

# AUGUSTA IS UNDER WATER

## Disastrous Fires Follow in Wake of Southern Floods.

Loss Will Reach Over Half Million—Union Depot Under Ten Feet of Water—One Lane Telegraphs Wire Brings Out Report of Disaster—Loss of Life Expected.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 27.—A long distance telephone message from the Associated Press correspondent from Augusta says that the city is completely under water. In the downtown portion business houses, telegraph offices and newspaper offices are completely demoralized.

There were three deaths in Augusta yesterday, two white people and one negro.

The damage, it is estimated, will reach half a million dollars.

At 8:30 last night it was learned through the single wire of the Georgia Railroad company, working partly into Augusta, that the large cotton warehouse and the wholesale grocery warehouses of the Nixon company were burning.

The union depot is under ten feet of water, and in the best residence district the water stands six feet deep and is slowly rising.

The report of the fires in the Nixon warehouses cannot be confirmed. A telegraph operator said he could not get near enough on account of the water, but that the fires were burning in the vicinity of the big warehouses.

The floods in the Carolinas and Georgia culminated in the breaking of the big dam six miles from Augusta, which diverts the water from the Savannah river into the canal at that point. The great flood of water let loose soon found its way into the city, and last night, from Fifteenth street to the Eastern boundary, Augusta was under from six to 12 feet of water, which is gradually rising.

### FIGHT TO REGAIN TRADE.

San Francisco Merchants Will Organize Traffic Bureau.

San Francisco, Aug. 27.—An aggressive commercial campaign to recover trade lost to the merchants of San Francisco through the alleged indifference, neglect and lack of concerted action, was decided upon today at a meeting of the trade and commerce committee of the Merchants' Exchange.

Steps were taken immediately to organize a traffic bureau, with an experienced traffic manager in charge, which will be a central organization for the mercantile bodies of this city, whose object will be to see that merchants, manufacturers, wholesalers and jobbers of San Francisco receive railroad and water rates that will enable them to regain the territory taken away by other cities, particularly Los Angeles.

### POSTPONE EXPOSITION.

Japanese Public Clamoring Against Vast Expense.

Tokyo, Aug. 27.—The unpopularity of President Kameko, of the Tokio exposition, has caused difficulties which may result in the postponement of the great exposition, which is now set for 1912.

The people are clamoring against the methods of Kameko in spending great sums of government money and the reports of the postponement have been so frequent that today the minister of agriculture and commerce found it necessary to issue a formal denial. He said the exposition would be held at the time set, but even this assurance is not sufficient to quiet the reports. The strained industrial and financial situation in Japan is the matter uppermost in the minds of most of the people and there is a widespread feeling that the government chose a poor time to go to the enormous expense of holding the first great world's fair in the Orient.

### America Kindest to Imbeciles.

London, Aug. 27.—That America far surpasses England in the care of her idiotic insane is the report published today by the royal commission appointed to investigate American methods. The commission recently returned from the United States. Nearly every state was visited, and the report says that with few exceptions the American system was found superior to the British. The report recommends that the British government adopt a system that embodies the best features of the methods in vogue in several states.

### Builders Tap Secret Till.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 27.—Finger prints in dust on a jewel box led detectives last night to arrest James Holmes, a carpenter, who afterwards confessed that he stole 42 diamonds, valued at \$1,000, from Captain E. W. Johnston, the well known Nome operator. The diamonds disappeared August 17. Holmes and another carpenter were the only persons who knew of the secret closet for jewels, as they built it at Captain Johnston's home.

### No Clue to Raiders.

Aberdeen, S. D., Aug. 27.—The authorities here are investigating the raids on Lowry and Alaska Sunday night by a company of armed and mounted men. Absolutely no clue to the raiders has been found.

### WATERS RECEDING.

Augusta Damage May Approximate Million Dollars.

Augusta, Ga., Aug. 28.—Flood waters at Augusta began receding this afternoon. They reached the height of 40 feet, probably as high as the flood of 1888.

Rain has ceased in the upper valley and there is no danger of further loss. The loss approximates \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 and consists of damage to stocks of goods and private property, destruction of the wagon and railroad bridges across the Savannah river and breaks in the canal banks. There are dependent on the canal for power eight cotton mills.

While the flood was at its height five fires broke out. The McDaniel builders' material establishment, North Augusta, burned. A train of 40 cars belonging to the Southern railway burned in Hamburg. Nixon's lime, cement and hardware house and a huge quantity of lumber belonging to the Georgia railway, at the Georgia railway yards, were burned. The Augusta Railway & Electric company cannot run their cars for three days.

No power plants are in operation; the telephone lines are not doing business; the railroads are accepting no passengers. The water service is crippled, but intact. The gas company service is impaired, but not shut down. There have been 10 to 15 drownings, mostly negro laborers.

From the northwestern section of the city the waters will not recede for two or three days. Tonight is a night of tension. Missing men and families are being reported.

The Augusta Chronicle got out its Thursday edition in abbreviated form at 9 p. m. The Augusta Herald, an afternoon paper, could not publish Wednesday or Thursday.

### TRIES GAME ON ROOSEVELT.

French Soldier Punished for Attempt at Blackmail.

Bordeaux, Aug. 28.—An extraordinary story was told at the court martial today, of a member of the military ambulance corps, Camille Marquet, who was charged with attempting to blackmail President Roosevelt. According to the evidence before the court, Marquet wrote to the president on January 9, demanding on behalf of "my society," without other specification, "\$2,000 on account of services rendered during the presidential election," and promising further "immense help."

Receiving no reply to this demand, Marquet wrote again on March 9, threatening a scandal "which will cast dishonor upon the whole family unless the money is forthcoming at a fixed date." In conclusion the writer said: "The highest heads are no longer safe on their shoulders; look at Portugal."

The president handed the letters to the French consul general, who communicated with the French police. Marquet was brought up for court martial, but the court, in consideration of the good character of the youth, sentenced him to six days' imprisonment, giving him the benefit of the first offender's law.

### CARPET WORTH THOUSANDS

Floor Covering of U. S. Mint Filled With Gold Dust.

San Francisco, Aug. 28.—The carpet floor of the adjusting room at the San Francisco mint is about worn out and after the old covering has been taken up it will be handled with far more care than the new one. It will be many times more valuable, because it is literally lined with gold. The old carpet will be burned and from the ashes the Treasury department officials expect to realize about \$5,000.

In the adjusting room files are used to trim surplus gold from the coins after being stamped. It frequently happens that the overworn filings thus taken off fall to the floor and become imbedded in the carpet. The very best carpets are purchased for this room, so that the closely-woven material will hold securely the scattered particles of gold.

It is nothing unusual for the government to get \$5,000 worth of gold dust out of the ashes resulting from the burning of one of these carpets.

### Eats His Entire Family.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 28.—Details are given in a Yakutsk newspaper of a revolting case of cannibalism among the tribes of Lamuts living on the River Kokordi, in extreme Northwest Siberia. One of the nomads, driven desperate by hunger, devoured the bodies of his brother, wife and four children. A party of hunters came upon the deserted encampment and found the remains of the bodies. The brother's body was not found, and it is not known whether he was eaten or wandered away and perished.

### Abd El Aziz in Flight.

Tangier, Aug. 28.—Melai Hafid has been proclaimed sultan of Morocco at El Arash, as well as at Rabat and Sale. Abd El Aziz, the sultan who suffered defeat at the hands of Melai Hafid last week, at a point not far from Morocco City, is making his way out to the coast. He is expected at Casa Blanca soon. He is accompanied only by some of his advisers. All of the tribesmen who were in his service have been returned to their homes.

### Settle Canadian Strike.

Winnipeg, Aug. 28.—A rumor coming from an authoritative source says the Canadian Pacific railway officials are getting tired of the strike and negotiations will be begun tomorrow with a view to ending it.

# NEWS NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL CITY

### FIND NEW ROUTE.

Japanese Laborers Entering United States as Students.

Washington, Aug. 29.—The department of commerce and labor has referred to the State department a new question which has arisen under the administration of regulations excluding Japanese of the laboring classes. The incident reveals a method not hitherto considered whereby thousands of Japanese laborers could gain access to this country without recourse by the United States.

Miyuki Komura was recently admitted through Seattle on a passport showing him to be a student. He had about \$60 in his possession at the time. Instead of going to school immediately, he went to work. Next he crossed into Canada and found employment. He decided to re-enter the United States, which he did near Port Hill, Idaho, and was taken into custody.

Canada refused to allow him to be sent back to the Dominion. This brought the matter before the head of the department of commerce and labor, and it being decided that the law gave no authority for his deportation to Japan, he was discharged.

Authorities here consider the case of considerable importance. If there is no provision for deportation in such cases, there will be nothing to prevent other Japanese from making use of the same expedient to get into this country and to remain here.

### RENEGADES GO HOME.

Utah Indians Who Went to Dakota, Returning to Reservation.

Washington, Aug. 25.—The officials of the Indian bureau are expecting soon to hear of the arrival at their old reservation in Utah of 400 renegade Indians, who have spent the greater part of the last two years on the Sioux lands in South Dakota.

The Utes started on the long march overland July 20 and when last heard from had passed Fort Robinson, half way between the starting and stopping points. At Robinson some of the Indians dropped out and the bureau is now puzzled as to what to do with the stragglers. They are going slowly over the journey of 600 miles, disturbing no one and attracting little attention.

The Indians have manifested no disposition toward improper conduct. When they went away they said they were confident they could do better north, where game was more plentiful and the supervision less rigid. On arrival, they professed to be satisfied with their new homes and haughtily spurned overtures to return. When, however, they found that game laws were as rigid in one state as another, and especially when they discovered that they must work or starve, they seemed to experience a gradual change and they have recently been insistent upon returning to their Utah lands.

### Liquor Taxes Falling Off.

Washington, Aug. 28.—The monthly statement of the collections of internal revenue shows that the total for July, 1908, was \$22,029,316, which is a falling off of \$2,899,500 as compared with July, 1907. The most noteworthy decrease is in the receipts from the retail liquor dealers special tax which amounts to \$216,149. This indicates that 8,046 retail liquor dealers went out of business during July, which is said to be largely due to prohibition legislation in the various states.

### Slow to Adopt New Plan.

Washington, Aug. 25.—T. P. Kane, deputy controller of the currency, stated today that the published statement that a large number of national banks in Oklahoma had notified the controller of the currency of their intentions to surrender their national charters and enter the state banking system, because of the opinion rendered by the attorney general that they cannot lawfully avail themselves of the state guaranty laws was not in accordance with the facts.

### To Build Clear Lake Dam.

Washington, Aug. 26.—The secretary of the interior has authorized the reclamation service to begin construction of the Clear Lake dam in the Klamath irrigation project, by force account. The total estimated cost of this work is \$165,000. Bids for erection of this dam have been rejected on the ground of excessive cost, and it is believed that work can be carried on effectively and economically with the force in hand.

### Kermitt Stops Runaway.

Oyster Bay, Aug. 29.—It was stated here tonight that Kermitt Roosevelt, second son of the president, stopped a runaway team of horses this afternoon, after a wild chase on horseback along the shore road into Bayville, and probably saved the lives of Mrs. Frank Hilton, of New York, and her two small sons.

### Discuss Tariff Changes.

Washington, Aug. 28.—The subcommittee of the senate committee on finance, which has under consideration proposed changes in the administrative features of the tariff law, today completed its preliminary work in Washington and adjourned to meet in New York at the call of the chairman, Senator Burrows.

### WORK OF VANDALS.

Ninety-four Years Ago British Tried to Burn Capital.

Washington, Aug. 26.—Ninety-four years ago Monday a British army, under the command of General Ross, entered the city of Washington, having defeated 6,000 American soldiers on their way. The capital was abandoned to the invaders, President Madison and other high officials of the government having left the city before the arrival of the British. In revenge for a Washingtonian having attempted to kill General Ross, whose life was saved at the expense of his horse, the British attempted to burn the capital. That building was saved, but the congressional library was destroyed, and with it many valuable historical documents. The torch also was applied to the White House, the Treasury and the War and State departments, and before the British evacuated the city and the flames were extinguished, property valued at \$2,000,000 had been destroyed, and in addition several scores of Americans were killed or wounded.

### LOWER ARMOR BELT.

Naval Experts Decide to Change Line on Future Fighters.

Washington, Aug. 27.—It is announced here today that at the summer conference of naval officers at the naval war college at Newport, at which have been discussed the designs for the new warships for the past six months, it was decided to lower the armor belt on the battleships to be constructed after the Florida and the Utah have been finished. The armor belts on the Utah and the Florida will be the same as that on the Delaware.

The decision to lower the armor belt was made because of the advance toward perfecting torpedoes. The naval authorities decided that the greater protection below the water line was needed.

Five-inch rather than six-inch guns have been decided on as the better for the secondary batteries. Military masts will be abandoned and the new battleships will be provided with one and possibly two steel fire-control towers 90 feet high.

### Ordered Out of Exile.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Orders were issued by the War department today directing Colonel William F. Stewart, of the Coast artillery, who several months ago was sent to the abandoned military post of Fort Grant, Ariz., on account of "temperamental incapacity," to proceed to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., to take the riding test prescribed for field officers. At the conclusion of the test he is directed to return to Fort Grant. Fort Grant is 26 miles from the nearest railroad. Fort Huachuca is about 100 miles from Fort Grant, on the Mexican border. Colonel Stewart has the option of riding on horseback 30 miles a day for three consecutive days or walking 50 miles in the same period.

### Warships Not Faulty.

Washington, Aug. 26.—The report that the battleships of the North Dakota and Delaware class are regarded as unsatisfactory by the naval board, recently in session at Newport, is not credited here. Assistant Secretary Newberry, who was in consultation with the board, stated that no radical changes would be made in the plans of the Florida and Utah, the battleships of the Dreadnaught type. The board will not have its report completed until next week, when it will be sent to the president for approval. The new idea that will be recommended as a result of the Newport conference will be carried out in the Utah and Florida, but will not be the cause of any changes in the plans of the North Dakota and Delaware.

### Pure Food Law Not Bar.

Washington, Aug. 28.—The United States pure food law, instead of hampering foreign trade, has benefited it, and seems to have carried with it a greater respect for foreign labels, is the opinion expressed by the United States consul, Dominic I. Murphy, at Bordeaux, France. In a report on French exports to the United States, Consul Murphy says the records of the Bordeaux consulate show that the declared values of exports of French foods and food products to the United States during the first year of the operation of the pure food law actually increased.

### Big Overcharge on Rice.

Washington, Aug. 27.—The Bayou City Rice mills, of Houston, Tex., has filed a complaint with the Interstate Commerce commission against the Northern Pacific and other roads, alleging excessive rates on rice to Portland. On a shipment of three cars, it is alleged, a 78-cent rate was charged, 55 cents being the proper rate. Reparation of about \$400 is asked for and an order making the 55-cent rate the maximum.

### Report Treat Failure.

Washington, Aug. 27.—Attempts are being made today to verify a report that leaked out of diplomatic circles yesterday to the effect that all efforts to effect an immigration treaty between the United States and Japan have failed. The statement was made by a visitor to Washington who is thoroughly conversant with affairs in the Far East, after conference with a member of the State department.

### PROBES AMERICAN MINES.

Belgian Expert Comes as Guest of Government.

New York, Aug. 26.—Victor W. Watteyne, chief of the Belgian department of mines, was a passenger on the Red Star liner Kroonland, which arrived in port today. Chief Watteyne comes as the guest of the United States government and will be consulted by the bureau of geodetic survey in its coming investigation of the mining conditions in this country. Congress has appropriated \$150,000 for this purpose. Captain Desbrough, of England, and A. Meisner, of Germany, both expert mining engineers, will come later to join Chief Watteyne.

In the United States there are 3,200 deaths due to accidents every year in the mines, or three to every thousand mining employes. Speaking of the tremendous death rate, Chief Watteyne said yesterday: "In Belgium, where the mines are the oldest in Europe and the most dangerous and deepest in the world, the death rate is only one man in a thousand—a very good record, considering the extremely hazardous nature of the work. I expect to be very much interested in my commission to study American methods."

Chief Watteyne left promptly for Pittsburgh. He will go from there to Hanna, Wyo., to study a sealed mine in which, during ten years over 300 miners have lost their lives. Chief Watteyne will suggest some scheme by which it can be worked with safety.

### BISBEE AGAIN FLOODED.

Third Cloudburst Within Month Does Much Damage.

Bisbee, Ariz., Aug. 26.—Bisbee for the third time in three weeks was yesterday visited by a cloudburst. The damage is estimated at \$25,000. The bursting of a subway at the head of Main street caused the damage. When the subway burst a wall of water six feet deep swept down the street, carrying ahead of it horses, wagons, buggies and the automobile of G. J. Cunningham, cashier of the bank of Bisbee. At the lower end of the street the automobile was rescued.

A number of house foundations were weakened. The Grand hotel was condemned this evening and the guests moved out. Last night the town was without fire protection, owing to water mains being washed away. The gas was off and all big sewerage mains are broken in many places. So far as is known there is no loss of life.

Bisbee is located in a canyon, so that cloudbursts in the mountains above make the place peculiarly susceptible to floods.

### JAPAN IS BUSY.

Immense War Debt and Labor Problems Worry Statesmen.

New York, Aug. 26.—Japan, sorely pressed in financial matters, with labor troubles and increased cost of living changing the entire economic system, will not go to war with any nation for 10 years at least, according to General Adolphus W. Greeley, U. S. A., retired, who, with Mrs. Greeley and their two daughters, arrived on the President Grant of the Hamburg-American line today from Hamburg.

"There have been within a year not less than 140 strikes in Japan, so I was told by a prominent official," said Mr. Greeley, "and I do not believe the world in general knows that they ended successfully for the strikers. This makes for entirely different economic conditions in that country. Japan has enough, with financial problems and the question of higher wages, to be met, to keep her wisest heads busy on the situation at home for years to come."

### Unwritten Law is Good Law.

Eastland, Tex., Aug. 26.—The grand jury today recommended that the "unwritten law" be put on the statute books of the state in order that young women can have greater protection. The recommendation grew out of serious crimes against young girls and women here lately. The whole community has been aroused. In its report the grand jury recommends that mothers give their daughters more protection from the world and asks the state legislature to put the "unwritten law" on the statute books.

### First Train Into Calor.

San Francisco, Aug. 26.—The line of the California Northeastern railroad was opened from this city to Calor, on the line between Oregon and California, today. The first car to stop at Calor was that of W. F. Herrin, chief attorney for the Southern Pacific road. E. H. Harriman, since he went over the road on his way to Klamath lake, gave orders to get the line built through to Klamath river as soon as possible, and work has gone on night and day.

### Japanese Sees Maneuvers.

Junction City, Kan., Aug. 26.—Major T. Tanaka, of the Japanese embassy in Washington, arrived at the maneuver camp last night. He was met at the railroad station by one of General Kerr's personal staff, and escorted to headquarters, where he was introduced to General Kerr and other officers of the staff. Major Tanaka will remain an observer at the camp for several days.

### Toronto Has \$150,000 Fire

Toronto, Ont., Aug. 26.—Half of the Union stockyards in West Toronto was wiped out by fire tonight. Loss, \$150,000. Seven houses on Keel street were also destroyed. The origin of the fire is not known.

# LONE BANDIT ROBS TOURISTS

Secures Over \$2,000 in Coin From 125 Yellowstone Travelers.

Stops Eleven Coaches Inside Park Boundary—Watches and Jewelry Also Given Up by Unarmed Passengers—Drivers Not Molested—Soldiers Pursue Outlaw.

Lake Hotel, Yellowstone Park, Wyo., Aug. 25.—The greatest stage hold-up in the West in many years, at least in the number of coaches held up, occurred yesterday within the boundaries of the Yellowstone park. The work was done by a lone highwayman, and the passengers were absolutely helpless in his hands, as no guns are permitted in the park to either drivers or tourists. In all, it is estimated from the statement of passengers, that something like \$2,000 in cash was obtained, drafts worth \$10,000, other papers and transportation, besides a rich haul in watches and jewelry.

In all, 21 coaches left the Upper Geyser basin in the morning. The highwayman was encountered about five miles further on at a lonely spot along the banks of Spring creek, a tributary of the Fire Hole river. The creek is lined with bushes. The first lot of coaches, numbering seven, and following each other closely, passed by the place unharmed. There was a gap between them, and the next lot of eight following.

After the first of the eight came along the highwayman stepped from the bushes and ordered the driver to halt. He did not molest the driver, nor any of the drivers following.

These eight coaches had barely gone on when three more came along, and these were robbed in a like manner.

In all about 125 people were held up, though not all of these suffered loss. When the robber ordered the drivers to move on, he stood a few minutes with his gun pointed toward them, and then walked down the road. As quickly as possible after a telephone was reached at Thumb Station word was sent to the soldiers and a detail started in pursuit of the man who is described as about 5 feet 8 inches tall, with bluish-grey eyes, and bristly grey whiskers. He acted like a man short of breath or a consumptive.

### GUN SILENCER IS TESTED.

Maxim's Latest Invention Gives Astonishing Results in Practice.

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 25.—The official test of Hiram P. Maxim's gun silencer was made by officers stationed at the United States armory here today. The test, it is said, proved the truth of the claims of the inventor. The device was attached to a regulation army rifle. The test was made at regular ranges, relays of signals being stationed at intervals. It was found that while the discharge of the un-equipped rifle is audible 7,700 yards, with the silencer this distance was cut down to 1,500 yards. Further tests were made to determine whether the silencer interfered with the velocity of the bullet and it was found that this interference was slight, reducing the velocity not more than 5 or 6 per cent.

### INDIGNANT AT CASTRO'S ORDER

Citizens of Parian Ports Resent Embargo on Travel.

Port of Spain, Aug. 25.—News has been received here that President Castro has instructed the collectors of customs in Venezuelan ports not to clear any passengers for the West Indian islands. The Venezuelan consul here has been instructed to withhold passports from persons desirous of taking passage on the steamers to Venezuela. This action on the part of the Venezuelan government has caused great indignation and is a serious blow to the inhabitants of the Parian ports and Ciudad Bolivar, and will add considerably to the misery already existing there.

### Preparations for T.-M. Congress.

San Francisco, Aug. 25.—Arthur F. Francis, of Cripple Creek, Colo., permanent secretary of the Trans-Mississippi congress, which is to convene here from October 1 to October 10, established headquarters in the board of trade rooms in the Ferry building today. Secretary Francis has come to make arrangements for the great congress, which will be attended by delegates from every state and territory west of the Mississippi river. It is expected that at least 1,000 delegates will attend from outside states.

### Million for Balloon Plans.

Geneva, Switzerland, Aug. 25.—It was learned today that Count Zeppelin was again visited two days ago by agents of the mysterious American syndicate which offered \$1,000,000 for the airship recently lost at Echterdingen. The Americans are now trying to secure possession of the new balloon under construction by Zeppelin, to be known as No. 5. It is said that they have even gone so far as to offer \$1,000,000 for the plans.

### Old Virginia is Shaken.

Richmond, Va., Aug. 25.—There were several severe earth tremors felt in Powhatan, Amelia and Chesterfield counties last night and this morning. No one was hurt and no property damage done.