

# POWDER FIRE KILLS 8

## Death Reaps Harvest in Burning Mill at Chehalis.

**Penned Behind Counter in Packing Room Employes Have no Chance to Escape Burst of Flame.**

Chehalis, Wash.—Perishing as they stood at their workbench which penned them in behind a long counter with not a chance for escape, seven young women were burned to death Wednesday, and an eighth, still breathing when she was removed by rescuers, died a few hours later in agony, as the result of a sudden flash of uncovered powder in the mixing rooms of the Imperial Powder company.

As the death shrieks of the girls rang through the building, 12 men who had been working in other parts of the plant escaped with hardly a scorch. Several of them were blown through the exits to safety.

The dead: Miss Vera Milford, Miss Sadie Westfall, only daughter of Samuel Westfall; Miss Eva Gilmore, Miss Bertha Hagle, whose mother, Mrs. Mary White, is a widow; Miss Ethel Tharp, Miss Tillie Rasback, Mrs. Henry Ethel, Miss Bertha Crown, who was so terribly burned that she died in the hospital.

Only one of the bodies, that of Miss Ethel Tharp, has been identified. Her father, B. F. Tharp, identified it by means of a ring discolored and half melted by the terrible heat, which she wore on her finger.

Of the others, none will probably ever be identified for certain.

The disaster befell with appalling suddenness. An early report, which has since been denied, was to the effect that a careless workman in the mixing-room let a pot of paraffine boil over, and that part of ran into some powder material near by, igniting it. There is no evidence to support this theory, and the real origin of the fire may never be known.

Whatever the cause, there was a sudden flash, and in an instant the whole interior of the factory was in a blaze.

Besides causing the terrible loss of life, the fire destroyed four of the buildings owned by the company, and equipment, powder that was ready for shipment, and other property valued at fully \$20,000. Two of the buildings were saved.

### WILL HAVE BIGGER FLEET.

**Naval Review Off Los Angeles Calls Attention to Pacific.**

Los Angeles Harbor, Cal. — In perfect trim, the Pacific fleet underwent, off this port, the first naval review in Southern California waters and passed it to the satisfaction of Rear-Admiral Thomas, who was in command, and to the pleasure of National lawmakers, who intimated that mobilization might result in increasing the number of American men-of-war on the Pacific Ocean.

After arriving here the vessels immediately assumed the formation charted out for them—a solid rectangle with four columns and six rows, making 24 vessels, while the other two in the fleet served as reviewing ship and tender, respectively.

United States Senator Smith, of Michigan, a member of the senate committee on naval affairs, described the naval review as a "happy thought."

"Such an event," said Senator Smith, "is of special interest to the Pacific Coast, which is favored with visits from naval ships altogether too seldom. It should prove a valuable lesson to the Navy department. I hope the time is not remote when the government will conclude it is to its advantage to maintain a formidable fleet on this coast."

### Wolves Prowl in City.

Anaconda, Mont.—Driven from the hills by deep snows and desperate with hunger, bands of timber wolves are prowling on the outskirts of the city. A band of five wolves pursued a deer into the heart of the city Thursday morning, but were put to flight by a night watchman. The deer escaped. The wolves apparently have taken shelter in the abandoned stables of the racetrack on the outskirts of the town.

### 24 Are Drowned at Sea.

Las Palmas, Canary Islands—Twenty-four persons were drowned when the French steamer Diolibah sank at sea. The Diolibah was towing the French steamer Liberia, for Marzilles, when the Liberia fouled her. The Liberia was picked up by the German steamer Elmsborn and towed in here in a damaged condition.

### KILL 500 ITALIANS.

**Turks Recapture Derna and Make Garrison Prisoners.**

Constantinople—Five hundred Italians were slain and the remainder of the Italian force was taken prisoners in a terrific battle with the Ottoman troops, according to dispatches which have been received here.

The official announcement also declares that the Ottoman troops have occupied Derna following the engagement in which the Italians met with their overwhelming defeat.

It has been believed that Derna, Tobruk and Bengasi were securely held by the Italians, who could not be dislodged by the Moslems. But according to the dispatches of the Moslem officers, so fierce was the attack of the Turks and their allies that the Italians were swept off their feet and the rout made complete after a short fray. Eighteen guns were taken by the Moslems.

London—The Daily Telegraph's correspondent at Tripoli sends a statement by General Caneva, the Italian commander, denying the charge that his troops have been guilty of atrocities. Describing the attack on Bersaglieri in Vere, the general says:

"Italian soldiers taken prisoners were slaughtered, stripped stark naked and their bodies shockingly and disgustingly mutilated. An officer was cut with 35 wounds. Natives, both men and women, were engaged in these atrocities, and even lads helped.

"Our troops had to save the situation and the population from mad fanatics. They would have been less than men and would have failed in their duty had they not sternly repressed the rising.

"No acts of cruelty on those outside the pale and custom of civilized nations have been wrought in Tripoli by Italian soldiers. What we have done has been fair and right and we have erred on the side of mercy in not making a strict search and harshly insisting on every native observing my proclamation requiring them to hand in all arms in their possession. That order they have not observed and yet we have not proceeded to extremes against those found with arms in their possession.

"So far as I and my officers and soldiers are concerned, it is a deliberate and absolute untruth to say they have been guilty of cruelty or have massacred any Turks or natives in cold blood or killed innocent people with fell intent."

### SEAWEED WORTH MILLIONS.

**Ocean Growth is Rich in Potash Deposits and Unlimited.**

Washington, D. C.—Seaweed found along the Pacific coast from Mexico to Northernmost Alaska is a source from which the department of agriculture believes potash worth \$12,000,000 annually can be produced to meet demands of the American fertilizer market. This was one of the "discoveries" of which Secretary Wilson spoke some days ago when he announced his mysterious find.

This is not a discovery of the department of agriculture, however, for scientists have long known of extensive potash in different varieties of Pacific seaweed, some of it when burned or subjected to dry distillation yielding 60 to 70 per cent its weight in soluble potash salts, worth \$20 to \$25 a ton.

The supply of this seaweed is enormous and in many places it has been carted from the beach and applied directly to the land, showing its worth as fertilizer.

The problem that confronts Secretary Wilson now is how to regulate this latest discovered natural resource so "the interests" won't get control. There is no legal authority for withdrawing from entry the waters of the Pacific ocean. Valuable seaweed grows in water from 50 to 75 feet deep and some weeds attain a height of 60 feet.

### Saintly Ideal is Found.

Ludlow, Mass.—A fund established by Charles D. Reed, a wealthy resident, to encourage good habits among the young men of this town, has just been drawn upon to reward Howard U. Bennett, of Ludlow Center, who has never used a profane word, never smoked or chewed tobacco, never touched a drop of liquor and never kissed a girl outside his own family. Bennett's reward was a gold watch presented on his 21st birthday.

### Madero is Inaugurated.

Mexico City—Francisco I. Madero was inaugurated president of Mexico November 6, succeeding President de la Barra, who filled in the gap after the flight of Porfirio Diaz. The inauguration of Vice President Jose Pino Guarez has been postponed to a date not announced.

### REBELS OUTLINE POLICIES.

**Molesting Foreigners Among Offenses Punishable by Death.**

San Francisco—Translations of Chinese papers received here on the liner Mongolia tell of the issuance of revolutionary proclamations at Hankow. The paper is dated October 13, and says that three offenses which would permit capital punishment were provided by the terms of the proclamation. These were aiding the government or betraying revolutionaries, molesting foreigners and attacking the property of "commercial houses." The paper adds that on the date of publication revolutionary emissaries were being sent to every part of the empire.

Translations of three proclamations issued by the revolutionary government, one to the imperial soldiers, one to the Chinese as a people and the third to the powers, also were received by the Mongolia. The declaration to the powers is an appeal "in the name of humanity and of the peace of the world," and continues with the assurance that the revolutionary government, if successful, binds itself to respect all obligations of the Chinese government entered into prior to the issuance of the proclamation. Agreements with the Manchus of later date would be repudiated, it was stated, with the warning that "if the powers assist the Manchu government against the people the latter will be forced to regard them as enemies."

The proclamation to the people described the form of the new government, outlining the three periods of change to follow "victory over the Manchus." The first, or military period, it is said, will see the new government "transform China from top to bottom, suppress all unjust laws and taxes, sweep away all unnecessary forms and ceremonies, abolish the torture chamber and obtain the liberation of slaves or serfs; construct new roads and organize the sanitary service." The second period, styled that of contract between the military and the people, will be of two years' duration and provides for the putting in force of the constitution.

The third, or constitutional period, is designed as the dawn of the China of the future as the "middle republic" when military rule will be dissolved.

### MAY RETAKE TRIPOLI.

**Italians Reported to Have Suffered Enormously in Fighting.**

Washington, D. C.—The recapture of Tripoli by the Turks seems imminent to officials of the Turkish embassy here, in the light of official advices from Constantinople. The dispatch says that an attack was made on Port Seye-Misri-ep-Henni and that the Italians had evacuated the place, leaving behind a great quantity of ammunition and other supplies.

The losses of the Italians are reported to be enormous, while the Turks are said to have lost 40 killed and about 100 wounded.

The Turkish forces, reinforced by volunteers, first advanced upon Tripoli on the night of October 25, breaking the lines of the Italians at different points. This attack lasted until 4 o'clock the next morning, when the Italians retreated to a remote corner of the town.

### TAFT TOUR ENDED.

**Pittsburg Scene of Noisiest Demonstration of Entire Trip.**

Pittsburg—President Taft's second swing around the circuit came to an end here in the most enthusiastic and by far the noisiest demonstration experienced in the 12,000 miles he has traveled. Pittsburg celebrated the centennial of steam navigation on Western rivers and Mr. Taft was the star attraction.

The police estimate that there were 150,000 persons at the wharf on the Monongahela river when the president was taken aboard the steamboat Virginia to review the "fleet" anchored there.

### Dragon Flag Down at Canton.

Canton—Guns have been posted at the admiralty building and the Chinese gunboats are cleared for action.

Armed guards patrol the waterfront and guard all the landing places. All the shops are closed. The dragon flag no longer floats over the Chinese imperial customs building, the craft of the China Merchants Steam Navigation company or the Hankow & Canton railway. The customs officials have removed their imperial badges.

### Rebel Victories Reported.

San Francisco—A dispatch reporting the recapture of Hankow by the rebels was received here from Shanghai by the Chinese Free Press. According to the message, the rebel army from Han-yang moved against the imperial forces and surrounded the city. Royalists were compelled to withdraw after two or three regiments had been captured. Four field cannons were among the spoils of the fight.

# INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE

### APPLE PROSPERITY TOLD.

**Hood River Growers Find Exhibits Unnecessary to Sales.**

Hood River—C. L. Smith, a pioneer horticulturist of Kiesling, Wash., has been here endeavoring to secure an exhibit of local apples at the Spokane National Apple show.

"When I approached your growers and your commercial club," said the Washington fruit man, "I found a feeling of indifference toward the great fair. The fruit from your valley has been winning first prizes year after year. In the many years that I have been connected with the different horticultural and agricultural institutions of the Northwest I have always found that such an indifference as I find here is a plain criterion of prosperity."

The former exhibits of Hood River fruit have been made through the commercial club. The carload exhibits of last year were very expensive, and the funds of the club were so depleted that it was decided not to repeat the exhibit this season. It is the sentiment of many of the prominent growers that funds spent on the opening of markets where the apples are not known will be more beneficial than to spend the money on apple show exhibits.

Mr. Smith was formerly of Oregon, where he was connected with the O. W. R. & N. Co., in its agricultural demonstration department.

### NEW APPLE HAS ORIGIN.

**Gold Hill, Oregon, Men Develop Unknown Species of Fruit.**

Gold Hill—W. G. Myers and W. T. Ward think that they have developed a new and distinct variety of apple on their Sams valley fruit ranch, and one that combines the best qualities of both the Newtown and Spitzenberg.

The new apple is obtained from seedling top-graftings on old trees, all the cuttings being made from a single thrifty seedling tree. It has the Spitzenberg shape and the Newtown coloring, with a tendency to develop a red cheek that is more marked the present season than at any time since he graftings began to bear.

As yet nameless, the new apple is a handsome fruit, rivaling the Newtown for keeping qualities but having no water core such as is often found in that variety. The skin is heavy and tough and the meat firm, which will insure its shipping qualities. The flavor is tart, and while slightly resembling that of the Winter Banana, is distinctive.

Having shown the new apple to many experienced fruit men, and having found none who could tell what it is or had ever seen anything like it, Messrs. Myers and Ward consider they are warranted in the belief that they have originated a new variety.

### SOLDIER IS GOOD FARMER.

**Fort Stevens Sergeant Makes \$850 in Eight Months on Hogs.**

Fort Stevens—Fort Stevens soldiers have demonstrated in a very practical manner to all Lower Columbia residents the vast profit there is in raising hogs and in the handling of a vegetable garden.

Beginning with eight hogs this spring, valued at approximately \$200, Quartermaster Sergeant Hocking, of the Ninety-third company, has on hand at the present time 35 fat specimens, the average value of which exceeds \$30 apiece. In a period not exceeding eight months, he has increased his assets to \$1,050. Of this sum less than \$50 was spent in providing feed additional to that obtained from table scraps, so that a conservative estimate places the profits to the company at 500 per cent in less than one year.

Recently one of the older hogs was killed and found to weigh more than 600 pounds. At 12½ cents a pound, the present price for dressed pork, this hog was worth \$75.

### Dallas Plans for Growth.

Dallas—According to present conditions, Dallas is soon to have a large machine shop, new depot and other railroad facilities, it being practically assured that a new railroad is soon to enter here, and this is to be the location of a union depot and car shops. Not only this, but arrangements are now on foot to erect large woolen mills in this city. Dallas is in need of such an industry and offers an ideal location for the same.

### Tallman Depot Reopened.

Lebanon—Tallman, which has been closed for some time as a railroad station, was reopened by order of the railroad commission. While there is not much business at Tallman, in the freight line, and few tickets are sold, it is considered by the commission of sufficient importance to be kept open on account of the transfer business from the Brownsville and Springfield trains.

### FRUIT FUMIGATION IS PLAN.

**County Inspector Desires Quarantine Stations Established.**

Marshfield—To install fruit-fumigating rooms at the different towns of the county is the latest plan of P. M. Hall-Lewis, county fruit inspector. Mr. Hall-Lewis has been making war on the sale and transportation of diseased fruit, and he has applied to the state fruit commissioner, asking him to designate Marshfield as the quarantine station for this section and Bandon, Coquille and Myrtle Point as sub-stations.

The plan is to have the fumigating rooms where diseased fruit can be fumigated so that the scales or other diseases will not be harmful and cannot be transmitted to other fruit. Mr. Hall-Lewis has asked to be given authority to appoint quarantine wardens, who will receive 5 cents a box for apples which are fumigated.

The county inspector has caused many arrests of persons who have broken the laws regarding the sale and transportation of diseased fruit. The result has been the offering of a much higher grade. Until the past few years little attention was given to apples in Coos county. When it was discovered that the Gravensteins of this locality were of a fine grade and that they commanded a good price, the interest in apple-growing was stirred and new orchards have been planted. Fruitgrowers' associations in both sections of the county have taken charge of the marketing of the crop of many of the growers.

### COAL DISCOVERY STIRS.

**Sams Valley District Produces Good Grade of Black Lignite.**

Gold Hill—That the entire Sams valley and Meadows districts and intervening territory are underlaid with coal is indicated by the stories told by old residents since the recent discovery of black lignite in Sams valley at a point seven miles from this place. It seems highly probable that a belt of country over 30 miles in length, extending from Upper Meadows to Roxy Ann mountain, east to Medford, where true bituminous coal just been found, is coal-bearing. A big vein of black lignite is open in the Upper Meadows district, and has been worked desultorily for years.

The recent discovery on the Shipley-Miller place shows the continuation of the belt under an intervening low range of hills into Sams valley. This discovery is in the northern end of the little valley, and that coal exists in the southern section, several miles distant, and perhaps underlying the belt of fine farming land between, is indicated by a discovery made in 1879. A well went dry on the McClendon place, and in deepening it a two-inch vein was cut at a depth from the surface of 18 feet. This coal was of excellent quality, being termed "candle coal" at the time, because a small piece of it when lighted would burn with a clear, steady flame until nothing was left but a light ash residue.

### AITCHISON IS FEARFUL.

**Danger Seen in Curtailment of State's Powers By Supreme Court.**

Salem—Grave possibilities are foreseen by Clyde Aitchison, chairman of the state railroad commission, should the U. S. supreme court uphold the Sanborn decision in the Minnesota, Oregon, et al., rate cases, which are before that tribunal, coupled with the decision given recently in the Southern railway case, when the court decided that the Interstate Commerce commission has control of safety appliances on purely intrastate roads as well as interstate roads.

"What may be contained in the discussion of the opinion I do not care to comment upon until I have had an opportunity to see the opinion," stated Chairman Aitchison. "It is certain that the opinion will invalidate many of the inspection laws in various states, although Oregon has no such laws."

### Trees for Big Orchard.

Falls City—Trees are arriving daily for the Falls City Orchard company, to be planted on the 50-acre farm 3½ miles from this city. A total of 14,000 trees will be planted. J. H. Van Zanah, general manager of the concern, is actively engaged in superintending their removal to the farm. C. A. Snyder will be placed in general charge of the planting and 15 men and six teams will be employed at once to prepare the land for planting.

### Work on Boulevard Begins.

Salem—Eighteen teams have started work on the boulevard between the asylum farm and the penitentiary, the first link in the boulevard which will connect all of the state institutions. Convicts and asylum patients will do the work. The present link of road will be about three miles in length.