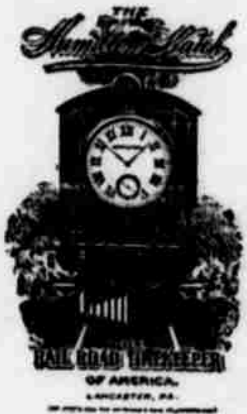


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WITHERING BLAST HITS SOUTHWEST

Hot Wave Strikes Down Hosts and Kills Ten.

Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma in Stricken District—Corn Shriveled Up and Much Vegetation Killed—Official Records Give Temperature as High as 110.

Kansas City, Aug. 17.—Unusually intense heat, officially recorded by the government weather bureau as high as 110 degrees, caused at least ten deaths, numerous prostrations and much damage yesterday in Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. Throughout the Southwest the day was the most trying since the devastating drought of 1901. As the withering winds swept across the plains much vegetation fell.

In this city the heat continued and prostrated a score, some of whom are in a dangerous condition. The Union depot was like an oven. Babies became seriously ill and medical attention was needed before their mothers could resume their journeys. The distress of a party of immigrants was great.

The likelihood of an ice famine added to the gravity of the situation here. Dealers reported that the factories were running night and day, but that the demand had exceeded the supply. Most of the dealers refused to deliver more than 25 pounds to any residence, and feared they would have to cut this quota down.

At Wellington, Kan., the official temperature was 106. Corn was suffering greatly in that district. The day was the hottest Topeka has had for eight years, 102 degrees being officially recorded. Two prostrations resulted there.

QUAKE FELLS MOUNTAIN.

Thousands of Buildings Destroyed and Great Property Loss.

Tokio, Aug. 17.—Reports received today concerning the earthquake in Central Japan Saturday, show there were many fatalities and great damage was done to property. The dead at present are said to number 30, though it is feared further fatalities will be reported from the outlying districts.

The number of persons injured is 82. Thus far 362 buildings, including many temples, are reported to have been destroyed and more than 1,600 others badly damaged.

The town of Asaku, in Gifu, suffered terribly. The banks of the Hida river broke and the country is inundated. The people of the district fled to high ground and remained in the open all night. Intermittent shocks were felt throughout Saturday night and early Sunday morning.

The mountain Ibuki, a short distance west of Gifu, collapsed with a thunderous roar.

Slight damage was done at Nagoya, to the southward of Gifu, and neighboring villages.

CANADA CAN FEED BRITAIN.

Grain Crop of Dominion is Reported Greatest in History.

Winnipeg, Aug. 17.—From all points in Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia the unanimity of opinion points to the anticipatory result of this year's harvest as being the greatest in the history of the Canadian West. In some places, such as Southern Alberta, the phenomenal growth makes it hard for the people to conceive such prospects. Farmers are now busy gathering the hay crop, which is a heavy one. The grain harvest will be general during the latter part of the present month.

The statement is made on good authority that the completed Grand Trunk Pacific railway from Winnipeg to Edmonton is tributary to wheat lands capable of feeding the whole people of Great Britain and Ireland in case of need.

Plan Red Cross Annex.

London, Aug. 17.—Based on the German and Japanese models, the war office has issued proposals for a great voluntary Red Cross scheme in connection with the territorial army plan. It will be worked in connection with the existing Red Cross society and St. Johns Ambulance society and would provide the entire country with complete organizations. Men and women are to be trained in establishments in every territorial area as nurses, stretcher bearers and other branches of the Red Cross service.

Yuma Flooded by Rain.

Yuma, Ariz., Aug. 17.—The most disastrous rain storm experienced in this vicinity since the great flood of 1891, when the downtown part of the city was washed away and hundreds of people rendered homeless, broke over Yuma today. The adobe houses of the poorer classes crumbled like sugar. Dozens of families were compelled to move out, wading waist deep in the water, which poured over window sills.

Big Sperm Whale Taken.

Victoria, Aug. 17.—The steamer Tees, which arrived from the west coast of Vancouver island this afternoon, brought news that a sperm whale, the first taken since last year, was caught by the Kuyosot whalers last week, and 58 barrels of oil taken from the whale.

CANKER ATTACKS TREES.

Orchardists Find It Most Troublesome Pest in Northwest.

Black spot canker is one of the most troublesome fruit pests of the Northwest and one which fruit growers must understand and be able to recognize if they expect to make headway against it. During the fall the spores or "seeds" are lodged on the apples, being distributed by the wind or other agencies. Later, when the apples are stored in cellars where there is an abundance of moisture "sweating" occurs, a condition very favorable for the germination of spores.

Black spot canker is responsible for the great part of fruit rotting that occurs. The most effective treatment is a thorough spraying with Bordeaux mixture in November, when the spores or seeds are floating in the orchard. Because the fungus gives such slight evidence of its presence in the bark in the fall, and because so apparent in the spring, many orchardists make the mistake of attempting to combat it in the spring after it has already gotten in the bark. Such treatment is ineffectual, however. The spore must be killed before it has germinated.

DEPOSIT TO BE MINED.

Nehalem "Beeswax" Has Been Found to Be Ozocerite.

That the product found in the sand at the mouth of the [Nehalem] river, popularly believed to be beeswax from a wrecked Spanish galleon, is valuable substance known to chemistry as ozocerite, was the statement made by J. J. Walter, president of the Nectarine City Hydrocarbon Oil company, a corporation organized to exploit the product. For years visitors to that coast have picked up the wax-like lumps that were strewn upon the beach there. The general opinion has prevailed that it was beeswax brought from Manila for one of the Spanish settlements in California and that the ship was wrecked there. The discovery was made as early as 1813 by the Indians.

Kit Carson, the famous scout, now employed as an assayer by the government, visited the place and announced that the supposed beeswax was none other than ozocerite, a product of hydrocarbon oil, found only in South America and in small quantities in Northern Europe.

ALL NATIONS INVITED.

Official Call is Issued for Fourth Dry Farming Congress.

Billings, Mont.—Secretary John T. Burns has issued the official call for the fourth annual session of the Dry Farming congress, to be held at Billings, Mont., October 26-27-28, 1909. The call is addressed to the president of the United States, the diplomatic representatives of foreign nations, ministers and secretaries of agriculture of all countries, governors of states, presidents of agricultural colleges, state land boards, state engineers, state boards of agriculture, national, state and county agricultural associations, or grange lodges, livestock associations, horticultural societies, county commissioners, mayors of cities, presidents of towns, all commercial bodies, railroad and immigration companies and members of the Dry Farming congress. In addition to these the call is sent to about 30,000 individual farmers and others interested in agriculture in the West.

Big Washington Project.

Kennwick—That preliminary plans have been made for a big irrigation project, which will water thousands of acres of sagebrush land in Grant county are under way, is the information given out by J. M. Spencer of Plains, Mont. Mr. Spencer, who has large land interests in the Crab creek country, says that the farmers in that section have begun active preparations to place 550,000 acres under irrigation by means of a pipe line to be built from the Columbia river to the Crab creek valley in Grant county.

It will cost \$5,000,000 to complete this gigantic undertaking, which will be one of the longest gravity systems in the world. The pipe line will run more than 100 miles before it reaches the nearest land to be watered and the farthest point will be the Columbia river, on the northern boundary of Benton county.

Central Oregon Settling Up.

Burns—Notwithstanding heavy immigration and settlement the past few years, there are yet in Harney county over 3,000,000 acres of government land subject to entry, including timber, grazing, mineral and agricultural land, a greater area than the entire state of New Jersey, and two-thirds the area of the whole of Massachusetts. Up to a short time ago, this vast domain was devoted entirely to stock raising, immense herds of cattle, sheep and horses feeding over the illimitable ranges during the greater part of the year, while large quantities of hay have been cut for their winter use.

This has been changed. The past few seasons have brought hundreds of industrious settlers who are opening up farms and meeting with the most encouraging success in agriculture.

Suit to Oust Book Trust.

Newport, Ark., Aug. 16.—Suit has been filed in the Jackson Circuit court by E. E. Jeffrey, prosecuting attorney, and Hal L. Norwood, attorney general of Arkansas, against the American Book company. The state asks the exacting of fines amounting to \$2,000,000 and the ousting of the defendant company. It is alleged in the suit that the American Book company, as publisher and distributor of school books, maps, etc., is party to a pool or trust.

HAPPENINGS GATHERED IN AND AROUND WASHINGTON, D. C.

WU MUST GO.

Picturesque Chinese Figure in Washington is Recalled.

Washington, Aug. 14.—For the second time in his diplomatic career Dr. Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister to the United States, has been recalled from the Washington mission, and has been directed to proceed home, where it is expected he will be assigned to other work.

Dr. Wu's successor will be Chang Yin Tang, known as a "progressive" in Chinese political affairs. He has seen diplomatic service in India, England, Tibet and the United States.

Dr. Wu's retirement from Washington removed a picturesque figure from the capital. Probably no diplomat is better known than he, for he is a popular talker and his pungent wit and bright sallies have been heard and read with interest at many places.

During the Boxer troubles, Minister Wu, in connection with Yuan Shai Kai, then Tao Tai of Shanghai, was successful in getting through a message to the American minister, Mr. Conger, who, with his colleagues, was in the legation compound in Pekin, and whose fate was a matter of great concern to the state department.

An answer from Mr. Conger demonstrated that he had received the message sent by the state department and that all was well with the legation officials. It is pointed out as a peculiar coincidence that Wu should be recalled at this time, soon after the downfall of Yuan Shai Kai, his friend.

Wu's sympathies were with the United States during the Boxer troubles, and this led to his recall. Only an intimation from this government that his beheading would be offensive to the United States, it is believed, prevented his summary death at the hands of the Chinese authorities.

The new minister, Chang Yin Tang, from April, 1898, to February, 1899, was consul-general at San Francisco and some years ago was attached to the Chinese legation in Washington for a short time.

PROBE ALASKA COAL LAND.

Hearings Soon in Seattle and Other Cities on Alleged Frauds.

Washington, Aug. 17.—Much interest was manifested here today by Interior department officials in reports from Denver that a hearing in Seattle, Wash., next month, will disclose proof of gigantic frauds in connection with coal lands in Alaska. They declined, in the absence of Secretary Ballinger and General Land Commissioner Denney, to discuss the nature of the report.

It is learned that upwards of 700 entries on coal lands in Alaska, involving about 112,000 acres containing valuable veins, have been suspended by the department during the last three years.

Estimating that these entries are worth at least \$2,000 per acre on a basis of 1 cent per ton, these coal lands would be worth \$200,000,000.

Hearings will be held in other cities in the West in addition to Seattle, but just what ones was not disclosed.

Money Order Business Immense.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Money order transactions in the postoffices of the country have grown so in the last year or two that it now is necessary to maintain a force of about 750 accountants, bookkeepers, sorters and examiners in the office of the auditor of the department. There are 50,000 money order offices, from which 850,000 money order accounts annually are received by Auditor Chance. They are accompanied by 68,000,000 paid money orders, aggregating \$575,000,000. Postmasters are required to deposit surplus money order funds and about 2,500,000 certificates of deposit, aggregating \$550,000,000, also are received by the auditor for official record and inspection. The auditing of these vouchers and statements represents 140,000,000 separate transactions. Approximately 250,000 paid money orders, weighing 500 pounds, are received at the auditor's office each day. In the process of reassembling these vouchers numerically into states and offices of issue, every money order is handled seven times, or the equivalent of 1,750,000 each day. This work alone requires 165 expert sorters, all of whom are young women.

John Barrett is Coming.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Director Barrett, of the international bureau of American republics, left here today to attend the Trans-Mississippi congress to be held this week at Denver. He will be joined there by General Carlos Garcia Velez, the Cuban minister to the United States. Afterward they will go to Seattle to attend the exposition, and they may make official visits to San Francisco and Portland at the request of the commercial bodies.

Taft Appoints McConnell.

Washington, Aug. 17.—By direction of President Taft, ex-Governor J. W. McConnell, of Idaho, has been appointed to an important position in connection with the land fraud investigations in Idaho. The position pays \$2,500 a year and is permanent. Ex-Governor McConnell is the father-in-law of Senator Borah, of Idaho.

New Marshal for Arizona.

Beverly, Mass., Aug. 17.—The president today appointed Charles A. Overlock, of Arizona, as United States marshal for that territory. The retirement of B. F. Daniels, who has served as marshal the last few years, marks the passing from office of another of Mr. Roosevelt's Rough Riders.

REPORT IS DENIED.

Montana Power Sites Were Not Extended Under Ballinger.

Washington, Aug. 14.—"At no time during the administration of Secretary Ballinger have any power sites been filed on in Montana," said Acting Assistant Commissioner Schwartz of the general land office, today.

The statement was issued as a denial of the report that in the Bozeman, Mont., land district, one Jeremiah Collins, on June 11, filed on 15,868 acres of land, valuable for power sites, in the interest of large power companies. The statement says that neither Collins nor the Collins Land company had made any such filing at Bozeman or elsewhere.

"The only water power site on the watersheds of the Missouri river not now under the control of the government under Secretary Ballinger's orders of suspension, are sites which have been in private ownership for several years," says Mr. Schwartz, "and two additional sites which are improved and developed to run the streetcar system and lighting of Helena and Butte and the mines in Butte.

"These two sites are in the possession of the Helena Power & Light company and the Capital Improvement company, one having a dam 85 feet high and the other 120 feet high, across the Missouri river.

"As to the application on June 11, of President Ramsey, of the Riverside Land & Stock company, for 100 and 68-hundredths acres, it was rejected by the local land office and rejection sustained in this office."

EAST WILL BENEFIT.

Lands Across the Sea to Gain by Development in This Country.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Predicting that the Far East will be especially benefited by the continual steady development of the resources of this country, Baron Takahira, Japanese ambassador, left Washington this afternoon for Seattle, where he will sail for Japan. The baron returns at the direction of his government and has announced his expectation of returning to Washington in the fall. He will assist in work preliminary to revising the Japanese treaties with the powers of the world, which become operative next year.

"I'm going to Japan on leave of absence," the ambassador said, "I do not feel that I am called upon to say anything particular in regard to the relations between America and Japan. For two or three months after my arrival I had to see almost daily publications of some kind of unpleasant stories about us, which I thought from the outset fabrications of misinformed persons which would disappear in due time, as they did. Ever since then everything has been of a right direction and I have no doubt will continue so forever."

Hold Water Power Sites.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Secretary Ballinger will report to congress in December numerous withdrawals of temporary water-power sites in Western states in order that proper legislation may be enacted by congress to preserve power sites to the government and to prevent monopolies.

Acting Secretary Wilson today withdrew for temporary power sites 6,690 acres in Montana and Utah. In Montana the following withdrawals were made:

Along the Yellowstone river, 1,222 acres; along the Hell Gate river, 4,268 acres; and along the Judith river, 1,160 acres; in Utah, along Ashley creek, 240 acres.

Water Fight is Acute.

Washington, Aug. 12.—Interest is acute here in the impending struggle between Secretary Ballinger and Forester Pinchot, and predictions are freely made that one or the other will be obliged to separate himself from the government service. At the forestry bureau today Pinchot adherents expressed the opinion that Mr. Ballinger's dismissal would come as soon as it became generally known that he has, as they believe, played into the hands of the water-power trust.

Plan Gompers Welcome.

Washington, Aug. 12.—In honor of the return in October of Samuel Gompers, who has been in Europe studying continental labor conditions, all the labor organizations of the Eastern states will unite in a monster parade in this city, if the plans adopted by the Washington Central Labor union at a meeting last night are carried out. October 15 is the day fixed for the celebration. The day will culminate with a meeting in Convention hall.

Cost of Special Session.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The tariff bill passed by congress last week may have marked down some of the schedules, but at a conservative estimate this enactment cost the United States treasury \$4,000,000. The bill is silent as to the exact disposition of the money. The pages of the senate will get \$4,800 for the extra session and pages of the house \$1,500.

Wheat of State Ranks High.

Washington, Aug. 12.—In the government crop report issued today the figures by states include the following: Washington winter wheat, preliminary returns, production 16,951,000 bushels, and quality 98 per cent. Spring wheat, condition August 1, 1909, 90, and 10-year average, 85.

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Overland Lodge No. 23, I. O. O. F.—Meets every Saturday evening in the Odd Fellows' hall on Dupont street.

Henrietta Rebekah Lodge No. 36, I. O. O. F.—Meets second and fourth Wednesdays of each month in Odd Fellows' hall.

Umatilla Lodge No. 40, A. F. & A. M.—Meets first and third Saturdays of each month in the Masonic hall on Dupont street.

Fort Henrietta Camp No. 772, W. O. W.—Meets first and third Wednesdays of each month in Odd Fellows' hall.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

Methodist Church—Sunday school at 10 a. m.; preaching at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., every Sunday.

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The friends of this paper will please hand us in news items when they are fresh. We prefer not to publish a birth after the child is weaned, a marriage after the honeymoon is over, or the death of a man after his widow is married again.