

# A MILLION DOLLAR FIRE

## Entire Business District of Prescott, Ariz., Burned.

### FEW BUSINESS HOUSES LEFT

Many Who Were Comfortably Fixed Now Penniless—Territory's Official Census Statistics Had a Close Call.

Prescott, Ariz., July 17.—A scene of great desolation and a feeling of deepest gloom pervades this town today. All that remains of the principal business portion of the town is tottering walls and piles of charred and burning debris.

The fire, which started at 10:45 o'clock last night, was not under control until 3 o'clock this morning, when the fighters went a considerable distance in advance of the flames and blew up the buildings on the south side of Goodwin street, preventing the fire from crossing that street. The most conservative estimates of the total losses are from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000. The burned district embraces five blocks, in which were located the principal mercantile houses, both banks, both telegraph offices, the three newspaper offices, four hotels, and every saloon and restaurant except one in the town, besides scores of private residences. To add to the prevailing gloom, a high wind has prevailed all day, sending smoke, dust and burning embers in every direction, requiring the greatest vigilance to prevent another outbreak of the flames. Owing to the chaotic condition existing today, it is impossible to obtain an accurate account of the loss or individual insurance. From interviews with insurance agents, the total insurance does not exceed \$350,000.

At daylight this morning teams were at work hauling lumber to the public plaza, and this evening it is covered with tents and temporary frame buildings. The occupants will be ready for business tomorrow. Both banks have secured temporary quarters and will be open tomorrow. The Washford-Burmeister Company will be open for business tomorrow in their warehouse, two blocks from the plaza.

Hon. W. A. Clark, of the United Verde Copper Company, who was visiting the works at Jerome, wired a draft for \$500. All the sufferers from the fire are provided with food, shelter and clothing, and it is not thought any outside assistance will be required.

The only business houses remaining in the town are Goldwater Bros., A. Blumberg and Mrs. A. R. Blaine, dry goods; Joseph Dougherty, T. W. Otis and J. I. Gardner, grocers, and W. W. Ross and W. P. Covillard, drug stores. The express office and postoffice were both out of the fire limits, but the latter had a close call. All the mail and effects were ready to move at a moment's notice.

The office of the supervisor of census for the territory was located in the Prescott National Bank building, and contained all the official statistics of the census of the territory, but they were removed to a place of safety.

The Western Union opened its office this morning in a grocery store, and the Postal has opened an office at the railroad depot. The electric light poles and wires were in the burned district, and the town will be in darkness until they can be replaced. The company also owns the telephone system, and loses more than half its instruments.

Many citizens who yesterday were comfortably fixed are today homeless and penniless, a number losing both their business places and their residences. An army of carpenters have been busy all day putting up temporary structures, many of which have been completed and will open for business tomorrow.

Of the three printing offices in town all that was saved was about 80 cases of type by the Courier. The destruction of the others was complete. J. C. Martin, proprietor of the Journal-Miner, saved only his books. Included in his loss was a Mergenthaler Linotype, installed in the office only three months ago. The two papers have already made arrangements for continuing publication, although but little insurance was carried by either. Most of the heaviest losers will rebuild at once.

The origin of the fire was unknown until this evening, when it was learned that a man rooming over the bottling works was lying in bed reading by candlelight when a piece of loose paper on the wall caught fire. He ran out to give the alarm, and before others reached the place the fire was beyond control.

More Rains in Texas. Dallas, Tex., July 17.—Northern Texas has been deluged by rains for more than 12 hours, and the indications are that the storm has only begun. The downpour at Dallas was terrific. Streams are swollen and trains are delayed because of washouts.

Youngstown, O., July 14.—The severe storm last night caused a sudden rise in Mill creek, sweeping away a bridge and washing out railroad tracks, causing damage amounting to \$50,000.

# MORE MEN ARE NEEDED.

The Demand From All Parts of the Philippine Islands.

Manila, July 18.—"More soldiers" is the demand which is coming to General MacArthur from every department of the islands. Recent events have worked to vindicate General Lawton's judgment that 100,000 troops would be needed to establish American sovereignty over the Philippines. Until they attempted to hold provinces of 200,000 or 300,000 hostile people, with a regiment or two, the American commanders hardly realized the size of the Philippine islands. The present force is not large enough to garrison more than half the important towns, and in some of the most important islands, among them Cebu, Panay, Samar and Leyte and the great Mohammedan empire of Mindanao, only the commercial parts are occupied.

The Moros are a cloud on the horizon. The officers best acquainted with conditions in Mindanao and the Sulu islands tell the correspondent that they consider serious fighting there inevitable. If it comes, the two regiments which are scattered in small garrisons, some of them hundreds of miles apart along the coast of Mindanao, an island nearly as large as Luzon, may have serious work. The Moros are fighters by nature, do not fear death, have many guns, though of antiquated makes, but do the best execution by lying in the thick jungles and cutting down soldiers who pass through with their terrible kris and spears.

# GREAT WAR HAS OPENED.

Will End Only With Breaking and Parting of Chinese Empire.

New York, July 18.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:

A great war has opened in China, with the Japanese in the front line and with the heaviest reserves immediately available. Three American battalions, and about 13,000 Japanese troops, have reached Tien Tsin since the two battles were fought, so that the allied force now aggregates 25,000 men, with contingents slowly dribbling into Taku.

War has not been formally declared, but it is in progress, with every indication that it will continue indefinitely until the government now in power is overthrown and the empire broken up into a series of European and Japanese provinces and protectorates. The retreat of the allied forces from Tien Tsin would be followed by outbreaks against the foreigners in all the provinces. They are compelled to halt where they are and to hold their ground by hard fighting, and a campaign begun with no other motive power than that of securing vengeance and reparation for the massacre of the legations will involve sacrifices and expenditures for which territorial concessions are indispensable.

This is not the American view, but the Russian, Japanese, German, Italian and French, who already have their eyes fixed upon future provinces and conquests, and the English will find an India in Central Asia.

# A Crime of Desperation.

Baltimore, July 17.—Poverty and ill-health drove Louis Fisen, a shoemaker, today to kill himself, his wife and 13-months-old babe with a razor and to wound his 3½-year-old son. The tragedy occurred in East Lexington street. The corpse of Fisen was found lying in the middle of the floor with the head almost severed from the body. The body of Mrs. Fisen lay across a mattress in the corner of the room, her throat cut from ear to ear, and the infant's body was in a baby carriage behind the counter. A most pitiable and distressing sight was the little boy, Harry, standing near the body of his dead mother, with blood streaming from a gash in his throat. The boy was sent to a hospital, where the physicians hope to save his life.

# From Manila to China.

Manila, July 18.—Two battalions of the Fourteenth infantry and Daggett's battery of the Fifth artillery, will leave for China tomorrow by the transports Indiana, Flintshire and Weyfield. The expedition, which will join the Ninth infantry, will carry 500 rounds of ammunition to a man, and a reserve of 1,000,000 rounds, together with medical subsistence, stores and clothing for 500 men for three months. It will take also two seven inch mortars and two six inch howitzers, with ammunition. The hospital ship Relief is going to China.

# Assault on Kansas City Chinamen.

Kansas City, Mo., July 18.—Incensed at the Boxer news a crowd of men and boys gathered about the laundry of Ah Sing, a Chinese laundryman, and started a demonstration that caused Sing to call on the police for protection. The crowd passed the time throwing stones into the laundry and calling out to the inmates that they would kill them. A squad of police dispersed the crowd quickly, and, at the instigation of Sing, who is one of the most intelligent of the several hundred Chinese in Kansas City, guarded the place during the night.

# Violence to Italian Missions.

Rome, July 17.—The Italian consul at Shanghai cables that the Italian mission in Hu Han has been destroyed and Bishop Fantosati and two missionaries killed. He also reports that the Italian missions in Ho Nan and Hup have been assaulted.

# PACIFIC COAST MINING NEWS

## Vancouver Iron and Big Oregon Company are the Current Talk This Week.

### VANCOUVER IRON PROPERTY.

Pennsylvania Men Said to Be Buying for Development.

Seattle, July 16.—The Post-Intelligencer states that managers of the McKeesport iron works, in Pennsylvania, have been visiting the Pacific coast, and have secured sites for new iron works at Port Angeles, after an unsuccessful attempt to locate in Victoria, B. C. The belief is expressed that the iron deposits of Vancouver island have attracted the attention of these iron men and that raw iron will be taken from Barclay sound, and elsewhere in the island, down to Port Angeles for working. It is known that the McKeesport iron men have secured options on three properties in the Barclay sound country, namely the Anderson Company, another owned by Wilson, Braden, Irving and others, and a third the property of Thompson, Braden, Logan and Kains. An option has been secured on these claims until the end of the year, and before the beginning of next month between 400 and 500 men will be taken up to Barclay sound to exploit its mineral wealth.

If development proves that these properties are at all equal their promise, it will mean much for Vancouver island and for Victoria. The properties in question run about 72 per cent in pig iron, a very high per centage, and one which evoked enthusiastic expressions from the visiting magnates. From these the raw material for the Port Angeles foundries will be drawn. The Galena, one of the promising claims on the Gordon river, passed recently under bond to a number of Eastern capitalists. Active work will commence on this mine on August 1 and will be continued until the end of the year. A large sum is involved in this transaction should it go through.

### WILL WORK THE CLAIM.

Owners Want a Showing Made in the Hard Cash.

Greenwood, B. C., July 16.—The owners have bonded the Hard Cash mineral claim for \$20,000 to John Rodgers. The bond is a working one, and so much work must be made before the first payment is made. The Hard Cash is a fractional claim, containing 28 acres, adjoining the Golden Crown, Winnipeg and the J. and R. The latter claim is owned by John Rodgers, and he recently uncovered a ledge on the property near the Hard Cash line. He, therefore, secured the Hard Cash that both claims might be worked to gether.

### PACIFIC COAST WHEAT SHIPMENTS.

Thirty-five Million Bushels Sent From Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and Tacoma.

Portland, July 16.—The Oregonian publishes tables showing the wheat shipments from the four leading coast cities for the season of 1899-1900, as follows:

From Portland—94 cargoes, 14,239,064 bushels.  
From San Francisco—127 cargoes, 13,534,635 bushels.  
From Seattle and Tacoma—35 cargoes, 7,799,092 bushels.

### ROSSLAND ORE SHIPMENTS.

Six Months of This Year Equal to All of Last.

Rossland, B. C., July 16.—Ore shipments from this district for the first half of 1900 were nearly equal to those of the whole year 1897, when the figures were 72,840 tons. The total for the past six months is 71,235 tons.

The Nickel Plate has been opened to the 600-foot level, is fully developed by drifts, etc., to the 200-foot level, and partially developed to the 400-foot level. Arrangements have been made to ship 250 tons of ore per day from the Nickel Plate.

### RICH MOUNTAIN TUNNEL.

Twenty-three Times Gold Has Been Struck at Palmer.

Loomis, Wash., July 16.—In the Palmer mountain tunnel the last 30 feet driven has gone through a formation highly mineralized, giving assays each day running from \$3.74 to \$37 in gold. The last shot at the face broke into a well defined ledge, showing much blue quartz full of mineral which may prove one of the most important in the history of the tunnel. This ledge is in a different formation from that of the other 22 and the good values preceding the cuttings of the footwall make the crossing and testing of this 23d vein a matter of special interest.

### ENORMOUS ANACONDA PLANT

New Machinery Weighs Nearly Two Million Pounds.

Anacoda, Mont., July 16.—New machinery weighing 1,650,000 pounds is being installed in the concentrating plant of the Anaconda Mining Company here. The company is using 24 Huntington mills five feet in diameter, of the latest pattern; 24 sets of crushing rolls, 40 inches in diameter by 18-inch face, with forged steel shells; eight Blake crushers, 24x12 inches, and 16 Blake crushers 15x5 inches.

### BIG OREGON COMPANY.

Mines in the Bonanza District to Be Developed.

Baker City, Ore., July 16.—The Keystone, Belle and Gold Boy Consolidated Mining Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. The president of the company is Albert Geiser, of Bonanza fame; vice-president, Clark Tabor, of the Red Boy; treasurer, J. T. Donnelly, cashier of the First National bank; secretary, Eugene Sperry; manager, F. J. Conroy; consulting engineer, Captain C. H. Thompson.

The property is located in the Bonanza district, and is considered to be a very rich and promising mine. It is the intention of the company to push development work and get a mill on the property at once.

### NEXT MINING CONGRESS.

Much Good May Result From the Boise Meeting in 1901.

Spokane, July 16.—In view of the fact that the next meeting of the International Mining Congress will meet in Boise, Idaho, in July, 1901, some of the events that took place last month in the Milwaukee meeting will be interesting to Northwestern mining men, says the Spokesman-Review.

The objects aimed at by the Milwaukee meeting were:

First—A permanent organization.  
Second—A revision of the national mining laws, with a view of the better protection of claimants and owners of mineral lands.

Third—A mineral exhibit.

Fourth—To obtain and disseminate information regarding improvements and inventions of labor saving machinery and other mining appliances.

The permanent organization consisted of 416 registered delegates representing 23 different states.

Mineral exhibits were displayed by Alaska, Colorado, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Montana, Arizona, Canada, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

### Gold Mining in British Columbia.

The first authenticated discovery of gold in British Columbia, according to Dr. G. M. Dawson, occurred at Mitchell or Gold Harbor, on the west coast of Queen Charlotte island, in 1851, a nugget weighing several ounces having been accidentally picked up by an Indian woman on the seashore. This nugget was brought to Fort Simpson, and, coming into the possession of the officer in charge of the Hudson Bay Company's post at that place, was forwarded by him to the company's headquarters at Victoria. An expedition was at once fitted out, and, proceeding to the spot, succeeded in locating a quartz vein seven inches wide, "reported to contain 25 per cent gold in some places." The find was worked for some months and then abandoned, the narrow vein entirely giving out; no other indications of mineral were found on the island, notwithstanding that this extraordinary little seam of quartz had yielded in a few weeks it was worked a value of \$20,000 on the word of one authority, or \$75,000 on that of another. About the same time coal, which had been discovered on Vancouver island as far back as 1835, began to be mined in earnest at Nanaimo.

### Suit Over Mining Claims.

Vancouver, Wash., July 16.—The case of Adolph Hooper and Victor Carlson against J. G. Copley and U. M. Lauman was on trial before a special jury, called for this case, in the superior court. The case relates to the rights of the parties to certain mining claims in the St. Helens mining district, in Skamania county. The suit was first brought in Lewis county, and was transferred to Skamania county, where the property in controversy is located. The trial was held in this county to suit the convenience of the parties to the action. Since the commencement of the action, the defendant, J. G. Copley, died, and Charles W. Thompson, administrator of his estate, was substituted as a party defendant.

### New Oregon Mining Companies.

The Elk Creek Gold Mining Company, city of Union, \$50,000.

The Lillian Gold Mining and Investment Company, Baker City, \$500,000.

Keystone, Belle and Gold Boy Consolidated Mining Company, Baker City, \$2,000,000.

New Washington Mining Company, Gold Ledge Consolidated Mining & Milling Company, Spokane, \$100,000.

Sacramento Gold Mining Company, Spokane, \$100,000.

Pilgrim Gold Mining & Milling Company, Davenport, \$100,000.

Golden Era Mining Company, Colville, \$75,000.

Consolidated Gold Mining Company, Republic, \$1,500,000.

Myrtle Mining & Milling Company, Tacoma, \$500,000.

Bald Mountain Mining Company, Clear Lake, \$1,000,000.

Galena King Mining & Milling Company, Republic, \$75,000.

# THE MIDSUMMER TRADE.

Improvement of Tone, Rather Than of Demand.

Bradstreet's says: While trade is still only of mid-summer volume, the beginnings of improvement in demands are apparently becoming visible. The improvement is still one of tone, rather than of demand, but with a yield of 540,000,000 bushels of wheat, a next to record breaking yield of corn, and a very large proportion of oats, [the Western crop situation contains many encouraging features. The Southern cotton crop has undoubtedly suffered, and conditions are unprecedentedly low for this season of the year, but the acreage planted was a large one, and prices are so much higher that a satisfactory financial return is confidently looked for.

The effort of the big iron and steel concerns to control prices, if really made, has proven abortive, and another wholesale slashing of quotations is to be reported this week.

The industrial situation is rather better as a result of agreements upon wages by a number of iron and steel manufacturing concerns and their employees.

Lower prices for lumber are apparently inducing more activity in building, though how much is due to this or how much to the settlement of labor disturbances is hard to measure.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregate 2,829,910 bushels, against 3,018,832 bushels last week.

Business failures in the United States number 221 as compared with 146 last week.

Business failures in the Dominion of Canada number 22 as compared with 25 last week.

Ninety persons were made seriously ill at Rheine, Westphalia, Germany, owing to the eating of diseased hogshead.

# PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

### Seattle Markets.

Onions, new, 1½c.  
Lettuce, hot house, \$1 per crate.  
Potatoes, new, 1c.  
Beets, per sack, 85c@91c.  
Turnips, per sack, 75c.  
Carrots, per sack, \$1.00.  
Parsnips, per sack, 50@75c.  
Cauliflower, native, 75c.  
Cucumbers—50@60c.  
Cabbage, native and California, \$1.00@1.25 per 100 pounds.  
Tomatoes—\$1.25.  
Butter—Creamery, 23c; Eastern 22c; dairy, 17@22c; ranch, 15@17c pound.  
Eggs—24c.  
Cheese—12c.  
Poultry—14c; dressed, 14@15c; spring, \$3.50.

Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$11.00@12.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$19.00.

Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$25; feed meal, \$23.  
Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$30.

Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.50; blended straight, \$3.25; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; graham, per barrel, \$3.00; whole wheat flour, \$3.00; rye flour, \$3.80@4.00.

Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$18.00; shorts, per ton, \$14.00.  
Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$20; oil cake meal, per ton, \$30.00.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, price 7½c; cows, 7c; mutton 8c; pork, 8c; trimmed, 9c; veal, 9@11c.

Hams—Large, 13c; small, 13½c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; dry salt sides, 8c.

### Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 55@56c; Valley, 56c; Bluestem, 59c per bushel.  
Flour—Best grades, \$3.20; graham, \$2.70; superfine, \$2.10 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 35c; choice gray, 33c per bushel.  
Barley—Feed barley, \$14.00@15.00; brewing, \$16.00 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$12.50 ton; middlings, \$19; shorts, \$13; chop, \$14 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$7@7.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 35@40c; store, 25c.

Eggs—17½c per dozen.  
Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@3.50 per dozen; hens, \$4.50; springs, \$2.00@3.50; geese, \$4.00@5.00 for old; \$4.50@6.50; ducks, \$3.00@4.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 14@15c per pound.

Potatoes—40@50c per sack; sweets, 2@2½c per pound.

Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 75c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 1½c per pound; parsnips, \$1; onions, 1½c per pound; carrots, \$1.

Hops—2@8c per pound.  
Wool—Valley, 15@16c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@15c; mohair, 25c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 3½c; dressed mutton, 7@7½c per pound; lambs, 5½c.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$5.00@6.50 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.00@4.50; cows, \$3.50@4.00; dressed beef, 6½@7½c per pound.  
Veal—Large, 6½@7½c; small, 8@8½c per pound.