

STUDY WOOD USES

Forest Service Plans to Conduct Large Experiments.

Laboratory Opened in Madison, Wis.—Rear Admiral Stockton Is Chosen President of George Washington University.

Washington.—Utilization of forest resources to the fullest possible extent is to be the aim of an experiment station that under the name of the forest products laboratory has recently been established by the forest service at Madison, Wis. Henry S. Graves, chief of the forest service has returned from opening the laboratory and spoke enthusiastically of the outlook.

The station is called a laboratory, but this is hardly a descriptive name. The word laboratory usually infers chemical or physical experiments on a very small scale, and laboratory work is always differentiated from field work because it is not always certain that an experiment successful in the laboratory will be a practical and commercial success.

The work at the Wisconsin station is on a scale that is large enough to show whether the work carried on has a commercial future. There are a number of varied industries all connected with forest products carried on under the same roof, but they are carried on in a larger way than is common in a laboratory. There is a practical pulp mill for making paper out of woods that are to be found in the national forests, but that have never been utilized for paper making; there is a plant where new woods are being tried for making lead pencils, there are testing devices for determining the structural strength of woods, real chemical laboratories for determining chemical composition and the adaptability of woods for dyeing, tanning and other arts, and sections for kiln drying, fireproofing and preserving woods from decay. There will be an important branch devoted to saving wood refuse by distillation, the making of wood alcohol by cheap and practical processes and the like.

"The opening of the laboratory was in every way a noticeable success," said Mr. Graves. "It was participated in by a large number of lumbermen, representatives of wood-using industries and others interested in a practical way in what the laboratory is intended to do. I think these men were much impressed with the facilities, for studying practical problems on a scale which will make the results valuable to users of what the forest produces.

"For instance, there was a paper machine making paper from species of wood which are being experimented with to discover their value for this purpose. Some of the woods to be tested are national forest woods of relatively low value for timber. Other tests were of construction timbers of large size.

"The success of the opening was largely due to the hearty co-operation



Chief Forester Graves.

of the representatives of wood-using industries and the lumbermen. One of the greatest advantages of the laboratory will be that it will bring closer together those who are studying to promote the most economical use of your forests, for the sake of making our timber supplies last as long as possible and serve their best use, and those who are engaged in the business of converting trees into marketable forms. The industries will gain both greater assurance of permanence and discovery of the methods which will pay them best, while the public will gain from the conservation of the forests."

The lumbermen of the country are particularly interested in the work of saving what is now refuse wood. They figure that a third of the wood as it is cut in the forest now finds its way into the market, and they are just as anxious as any other people to save this two-thirds if it can be done at any profit to themselves. They have already furnished a good deal of machinery for testing and experiments and have suggested a number of lines for investigation.

The station is being conducted by the department of agriculture in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin. The latter institution has furnished the building and will supply the light, heat and power and the department will furnish the working force. The new building cost the state of Wisconsin about \$50,000.

While the aim of the station is to do work on a scale that will be large enough to pretty well establish its commercial possibilities, there have been arrangements made with a number of the commercial concerns interested in the use of woods to carry out on a commercial scale work that appears promising in the laboratory.

There will be an additional office maintained in Chicago. The work there will consist of studies of the wood-using industries of the various states, the collection of statistics and keeping in general touch with the wood market.

ADMIRAL HEADS UNIVERSITY.

Washington.—Rear Admiral Charles Herbert Stockton, LL. D., U. S. N., retired, will succeed Dr. Charles W. Needham as acting president of George Washington university. He will take up the duties of his office September 1. On the same date Dr. Howard Lee McBain, assistant professor and dean of the College of Political Sciences, will become professor of political sciences and assistant to the acting president.

The appointments were made at a special meeting of the board of trustees of the university recently. As Rear Admiral Stockton's name had not been mentioned publicly as a probable successor to Doctor Needham, and as Doctor McBain is only thirty-one years old, both appointments were a surprise in educational circles, but the opinion was general that the selections of the board of trustees are excellent ones.

Rear Admiral Stockton will take up the work of reorganizing the educational and financial affairs of the uni-



Rear Admiral Stockton.

versity, and when this is completed will retire in favor of a permanent president.

"The board of trustees contemplates and has for a long time contemplated, the restoration of the endowment fund," said Admiral Stockton.

"Though this will necessarily leave us in a straitened financial condition, we believe that the public will come to our aid. Whether the university thereafter succeeds or not will depend upon the support we obtain outside and inside.

"Changes will be made in the educational administration and the university placed on a solid basis in every way. In the administration of educational affairs I will be aided by Doctor McBain, dean of the school of political sciences, who is an educator of marked ability."

Born in Philadelphia October 13, 1845, as the son of Rev. W. R. Stockton, Rear Admiral Stockton was appointed to the United States Naval academy when a young man and graduated in 1865. While still a cadet he served abroad the Macedonian in the summer of 1864 during the blockade of Confederate ports. After the war he went to the Pacific squadron and later was transferred to the Philadelphia navy yard. After serving on several vessels at the New York navy yard and at the hydrographic office he was ordered to the Washington navy yard as lieutenant commander.

In 1889 he was placed in command of the Thetis, and three years later he was ordered to the Naval War college for special duty. After two years in command of the Yorktown he was chosen president of the Naval War college in 1898. He was then a ranking captain and served in the war college two years.

At the organization of the "new navy" Captain Stockton was placed in command of the Kentucky, and in 1903 became naval attaché at the American embassy in London. He was recalled to accept the position of president of the board of inspection and survey, and was afterward made president of the naval examining and retiring board.

Of the 46 years of his service 21 have been spent at sea. He was retired in October, 1907, with the rank of rear admiral. He edited a manual on international law and has written several papers on subjects relating to the intercourse of nations. In 1880 he was married to Miss Pauline L. King of New York.

Weather Observation.

"This climate is changing," said a woman to her husband at the breakfast table one morning.

"But my dear," replied the husband, "the weather records for the last twenty years show about the same average of temperature. Now if you will—"

"Oh, weather records be added," the wife retorted, "don't I know that I'm putting our winter clothes away later and later every year? I tell you it's only a little while before we're going to have another ice age."

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

AMERICAN ATTITUDE WATCHED

German Diplomats Believe Treaty Is Defeat for Knox.

Berlin.—While the German foreign office has refrained from giving an official suggestion as to its view on the new Russo-Japanese agreement, the question has been the subject of careful consideration. The feeling is that the compact introduces a new element in the arena of world diplomacy. The attitude of the United States is watched with special interest for an indication of its possible effects on the international situation.

The press here is divided, one section urging the foreign office to take a firm stand in seeking the co-operation of America against the Russo-Japanese exclusion policy. Most of the other newspapers urge the government to seek friendlier relations with Russia, which is now free to play a more important and dangerous role in European affairs.

In diplomatic circles the agreement is regarded primarily as a diplomatic defeat for America. It is said here that Knox's naive proposal to manage the Manchurian railroad question forced Russia and Japan into each other's arms.

DR. WILEY STANDS FIRM.

Believes He Will Win Fight on Benzozate of Soda.

Washington.—Although the American Institute of Homeopathy, at its convention at Pasadena, Cal., recently, adopted a resolution rescinding its action taken last year condemning the use of benzozate of soda, as a food preservative, Dr. Wiley, chief chemist of the department of agriculture, has stronger opinions than ever before on that subject.

But Dr. Wiley's views did not prevail in the department of agriculture, as the board appointed by Secretary Wilson to consider questions arising under the pure food law sanctioned the use of benzozate of soda as a food preservative.

"The developments in the last year," said Dr. Wiley, "have accentuated my opinions as to the harmful character of benzozate of soda as a food preservative. I expect to see that view sustained by the Federal courts, as evidence submitted recently in Indiana cases points that way."

RATE SUSPENSION PROVIDED.

Authority to Be Exercised Cautiously, Commission Says.

Washington.—In an official statement, the Interstate Commerce commission announces that it is its intention to suspend all tariff naming general and important rate advances, pending an investigation as to the reasonableness of the proposed increases.

"No more definite statement in this regard can now be made," says the commission, "but the specific orders will be announced from time to time as they are entered and served. It is expected that the suspension in each case will be for 120 days from the effective date named in the tariff, but the commission intends by subsequent orders to provide for making effective on the same day such advances as may be allowed."

It will be incumbent on the railroads to show reasonable cause for the advances they may make in these tariffs from time to time, the burden of proof of the reasonableness of the tariffs bearing on the carriers.

Militia to Get Monitor.

Vallejo, Cal.—The oil burning monitor Cheyenne was commissioned at the Mare Island navy yard. Lieutenant Charles T. Owens, who is temporarily detached from the cruiser West Virginia, is in command of the new boat. He is under orders to sail for Seattle on July 23. There the monitor will be turned over to the naval reserve of the state of Washington. Owens and the skeleton crew will then return to Mare Island.

Japs Photograph Forts.

Astoria.—Three Japanese on the hill near the wireless station were recently observed taking pictures of the mouth of the river, especially in the direction of Fort Stevens. From that point with strong glasses, a view can be had directly into the forts.

What attracted particular attention was the peculiar camera they were using, as the lens was in what looked like an extension telescope. If it had not been for this nothing would have been thought of what they were doing.

Taft Writes to Mikado.

Beverly.—President Taft sent a message of thanks to the emperor of Japan for the cordial welcome extended to Secretary of War Dickinson as follows: "I wish to express to your majesty my deep appreciation of the generous and courteous hospitality extended to Secretary Dickinson and his party while in Japan. The expression of cordial welcome evoked strengthens the bond of friendship between the two countries."

Crop Averages Less.

Washington.—A bulletin issued by the department of agriculture says the general average of the crop growth all over the United States on July 1, was 5.5 per cent lower than last year at the same time. The condition of the crops in the far West on July 1, the bulletin says, was 3.6 per cent below the average of last year, and 4.3 per cent below the general average.

ALL COAL SEGREGATED.

Government Now Has Reserved Area of 71,518,588 Acres.

Beverly.—President Taft has withdrawn several million acres of coal lands in different states of the West, bringing the total acreage of coal land withdrawals made by him up to the enormous total of 71,518,588. About half of this amount is new withdrawals.

The work is now complete and is epitomized in the following letter to the President from Secretary Ballinger:

"The orders for the withdrawal of coal lands which are transmitted herewith complete the series which have been prepared in accordance with your instructions. These orders confirm and continue all existing coal land withdrawals and add materially thereto. The areas covered are as follows:

"Arizona, 161,280 acres; Colorado, 6,191,161 acres; Montana, 20,208,865 acres; New Mexico, 2,944,279 acres; North Dakota, 17,828,182 acres; Oregon, 192,562 acres; South Dakota, 2,870,287 acres; Utah, 5,274,247 acres; Washington, 2,207,267 acres; Wyoming, 13,099,718 acres.

"The total of coal lands now withdrawn in the United States is therefore 71,518,588 acres.

"All the land, however, is open to agricultural entry, with a limited surface patented under the terms of the order of withdrawal and in accordance with the recent enactment providing for agricultural surface entries on withdrawn or classified coal lands.

"Already 10,210,082 acres of coal land have been classified and appraised and restored to appropriate entry.

"The total appraised valuation of these coal lands is \$449,876,208, as compared with \$170,063,766, which would be the minimum price that formerly obtained.

"In the explored portion of Alaska, which comprises about 20 per cent of the district, the supposed areas of coal fields aggregate approximately 12,000 square miles. In these coal fields the areas believed to be underlain by workable beds of coal are about 1,200 square miles, in more than three fourths of which area only the lower grade coal occurs. Thus the known coal lands of Alaska which are believed to be affected by your order of withdrawal aggregate some 770,000 acres."

POSTAL SHOWING GOOD.

Over \$10,000,000 Reduction Is Made in Deficit for Year.

Washington.—More than \$10,000,000 reduction in the postal deficit was made in the first nine months of the fiscal year just ended, according to returns received by Postmaster General Hitchcock. Such a reduction is unprecedented in the history of the department. The deficit for the nine months was \$2,709,000, as against \$12,832,000 in the same period of the preceding fiscal year.

In the third quarter of the fiscal year ending March 31, the postal service earned a surplus of \$1,363,000, the revenues for the quarter amounting to \$58,934,000, and the expenditures to \$57,561,000. The latter showed an increase of 10 per cent over those of the same quarter last year, while the former showed an increase of less than four per cent.

Shy at Postal Banks.

Washington.—Because postmasters are slow about asking for the establishment of postal banks, the bank advisory board will decide which cities shall have these banks, without waiting for requests.

Postmaster General Hitchcock states that San Francisco will be one of the cities in which a bank will be established.

"We expected many more requests for postal savings banks than have come in," said Mr. Hitchcock. "This, however, is not surprising. Postmasters naturally do not want to do more work without more pay, and postal banks would entail much additional labor."

Marine Corps Restless.

Washington.—That the marine corps faces certain reorganization as the result of pronouncement by a court of inquiry that a spirit of insubordination reigns throughout the service, seems to be the prevailing opinion of naval officers on duty at the department. The serious condition of the service was held to be due primarily to too long terms of service by officers without changes of assignments. The question of responsibility will be considered.

Banks Getting Anxious.

Washington.—Applications are pouring in from banks throughout the country whose officials are anxious that their institutions be made depositories under the postal savings bank law. They come to the secretary of the treasury, the attorney general and to the Postoffice department. Formal replies are sent but no information is yet available as to where such depository banks will be located.

Submarine Boat Contracts Sublet.

Washington.—The Electric Boat company, which has the contract for building three submarines for Pacific Coast duty, has sublet contracts so that one boat will be built at Seattle by Moran Brothers, and two by the Union Iron works, of San Francisco. The subcontract price is approximately \$400,000 for each boat.

FINDS JAPAN FRIENDLY.

American Secretary Is Royally Entertained in Tokio.

Tokio.—"Unhappily, forces for evil for unknown but sinister purposes constantly are endeavoring by false reports or other methods to create conditions of ill will or distrust between two neighboring peoples.

"Their relations are too firmly established and their interests are too distinct to admit of the possibility of any question arising between Japan and the United States, which will not yield readily to the ordinary process of diplomacy. The increased and more intimate exchange of views between the two governments dispels all apprehensions on that score."

This utterance was made by Foreign Minister Count Komura in toasting J. M. Dickinson, the American secretary of war, at a banquet given by Count Komura in honor of the American cabinet officer. Mr. Dickinson and his party arrived at Yokohama on board the steamer Siberia, and after an informal reception at the American consulate, came on to Tokio.

The dinner was a brilliant affair. Eighty persons sat down to the table, including Marquis Katsura, the Japanese prime minister, and five members of the cabinet; admirals, generals and officers and their ladies. After toasts to President Taft and the emperor had been proposed, respectively by Count Komura and Thomas J. O'Brien, the American ambassador, Count Komura, in proposing the health of Mr. Dickinson, referred to previous visits to Japan of President Taft.

"These visits I recall," said the foreign minister, "not only because his personality endeared him to all, but because his insight and calm judgment enabled him to appreciate the true value of the sentiments entertained by Japan for America."

PARALYTIC LAD WALKS.

Church of God Followers Think Miracle Is Performed.

Kansas City, Mo.—Eugene Bell and his wife, of this city, believe a miracle has been performed upon their son Paul, 9 years old.

Paul has been helpless for a week with infantile paralysis. His father, an unordained minister of the Church of God, and other members of that church, have been trying the prayer cure on the boy. They were praying at the bedside at daybreak one morning when Paul awoke. At 7 o'clock the patient arose from his bed and walked to the breakfast table and ate. He could raise his arms almost as freely as before the attack. His right leg, useless for a week, supported him. The family believes him cured in answer to their prayers.

WAY TO APOLOGY SOUGHT.

Mediators Concerned With Adjusting Peru-Ecuador Dispute.

Washington.—How best to arrange for Peru and Ecuador to apologize to one another for the stoning of their respective legations and consulates as a result of the boundary disputes last spring is one of the early problems that has called the representatives of three mediating nations, the United States, Brazil and Argentine Republic, into conference at Washington.

So much was learned on the second day of the conference, July 16. The carrying out of the first conditions of the mediation, the withdrawal of the forces from the frontier and a cessation of warlike preparations, prompt demobilization and the return to a normal peace basis also are sought.

More Land to Be Opened.

Spokane.—Two remaining Indian reservations in this state, the Yakima and Colville, are expected to be opened to settlement within the next year, according to Judge James W. Witten, superintendent of land drawings for the Interior department. Judge Witten is en route to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where the drawings for lots in Plummer and other townships on the Coeur d'Alene reserve will be held. All the lands that can be irrigated on the Yakima reserve will be awarded to the Indians, leaving only grazing lands.

Drexel Flies 21 Miles.

Bournemouth, England.—J. Armstrong Drexel, a son of Anthony Drexel, of Philadelphia and London, and the French aviator, Leon Morane, engaged in brilliant performances of over-sea speed flights. The start was at the aerodrome across the Solent in the direction of the Isle of Wight, thence round the Needles lighthouse and back, a distance of 21 miles. The Frenchman covered it in 25 minutes and the American in 34 minutes.

Murderers to Be Shot.

Salt Lake City.—Harry Thorne, 19 years old, will be shot to death at the state prison September 9 next, for the murder of George Fassell, a grocer. Sentence was pronounced by District Judge Lewis. James Riley, who was Thorne's accomplice in the crime, and who also must pay the death penalty, according to the verdict, will be sentenced on July 23. Fassell was killed the night of March 26 last, when Thorne, Riley and an unknown man held up his store.

King Flies in Airship.

Brussels.—King Ferdinand of Bulgaria established the record of being the first monarch to go aloft in a heavier-than-air machine, when he went for a flight in a biplane with M. de la Minne at the aerodrome at Kiewitt.

MAKES PANACEA FROM ALFALFA

Los Angeles Doctor Condenses Juice Into Healing Element.

Makes a Medicine Which Cures Delirium Tremens, and Drives Away the Tired Feeling.

Los Angeles.—Alfalfa, hitherto holder of a plebeian place in the food scheme, is destined to become a comprehensive medicative and remedial element that will put all others in the shade, according to Dr. Marian N. Clark, who announces the discovery of remarkable curative properties in the plant and blossoms.

Her idea, already carried out on a small scale and suggested by the menthol industry, is to electrolyze the alfalfa and condense its healing elements to vest pocket size—a haystack of medicine in a tablet.

Dr. Clark proudly recounts many instances of curing with the condensed alfalfa juice many nervous ailments, from delirium tremens to "that tired feeling."

One of these was the aggravated case of a Reno sport, who bet on Jeffries and drowned his sorrows in so many tall ones that the cobbles came to get him. "The condensed hay expert beat 'em to it and cured the victim so effectively that now he shudders at the sight of even a dog, if the dog is a growler.

Tobacco chewing, gloomy thoughts of suicide, insomnia and a host of other undesirable things fade away like the mists of the morning under the soothing influence of a few forkfuls of alfalfa done up in a tablet.

"HIGHER UPS" ARE WANTED.

Immunity to Be Granted Subordinates in Beef Trust Probe.

Chicago.—Fifty subpoenas will be served immediately on officers and employees of meat concerns to appear before the Federal grand jury in the beef trust investigation. Officials of the National Packing company will be visited first.

Despite the lid that has been clamped tight on all matters relating to the inquiry, it leaked out that the government plans to extend immunity to a number of packing officials in exchange for the evidence they may be able to give to the grand jury. Who these officials will be was not made public. It is known that subpoenas have been issued for officials of the National Packing company.

In summoning these officials it is shown that the government does not care for convictions unless those gathered in the net are the men "higher up" in the companies. Judge Landis in his instructions to the jury asserted that only the real malefactors, if such exist, should be dealt with.

ADVICE GIVEN SETTLERS.

Government Issues Pamphlet of Interest to Columbia Valley Folk.

Washington.—New settlers in the Columbia river valley, between The Dalles and Priest Rapids, will be interested in a pamphlet just issued by the department of agriculture, under the euphonious title, "Suggestions to Settlers on the Sandy Soils of the Columbia River Valley." The report is written by Byron Hunter and S. O. Jayne, experts sent out by the department to study the soil, climate, crops and methods of irrigation.

Embodied in this pamphlet is a vast amount of good advice and timely suggestions; cautions as to the best methods to proceed, the manner of selecting best adapted crops, and pointers as to how to get the best results under the conditions peculiar to this region. The pamphlet, known as Bureau of Plant Industry circular No. 60, is to be had upon application to the department, or through senators and representatives.

Japan Honors Dickinson.

Tokio.—Jacob M. Dickinson, the American secretary of war, and party have left this city for Kyoto. General Count Oku, representing General Teruchi, the minister of war, gave a luncheon in honor of the American secretary, who, in responding to a toast, said his reception by Japan was an additional mark of friendship of this country for America, which he believed would remain unbroken. Secretary Dickinson will sail on the steamer Siberia for the Philippines on Tuesday, July 19.

Pittman Better Treated.

Managua, Nicaragua.—William P. Pittman, the American engineer, who was captured by the Madriz forces near Bluefields and brought here, is now confined in a commodious cell. When Pittman arrived under escort a few days ago he was placed in a dirty cell, less than six feet square. Consul Olivares entered a vigorous protest at the instance of the American government, and the prisoner was transferred to better quarters.

Two Drowned in Kentucky Flood.

Lexington, Ky.—Another disastrous rain storm accompanied by lightning swept over Central Kentucky, doing heavy damage to the wheat, tobacco and corn crops. Telephone and telegraph wires are down in much of the bluegrass section. Near Blue Lick springs, Henry Work and his grandson were caught in the flood and the boy was drowned.