

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in a Condensed Form, Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers

Chicago teamsters refuse to help striking freight handlers.

Ambassador Choate has been suggested as a candidate for president in 1904.

A man answering the description of Merrill has been arrested at South Bend, Wash.

Twenty thousand teachers are in attendance at the national educational convention in Minneapolis.

The expenses of the Oregon militia while hunting Tracy and Merrill amounted to \$700, which will be paid out of the military fund.

All organized labor and the public in general will be called upon to contribute to a national defense fund to aid the striking coal miners in the East.

A family of four traveling overland through Oklahoma were murdered by unknown persons; the bodies stripped of all clothing and terribly mutilated.

Tracy, after an absence of two days, again showed up in South Seattle. He was surrounded by officers, but succeeded in throwing posse off the track. He sprinkled pepper along his trail so the dogs could not follow it.

A train wreck in Spain resulted in the death of six persons and the fatal injury of 27.

Tracy, the escaped Oregon convict, has completely disappeared, leaving no trail whatever.

A new strike has been made in the Thunder mountain mining district, Idaho, which has proven to be the richest yet made.

No trace has been found of Merrill, one of the escaped Oregon convicts, and officers are at a loss as to whether or not Tracy killed him.

Aguinaldo will come to the United States and start on a tour, delivering a series of lectures and making a plea for the independence of his countrymen.

A large body of Moros of Mindanao island planned an ambush for American soldiers, but the latter were warned in time and dispersed the rebels.

Venezuelan government troops, under President Castro's brother, were defeated by the rebels with heavy loss. Many of the soldiers deserted to the ranks of the insurgents.

President Castro has gone to the front with the Venezuelan troops.

President Mitchell is confident that the coal miners will win their strike.

Half a million were fed on the occasion of King Edward's dinner to the poor of London.

It has been apparently confirmed that Andree did not perish, but was murdered by Eskimos.

Eleven men were hurt, three of them fatally, by the overturning of a wagon at Florence, Colorado.

Wind and rain destroyed thousands of dollars worth of property in the western part of New York.

China has appealed to the United States to use its good offices to cause the allied powers who still retain their soldiers in Tien Tsin to evacuate that place.

Tracy, after several running fights with the officers in the vicinity of Seattle, in which three men were killed and one seriously wounded, has eluded his pursuers and is now heading toward Whatcom.

Minnesota Republicans have renominated Van Sant for governor.

Seventy bills and resolutions were passed the last day in the house.

Shopmen of the Northwestern and Burlington & Ohio are on strike.

The cabinet has begun the consideration of the isthmian canal measure.

The Columbia river salmon pack this year will be the largest in years.

Many nominations sent to the senate for confirmation were not acted upon.

China refuses to pay the July indemnity installment at the present rate of exchange.

The cash value of real estate of Chicago and Cook county is placed at \$1,263,924,250.

The session of congress just closed appropriated \$69,855,262 more than the session of last year.

An Italian striker at Wilkesbarre, Pa., was shot by a policeman. This is the first loss of life since the great anthracite strike began.

Frequent riots have occurred in South Russia.

The Union Pacific strike has settled down to a stubborn contest.

The United Presbyterian general assembly has received an overture proposing union with the reformed church.

The Illinois Audubon society has warned Chicago milliners that prosecutions will follow if birds are used on fall hats.

The Missouri state university at Columbia has conferred the degree of doctor of laws on Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain.)

NEW YORK FLOODS.

Great Damage Done to Farms and Railroad Property.

Rochester, N. Y., July 10.—News from the flood devastated districts is coming in slowly. Reports from Medina show that the cloudburst that struck that place did great damage. Today there are evidences of a great flood, and wreckage is piled up along waterways which have been dried up for a month. In the neighboring country buildings were destroyed by lightning and railroad tracks washed out. The Genesee river, which at this time of the year is a mere raceway, is today a raging torrent. Great quantities of driftwood and trees are coming down.

From up-river points come reports that the lowlands are under water. Cloudbursts have interfered with traffic on the Western New York division of the Pennsylvania system. The Erie tracks between Attica and Batavia are washed out. From Churchville come reports that Black creek is the highest known in any spring freshet. It is out of its channel and caused great damage to growing crops along its banks. Pennyan says that many thousands of dollars of damage has been done to residences along the course of the creek following through Hammondsport.

Mount Morris reports the Genesee at that point fully two feet higher than the highest previous record at any time of the year. Early yesterday it broke through its banks east of the village and has ruined thousands of dollars worth of crops below here. Many fine farms have been entirely ruined.

Large fields of growing crops have been washed away, and all Nunda has suffered greatly. Portageville, Pike, Lamont, Roseberg, Fillmore and many other towns are under water. The farms all about Portageville are laid waste, and no field crops can be saved.

The tracks of the Pennsylvania are washed away, and a new road will have to be laid at many places before trains can be moved. Pike reports the loss of a large iron bridge, the postoffice building and opera house, a meat market, cheese factory, drug store, two dwelling houses and the village warehouse. Stafford reports heavy damage.

NINTH WEEK OF STRIKE.

No Change in the Situation in the Anthracite Coal Fields.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., July 10.—With President Mitchell in New York, and all the other miners' leaders at Nanticoke attending the annual convention of District No. 1, strike headquarters was an extremely quiet place today. The ninth week of the suspension of anthracite coal mining shows no change in the situation, there not being the slightest indication that either party is ready to quit. The visit of the miners' chief to New York continues to arouse interest. No word of his movements in the metropolis have been received here, and there is much speculation as to what caused him to go there. The entire coal belt continues quiet, very few men congregating in the vicinity of the collieries. The large force of coal and iron policemen, estimated at 3,000, is kept constantly on duty for any emergency. Several arrests were made in this valley of persons for intimidating alleged "unfair" workmen but the arrests were made so quietly as to cause no disturbance of any kind.

The district convention at Nanticoke today disposed of much business of a routine nature. About 400 delegates, representing 75,000 miners, were attending the convention, which embraces all the territory from Forest City, 22 miles north of Scranton, to Shickshinny, 16 miles south of here.

SALE OF FORT HALL LANDS.

Pocatello Has Been Chosen as a Better Point Than Blackfoot.

Washington, July 10.—The public auction of Fort Hall lands which the five-mile limit of Pocatello will be conducted at the city of Pocatello, instead of at the Blackfoot land office, as had originally been intended. Commissioner Richards, who will conduct the sale, consulted with the Blackfoot land officers, who gave Pocatello as the most advantageous point for holding the sale, but that purchases will be more readily made. These lands will be sold in 40 acre tracts by townships, beginning with township 5, R. 34 E., and proceeding by sections in numerical order throughout the township. The same system will be followed in townships 6 and 7, same range. The corresponding townships in range 35 will then be disposed of in like order. The most desirable lands are situated in the first two townships. Sales will be from a large display map, cash payments being demanded for each tract as it is taken.

Buenacamino Met Mrs. Lawton.

Louisville, Ky., July 10.—General Buenacamino, ex-secretary of state in Aguinaldo's cabinet, arrived in the city today and presented an expression of sympathy from the Federal party in the Philippines to the widow of General Lawton, who resides in a suburb of Louisville. General Buenacamino left Louisville tonight, going direct to San Francisco, whence he will embark for the Philippines.

Strange Phenomenon.

Guthrie, O. T., July 10.—Great excitement has been caused at Tulsa, I. T., owing to the discovery by surveyors working north of that place of cracks in the sides of the mounds, as though from great pressure underneath. Gas is escaping from the fissures, and a continual hissing and roaring can be heard. On the extreme top of the highest hill there has been a small volcano at work, raising large boulders and tossing them aside.

NEWS OF THE STATE

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

A record apple crop is assured in the Hood river country.

The Ashland Iron Works is the name of a new company just organized at Ashland with \$20,000 capital.

Timber values in the Nehalem country are advancing rapidly. Claims are now selling for three times as much as one year ago.

The Intercoastal Mining Company, of Baker City, has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. Capital, \$1,000,000.

When the supreme court convened last Monday, Judge F. S. Moore sat upon the chief justice's bench, Judge Bean becoming the junior judge.

Arrangements are being perfected for the holding of the fourth biennial fruit fair at Hood River. The date of the fair will probably be set for the second week in October.

There is a movement on foot at Baker City to organize some kind of a society or corporation, the purpose of which will be to collect and publish facts regarding the mining industry of Eastern Oregon. This is brought about by the fact that mines of other states are forging ahead, while the mining industry in this state is seldom heard of outside its boundary lines.

A \$10 gold piece issued by the San Francisco mint in 1852 has been found 12 miles south of Corvallis. There is no likeness of the goddess of liberty on the coin. One side, save a band across the middle, is checkered with delicate lines that form squares by crossing each other like the wires of a sieve. On the band are the words: "United States Assay Office of Gold, San Francisco, California, 1852." On the other side there is the figure of an eagle. An old overland road used to pass the spot where the coin was found.

The receipts of the state land office for June were \$35,240.84.

According to the city superintendent of schools, Portland has a population of a trifle over 98,000.

The run of fish on the Columbia has shown another improvement and the proportion of large fish is also increasing.

The first labor trouble in years in Astoria was caused by the plumbers going on strike for an increase of 50 cents per day in wages.

Fish Warden Van Dusen has made a trip to the Coquille river, where he will establish a hatchery this fall on the south fork of the river.

A petition is being circulated asking the Southern Pacific to extend the service from Sheridan to Portland via Cornelius so as to include Sundays.

Work is progressing rapidly on the repair of the Madison street bridge at Portland. The structure will be open for public travel in about two weeks.

As a result of the labor troubles, all sawmill owners in Portland have advanced the price of rough lumber \$1.50 per thousand feet and \$2 per thousand for clear.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 66c; bluestem, 67c@68c; valley, 66c@67c. Barley—Feed, \$22; brewing, \$23 per ton. Flour—Best grades, \$3.05@3.60 per barrel; graham, \$2.95@3.20. Millstuffs—Bran, \$15@16 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$17.50@18; chop, \$16. Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.20@1.25; gray, \$1.15@1.20. Hay—Timothy, \$12@15; clover, \$7.50@10; Oregon wild hay, \$5@6 per ton. Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60c per cental; ordinary, 40c per cental. Growers prices; sweets, \$2.25@2.50 per cental; new potatoes, 1 1/4c. Butter—Creamery, 19@21 1/2c; dairy 16@18c; store, 15@16c. Eggs—18@19c for Oregon. Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12 1/2c@13c; Young America, 13 1/2@14 1/2c; factory prices, 10 1/2c less. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.50; hens, \$4.00@5.50 per dozen; 11@11 1/2c per pound; springs, 11@11 1/2c per pound, \$2.00@4.50 per dozen; ducks, \$2.50@3.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 13@14c, dressed, 15@16c per pound; geese, \$4.00@5.00 per dozen. Mutton—Gross, 2 1/2@3c per pound; dressed, 6c per pound. Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2c; dressed, 7@7 1/2c per pound. Veal—6 1/2@7 1/2c per pound. Beef—Gross, cows, 3@3 1/2c; steers, 3 1/2@4 1/2c; dressed, 7@8c per pound. Hops—14@16 cents per pound. Wool—Valley, 12 1/2@15; Eastern Oregon, 8@14 1/2c; mohair, 25@26c pound.

New York is to have the most magnificent hotel in the world. It will be 20 stories high and cost \$10,000,000.

German experts, after two years' test on four men, declared borax in the human system retards assimilation of fats and albumen.

It is reported that Andrew Carnegie gave his second cousin, Miss Harriet Lauder, of Pittsburgh, \$1,000,000 when she became Mrs. J. C. Greenway recently.

AGUINALDO IS FREE.

Afraid to Go About Streets of Manila on Account of His Enemies.

Manila, July 9.—As a result of the proclamation of amnesty July 4, the guard of American soldiers has been withdrawn from duty at the house where Aguinaldo lives and Lieutenant Johnson, Aguinaldo's custodian, brought the Filipino today to see General Chaffee. It was the first meeting between the American general and the leader of the Filipino insurrection. Lieutenant William L. McKinley, of the Ninth cavalry, acted as interpreter. Aguinaldo was told that "he was free to go anywhere he pleased and General Chaffee asked him if he had any complaint to make of American discourtesy or harshness.

Aguinaldo replied that he had no such complaint to make. He told General Chaffee that he was going to visit friends at his home in Cavite Viejo, in Cavite province, and inquired what protection American authorities would afford him. He seemed to be afraid to venture out. General Chaffee replied that Aguinaldo would get the same protection as any other citizen.

The former Filipino leader then asked General Chaffee to prevent the courts from requiring him to testify in civil suits. General Chaffee replied that he had no authority to grant this request and advised Aguinaldo to make a social call on Acting Civil Governor Wright. This Aguinaldo said he would do, but that he would go at night, as he was timid about appearing on the streets in daylight.

The release of the ex-leader has renewed speculation as to possible vengeance upon him by friends of Luna, and his other enemies. Luna was a Filipino leader whom Aguinaldo caused to be killed in 1899.

LEWIS AND CLARKE FAIR.

Committee on Location of Site Urges Selection of City Park.

Portland, July 9.—The first definite step towards selection of an exposition site for the Lewis and Clarke celebration in 1905 was taken yesterday morning, when the report of the subcommittee to which the matter had been referred was presented to the executive committee of the Lewis and Clark corporation. Its report discussed briefly the scope of the Lewis and Clark exposition and its probable needs. It considered only two of the sites that have been mentioned in connection with the fair—the Hawthorne tract and the city park—and its conclusions were in favor of the city park. There was some discussion of the report before a vote on its adoption was taken. With the understanding that the report should go formally before the board of directors, where there would be full opportunity for its consideration, the subcommittee's report was formally adopted by the executive committee. It now stands in the executive committee, and is expected to be reported to the board at its regular monthly meeting.

FIERCE CHICAGO FIRE.

Caused Losses Amounting to \$325,000, Partially Covered by Insurance.

Chicago, July 9.—Fire early today destroyed the building at 305-09-11 Wabash avenue, causing losses aggregating over \$325,000. For a time the fire threatened widespread destruction, and it was only through the utmost efforts that the flames were prevented from entering the department store of Siegel, Cooper & Co., fronting on State street and separated from the burning building by only a narrow alley. Much excitement was caused among the guests at the Auditorium hotel, directly across Wabash avenue from the burning buildings, and at the Auditorium annex. The guests were aroused from their slumbers at 7 o'clock in the morning, when the fire had gained such headway that it threatened other buildings in all directions. On the Wabash avenue side the flames belched out into the avenue so fiercely that it was considered unsafe for trains on the elevated loop to pass, and for over two hours all traffic on the loop was suspended.

NO NEWS OF STEAMERS.

Portland and Jeannie Still Reported Adrift in the Northern Ice Fields.

Seattle, July 9.—No news of the missing steamers Jeannie and Portland, is the report made by the steamship Indiana, Captain E. V. Roberts, which arrived from Nome. The Indiana sailed from the North on the evening of June 26, two days later than the Senator. Purser McCullom says there is a great deal of uneasiness at Nome concerning the long overdue liners.

On June 26 the United States revenue cutter Thetis was reported at Teller City on her way back into the Arctic in search of the Portland and Jeannie. She probably passed through the straits the 27th. The Indiana was at St. Michael on the 25th. There were then in that port the steamship Comenough, of the same line, and steamer Elinor Thompson and several river boats; also the steam whaler Bugies, which arrived the same day from Nome. There were no ocean vessels at Nome and only one steam craft, the Sadie.

Big Check Missing.

Indianapolis, July 8.—Indiana officials are worrying as to the whereabouts of a check for \$635,000, drawn by the United States for Indiana in payment of its war claim. The check was mailed in Washington two days ago, but up to this time it has not been seen by the state officers. The fact that the checks to Illinois and several other states in payment of similar claims have been received has increased the anxiety of the Indiana officers.

TEACHERS OVERDOING IT.

Washington, July 10.—Complaints have been received at the war department that certain teachers in the Philippines have been trying to induce Catholic children to become Protestants. The complaints have been forwarded to Acting Governor Wright, with instructions to have the practice, if it prevails, stopped. The teachers will be informed that it is no part of the policy of the government to have any religion taught in the schools.

CREWS DRIVEN FROM CARS.

Pawtucket, R. I., July 9.—Two cars of the United Traction company were assailed by a mob of 100 men in Saylesville tonight and the crews driven off. The rioters cut the curtains to pieces and battered the woodwork. Two cars were attacked in Central Falls, one at Lonsdale and one in this city, despite the efforts of the police to give the employees protection. Finally the running of cars was suspended.

FIRES IN ELEVATED RAILWAY CAR.

Chicago, July 8.—A motor car on the Metropolitan elevated railroad caught fire last night while passing Augusta street. There were 200 people on the train, and a panic ensued. Several of the passengers made efforts to jump from the moving train but were prevented by the guards. In the scramble that ensued when the prisoners endeavored to get out of the way of the flames, a number of persons were crushed, and two women are said to have been seriously injured.

TO WATER LAND.

Government Will Take Up Small Projects First—Sites to Be Selected Soon.

Washington, July 8.—The indications are that by next spring the secretary of the interior will, through the geological survey, begin the construction of the first irrigation system to be built under the recently enacted law. Where the start will be made has not yet been determined, but in all probability it will be a project of modest proportions, costing \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, and one of which the success is reasonably certain. The secretary is now planning field examinations with a view of selecting those sites which give the promise of success, and from which earliest returns may be had. He believes in getting back into the irrigation fund as rapidly as possible all money that is to be expended in constructing reservoirs and canals.

It is very apparent that neither the Milk river project in Montana, nor the Gila river or Truckee canyon projects in Arizona is to be among the first chosen, because of the enormous cost involved. Moreover, the secretary wants to know more about these projects from the money standpoint before he orders their building. The numerous reports that these systems will cost very dearly in proportion to the amount of land reclaimed has somewhat alarmed him, and resulted in his deciding to make haste slowly. This course, moreover, was recommended by many Western senators and representatives before they left for home.

In deciding to begin with small projects the department has made it possible to undertake the building of a number of systems simultaneously, and to distribute the work into several states, as, at the time field operations are commenced there will be an available sum of \$8,000,000 to \$8,000,000 for carrying on the work.

PACKING HOUSE FIRE.

Half Million Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed in Chicago Stockyards.

Chicago, July 8.—By a fire which broke out in their plant at the stock yards Swift & Co. suffered a loss which is estimated by the officials of the company at \$500,000. The fire was confined to one building standing at the intersection of Packers avenue and Broadway. This structure was four stories high, built of brick, and was 300 feet square. The first floor was occupied by the wholesale meat market of the company, the second by the shipping department, and the third and fourth by the general offices of the company. The latter are said to have been the largest single offices in the United States, more than 800 employees working in a single room.

The cause of the fire is not known, but it was discovered near the engine room. It spread so rapidly through the building that it was found impossible to save anything in the structure. The first arrivals of the fire department were unable to check the fire, and repeated calls were sent in for assistance, but all the engines were not able to prevent the entire destruction of the building. Within an hour after the fire was discovered the building was ruined, although the fire continued to blaze for a long time.

PLAN AN OUTBREAK

ANOTHER JAIL DELIVERY AT SALEM STOPPED.

Man Appeared on the Prison Wall at Midnight—Guard Discovered Intruder and Fired—Tresspasser Made Away Unharmed—Appeared Near Where Arms Are Believed to Have Been Smuggled in Before.

Salem, Or., July 9.—An unknown man tried to gain entrance into the penitentiary Monday night at midnight, according to Guard Sampson. The intruder appeared on post No. 5, on the south wall of the prison yard, and appeared to be watching the night guard. It is believed that Tracy and Merrill received their rifles over this wall, and that the weapons were brought over at night and secreted in the foundry by accomplices. The appearance of the stranger on the wall at night is taken to indicate a further plan for an outbreak by the prisoners, and that the fellow intended to smuggle weapons into the prison for the use of the convicts.

Before the outbreak of June 9 only one guard was in the prison yard at night. Now an extra guard is there, and the matter of smuggling in arms is somewhat more difficult if the guards are alert. Just before the discovery of the stranger Simpson had walked down to the south wall, and inspected the gate where the Southern Pacific track enters the yard. He then started back across the yard northward, and when he entered the shadow of the laundry building, about 200 feet distant, he turned and looked back at the south wall. At that instant he saw a man's head above the wall, but it suddenly disappeared. He waited a moment and the head reappeared, and after a few seconds went down out of sight again. Simpson dropped a cartridge into the barrel of his rifle, and when the head appeared again he fired. Instantly the figure was gone, and when the two guards arrived no trace of the man could be found. The surface of the ground near the wall is hard and covered with grass, so that no tracks would be visible in the morning. The guards did not dare leave the yard at night.

It is apparent that the visitor was familiar with the system of guarding in force prior to the Tracy and Merrill outbreak, for at the time he appeared he would have found his way clear to enter the yard if the old system had still been in force. The prison officials decline to say what the rules observed by the night guards are at present, but they are such as to make an entrance by a stranger very difficult.

The man who appeared on the wall stood on the walk attached to the outside of the wall about four feet from the top. He could therefore conceal himself easily, exposing his head only long enough to observe the position of the guards.

The prison officials are reticent concerning the attempt to enter the prison yard, and there has been an effort to keep it quiet. These facts were related by Guard Gambell, who was on duty in the front yard. No attempt, so far as known, has been made to run down the culprit.

TRACY AGAIN ESCAPES.

Pose With Bloodhounds Close Upon His Heels, But He Throws Them Off.

Seattle, July 9.—Convict Harry Tracy eluded the Washington officers again and is once more heading for Seattle. The posse pressed him hard at Renton, in fact, his escape seemed impossible. Bloodhounds were placed on his track within 10 minutes. They were soon close on the heels of the fugitive. Pressed to desperation, he scattered cayenne pepper in his tracks. The dogs soon came upon this, and once their nostrils were filled with the fiery substance, balked until it could be removed, which required 10 minutes. They again took the trail but soon lost it.

Anderson, the man Tracy made accomplice from Meadow Point Saturday, has been rescued at Renton. He was tied to a tree when found. He had been subjected to this experience before on his trip with the outlaw, and it was in a very feeble voice that he made his presence known to his rescuers. Anderson states that Tracy is being aided in every possible way by four men whom he does not know, but who are supposed to be partners in crime with Tracy.

Mo Financial Trouble in France.

Paris, July 10.—Contrary to reports circulated in the United States, there is nothing threatening in the financial situation here. The minister of finance will present a bill in the chamber of deputies tomorrow converting the 3 1/2 per cent rentes into 3 per cents, and he would hardly choose a threatening moment for such an operation. Both 3 1/2 and 3 per cents made a slight advance today, and the Bourse was generally calm.

TEACHERS OVERDOING IT.

Washington, July 10.—Complaints have been received at the war department that certain teachers in the Philippines have been trying to induce Catholic children to become Protestants. The complaints have been forwarded to Acting Governor Wright, with instructions to have the practice, if it prevails, stopped. The teachers will be informed that it is no part of the policy of the government to have any religion taught in the schools.

CREWS DRIVEN FROM CARS.

Pawtucket, R. I., July 9.—Two cars of the United Traction company were assailed by a mob of 100 men in Saylesville tonight and the crews driven off. The rioters cut the curtains to pieces and battered the woodwork. Two cars were attacked in Central Falls, one at Lonsdale and one in this city, despite the efforts of the police to give the employees protection. Finally the running of cars was suspended.

TO WATER LAND.

Government Will Take Up Small Projects First—Sites to Be Selected Soon.

Washington, July 8.—The indications are that by next spring the secretary of the interior will, through the geological survey, begin the construction of the first irrigation system to be built under the recently enacted law. Where the start will be made has not yet been determined, but in all probability it will be a project of modest proportions, costing \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, and one of which the success is reasonably certain. The secretary is now planning field examinations with a view of selecting those sites which give the promise of success, and from which earliest returns may be had. He believes in getting back into the irrigation fund as rapidly as possible all money that is to be expended in constructing reservoirs and canals.

It is very apparent that neither the Milk river project in Montana, nor the Gila river or Truckee canyon projects in Arizona is to be among the first chosen, because of the enormous cost involved. Moreover, the secretary wants to know more about these projects from the money standpoint before he orders their building. The numerous reports that these systems will cost very dearly in proportion to the amount of land reclaimed has somewhat alarmed him, and resulted in his deciding to make haste slowly. This course, moreover, was recommended by many Western senators and representatives before they left for home.

In deciding to begin with small projects the department has made it possible to undertake the building of a number of systems simultaneously, and to distribute the work into several states, as, at the time field operations are commenced there will be an available sum of \$8,000,000 to \$8,000,000 for carrying on the work.

PACKING HOUSE FIRE.

Half Million Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed in Chicago Stockyards.

Chicago, July 8.—By a fire which broke out in their plant at the stock yards Swift & Co. suffered a loss which is estimated by the officials of the company at \$500,000. The fire was confined to one building standing at the intersection of Packers avenue and Broadway. This structure was four stories high, built of brick, and was 300 feet square. The first floor was occupied by the wholesale meat market of the company, the second by the shipping department, and the third and fourth by the general offices of the company. The latter are said to have been the largest single offices in the United States, more than 800 employees working in a single room.

The cause of the fire is not known, but it was discovered near the engine room. It spread so rapidly through the building that it was found impossible to save anything in the structure. The first arrivals of the fire department were unable to check the fire, and repeated calls were sent in for assistance, but all the engines were not able to prevent the entire destruction of the building. Within an hour after the fire was discovered the building was ruined, although the fire continued to blaze for a long time.

TO WATER LAND.

Government Will Take Up Small Projects First—Sites to Be Selected Soon.

Washington, July 8.—The indications are that by next spring the secretary of the interior will, through the geological survey, begin the construction of the first irrigation system to be built under the recently enacted law. Where the start will be made has not yet been determined, but in all probability it will be a project of modest proportions, costing \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, and one of which the success is reasonably certain. The