese.

EXPERIENCE IS TEACHER

Spentrift Heir Has Wife Named as Conservator.

CHICAGO.—Walter S. Schlusel is a living exemplification of that trite old adage that "a burnt child dreads the fire."

Mr. Schlusel is soon to come into possession of an estate of \$250,000 as the result of his uncle, Baron von Schlusel, having been killed in the war. So he came into Probate Judge Horner's court and asked that a conservator be appointed for himself. He frankly told the judge that he once possessed \$2500, but he had traveled the primrose path of wine, women and song, and when he reached the end of the path, he did not have a dollar.

"And who would you like for conservator?" asked the judge after it had all been explained to him.

"Violet," responded Schlusel.

"Violet?" the judge inquired.

"Sure, my wife."

So Schlusel formally was declared a "spendthrift," and his wife duly appointed his conservator. She will take absolute control of the fortune coming over from Germany, providing, always, that the German tax collectors do not beat her to it and absorb all of it.

MANY ADVISORS COMING

Foreign Trade Convention Arouses Widespread Interest.

NEW YORK.—Interest in the seventh national foreign trade convention to be held at San Francisco, May 12-15, is being expressed everywhere throughout the country, according

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LEVERHULME IS BLOCKED

Hebrides Residents Reject Plan for Fishing Fleet.

LONDON.—Lord Leverhulme has encountered the religious prejudices of the Scotchmen who live on the extensive property he has purchased in the outer Hebrides and has suffered a rebuff. He had planned to make Stornoway on the island of Lewis, the headquarters of a huge fishing fleet that should sweep the seas for 500 miles.

The project involved Sunday labor and the islanders who adhere to the strictest form of the Presbyterian faith, rejected it.

Commenting on the incident, the periodical Common Sense, says: "Lord Leverhulme is a man of big ideas and new ideas will be popular among whom he has declared the seas for 500 miles are folk of old and intense ideas. Hence the inevitable collision."

CLIFF DWELLING FOUND

Ancient Sites to Be Explored by College Savants.

SALT LAKE CITY.—Efforts to reach and explore ruins of ancient cliff cities, known to exist in Zion canyon, Utah's newly created national park in the southwestern part of the state, will be made during the coming summer by a party of archaeologists and geologists, several of whom are attached to the University of Utah here.

This cliff cities never have been visited because of their inaccessible locations on the high bluffs. It is hoped, however, that this difficulty will be overcome by the lowering of the bluffs by ropes. Long range photographs taken show that the cities are large and their adobe houses are clearly outlined and appear to be in perfect preservation.

LIBRARY SERVICE NEEDED

Workers to Be Encouraged to Study Social Problems.

Argentinians Ardent Gamblers.

BIENOS AIRES.—The people of Argentina like to take a chance on a betting proposition. This is shown by the fact that last year they bet altogether \$176,000,000 on horse races.

The organization also proposes establishment of service in rural communities on board ships, in light-houses, coastguard stations and for soldiers, sailors and marines. Another plan is to introduce standard type in the Braille system for the blind.

La Razon gives these figures on other means of gambling, says La Razon. Argentina's population is under government supervision and about 8,000,000 so that the average that the proceeds should be placed gambling by each person was \$22 a for public benefit.

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