

167TH BIRTHDAY OF JEFFERSON IS BEING CELEBRATED

When Living Jefferson Would Not Permit Public to Honor Him—Country Owes Much to Great Man.

By Frederic J. Haskin.

Washington, April 13.—Thomas Jefferson was born at Shadwell, Virginia, on April 13, 1743. Today is the celebration of the 167th anniversary of that event.

The practice of celebrating the birthdays of eminent men was inaugurated early in the history of the republic being copied from the English custom of making the king's birthday the principal patriotic festival of the political year.

Only 22 Americans are remembered habitually and annually by the celebration of a special day in their honor. Washington's birthday is a legal holiday in all of the states and territories and is celebrated in every part of the world.

Andrew Jackson has a day sacred to his memory, although it is the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans and not his birthday. The 8th of January is known as Jackson day. It is a legal holiday in Louisiana.

The birthday of Jefferson Davis is a legal holiday in eight states, as is that of Robert E. Lee in seven states. Of course the celebration of these days is confined wholly to the south.

Jefferson's birthday, then, is one of the two red-letter days of the Democratic party. Jackson day banquets and Jefferson day banquets are regular features of the Democratic year.

Although the celebration of his birthday has been appropriated by a political party, Thomas Jefferson belongs to all Americans. Among all the leaders of the revolution, Jefferson was the most revolutionary.

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No mention is made on that bit of stone of the fact that it was Jefferson who obtained the abolition of the laws of perfidy and duress in land tenure, thus solving more than a century ago in America the problems which are bringing on starvation and revolution in England today.

Jefferson's Inventions. That epitaph does not record the fact that the man buried beneath it was the Thomas Jefferson who invented the plow now used by every civilized tiller of the soil, nor that it was he who laid the foundations of the science of meteorology now of such incalculable benefit to mankind.

Was Very Versatile. Nor does that epitaph hint of the bitter quarrels which kept his life in turmoil, the political plots and counterplots, the war of wits with his great adversary Hamilton, and the compromise which they made a part of the written and unwritten law of the federal government.

Politician, inventor, amateur scientist, linguist, fiddler, mathematician, he was above everything else the great democratic statesman who believed sincerely and absolutely in the people and their right to rule themselves.

When he was 33 years old Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, being selected as the chairman of the committee because he was young and had taken no part in the congressional quarrels and jealousies.

Tomorrow—The supreme court.

SERIOUS TROUBLE IS BREWING IN INDIA

London, April 13.—"A drop of government resignations and appointments" in London. Byproducts of Anglo-Indians are anxiously awaiting the announcement that some "strong man" is to be sent to succeed the present viceroy—Lord Minto—whose indiscretions, whose wholesale pardoning of the natives would appear to have had already the most disastrous results.

HOOD MAKES APPEAL TO STATE BOARD

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Hood River, Or., April 12.—After a protracted controversy relative to Hood River's position in the Columbia River District Debating League, E. E. Decou, of Eugene, secretary, and W. W. Wiley, principal of the Newberg High school and director of the league, have arbitrarily ruled that the Hood River High school debating team must now meet the Tillamook High school team instead of the Newberg team.

Commissioner Ross Defended.

Olympia, April 12.—"The report of the legislative committee dealing with the state land office is vicious and prejudiced, as presented in the daily papers," said Frank C. Stone, assistant commissioner of public lands, today. "Commissioner E. W. Ross is now on his way home from Washington, D. C., added Stone, where, as a culmination of years of the hardest kind of work, he has finally induced changes in departmental methods by which the state of Washington will secure thousands of acres of lands, valued at millions of dollars, title to which has been held up by red tape methods."

FIRE DESTROYED MUCH LUMBER

Report of Forestry Board Shows 200,000,000 Feet Burned in Oregon in 1909.

Printed proceedings of the February meeting of the state board of forestry are now ready for distribution. They give reports of damage done to the forests in the state by fire during the summer of 1909.

In this connection the report of the secretary shows that there were 112 fires, burning over an area of 41,057 acres, and that a total of 121,250 feet, board measure, of merchantable timber was destroyed. If this timber had been manufactured into lumber it would have represented an approximate value of \$2,485,776.

The following facts were brought out in the report: "We find that Washington had 1309 fires, but only lost about 150,000,000 feet of standing timber, while Oregon lost nearly 200,000,000 feet with but one-third the number of fires.

Dry Season in Washington. "It is admitted that the hazard in Washington was greatly increased on account of a very dry season; also, that a large proportion of Washington fires were caused by sparks from locomotives. In Oregon most of the locomotives are oil burners, considerably reducing the fire hazard on this score.

Oregon Spends No Money. "Oregon no money was spent by the state in this direction. Individuals and lumber companies expended \$36,164.71, while the forest service expended \$520.84, making a total of \$36,685.55. From the reports we also note that a few big fires in remote districts of Oregon continued burning for weeks, covering a large area, whereas in Washington the fires were subdued promptly through having fire fighting forces available.

Seedlings Killed Off. "One of the greatest harms resulting from the fires in standing timber is that the seedlings springing up are killed off by the fires running through the forests, older trees not being much damaged, but the loss of the new growth is irreparable.

More Flexible Laws. "The need of a more flexible fire law has been brought to our attention, and the suggestion has been made that Oregon should be divided into two zones, each covered by regulations in regard to fire permits which could be issued with much less hazard in the Willamette valley than in the foothills; that by drawing a line north and south, passing through Coburg, Bridgeland, Oregon City, Silverton and Lebanon, on the east, and a few miles from Roseburg, Forest Grove, and Corvallis, on the west, the zones, where more latitude could be given as to permitting fires than in the foothill zones, where a close restricted season could be established with systematic patrol.

PLANS FRISCO TRIP; FALLS OVERBOARD; DIES. Staggering aboard the steamer George W. Elder yesterday evening and reeling against a guide rope, George Blaine fell into the water and was drowned. He was in a drunken condition. The body has not been recovered. Blaine had been rooming at 755 Hoyt street with H. J. Murphy. The two men arranged to go to San Francisco on the steamer.

PASTY FOOD Too Commonly Used.

The use of pasty cereals is not advisable. A physician says: "Pasty cereals are very indigestible and a bad thing for the stomach, causing a depressed feeling and quite a train of disorders, particularly of the intestines and nerves. Cereals, such as wheat and oats, can be cooked long enough and well enough to fit them for human use but the ordinary way of cooking leaves them in a pasty condition."

My physician prohibited the use of oats and wheat until the uncomfortable feelings have disappeared. I have gained nearly twelve pounds in weight and have none of the distressed full feeling after my meals that I had formerly. Grape-Nuts food has done the work. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in plain, thorough language. Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

CITY COUNCILMEN FACE THEFT CHARGE

(United Press Special Wire.) Seattle, Wash., April 13.—When the city of Georgetown became a part of

Seattle last week Mayor Slocum and the councilmen of the suburb appropriated the furnishings of the city hall as they looted the city.

Unless they return every desk, chair and window shade to the city building by tonight former Mayor John Mueller will swear out warrants for their arrest on a charge of grand larceny.

NEW ROLLING STOCK FOR THE SHORT LINE

(United Press Special Wire.) Salt Lake City, Utah, April 13.—In addition to 48 passenger coaches arriving here for the Oregon Short Line and the large number of cars already ordered, the road is preparing to place an order for 25,000,000 worth of rolling stock. The increased order is believed to be due to the road's anticipation of a season of prosperity. The prediction that there will not be enough rolling stock in the country to accommodate passenger and freight traffic also may have had something to do with the action of the road's officials.

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