

LOSS HALF MILLION

Brush Fires in British Columbia Sweep All in Path.

TWO BIG SAWMILLS ARE BURNED

Many Settlers Homeless and Compelled to Flee for Their Lives Before Fierce Flames.

Kamloops, B. C., May 6.—Hundreds of thousands of dollars in property was destroyed and scores of ranchers forced to flee for their lives as the result of a disastrous brush fire that swept the country from Notch Hill as far east as Three Valley, and south from Sicamous as far as Vernon.

Among the losses are two large sawmills, both of which were totally consumed in the wall of flame that swept over the land. The big Carlin mill, located between Tappens siding and Notch Hill, was wiped out, with a loss of \$75,000, as was also the Carrigan mill on Salmon river, valued at \$35,000. Several of the millhands had to flee for their lives.

Three large brush fires had been burning for several days and a terrific gale soon brought them into contact with each other.

Barns and houses fell a prey to the fire and many head of cattle were lost, while many settlers had to leave everything and hasten to save their lives.

While it is impossible to estimate the total losses, it is known they will reach nearly half a million dollars in the vicinity of Salmon Arm.

In the Mars district the loss will be heaviest, as scores of ranch properties were completely devastated.

On the main line of the Canadian Pacific the fences and the telegraph lines were destroyed for nearly 20 miles, and telegraph communication between Revelstoke and Kamloops was cut off for hours.

BANKS KEEP ABDUL'S FUNDS

Refuse to Give Them Up on Demand of Young Turks.

Vienna, May 6.—The bank of England which holds the largest portion of Abdul Hamid's wealth, refuses point blank to deliver up the ex-sultan's cash at the demand of the Young Turks committee. French, German and Italian banks likewise refuse. Meanwhile the committee is trying every possible means to force Abdul Hamid into signing checks in their favor for all his money, but this procedure is already attracting the attention of the powers. It is well known that the czar of Russia, kings of Italy and Greece, and other monarchs have placed large sums in the bank of England in order to secure deposits outside their own countries with a view of possible contingencies. That such sums should be encashed at a moment when misfortune against which it was intended to provide should come, afford a very unfortunate precedent.

SHORT IN ACCOUNTS.

Ex-Adjutant General of Washington Spent Over \$20,000.

Olympia, Wash., May 6.—On fictitious and forged vouchers, which he induced Governor Mead and State Auditor C. W. Clauson to approve, Orvis Hamilton, formerly of Colfax and Spokane, secured while adjutant general and spent personally between \$20,000 and \$50,000 of state military funds, according to a partial confession made to Governor Hay and Attorney General Bell here this afternoon. Hamilton is now in custody of the sheriff here in default of \$10,000 bonds, having been arrested on complaint of the attorney general's office on charge of larceny of state moneys.

The state expects to make good \$20,000 of his shortage from the National Surety company, of New York, by which Hamilton was bonded to that amount.

Pullman Must Pay Its Taxes in Full.

Sacramento, Cal., May 6.—The office of the state controller has refused to allow a discount on the tax levy of \$30,404 against the Pullman Car company for 1907, which the company claims was wrongfully assessed. A suit now pending over this levy was defeated in the Federal and Superior courts and Chief Deputy Moslon has announced that the state will accept nothing short of the entire sum. The company tried to compromise for \$19,740. The tax owed by the Pullman company for 1908 is also unpaid.

Tornado Rips Up Country

Muskogee, Okla., May 6.—It was reported here after midnight that a tornado had swept over Carter county, Oklahoma, and Ardmore, a town of 18,000, had been devastated. All wires in the vicinity are down and early this morning it was impossible to confirm the reports. Western Union Telegraph company advises tell of a severe storm near Ardmore.

ACCIDENT IN SEATTLE.

Rail of Balcony Snaps, Throwing 300 People to Floor.

Seattle, Wash., May 7.—In full view of the throng witnessing the great indoor meet of the Seattle Athletic club at the new armory last night, at the close of the Marathon race, the balcony rail gave way and precipitated fully 300 persons to the floor beneath. At least 50 are seriously injured, and some may die.

Instantly the throng became panic-stricken with horror at the sight, but soon collected itself and began the work of assisting those who lay crushed and bleeding on the floor. Ambulances and physicians were quickly summoned, and those who could be moved were sent to hospitals.

The accident occurred at the close of the Marathon race, with the contestants neck and neck at the finish line, which was directly beneath the balcony. It was to see the finish of this event that the crowd leaned over the balcony when the rail broke, precipitating 300 people to the cement floor 15 feet below.

The accident was due to the collapse of the iron railing at the end of the balcony. The hollow iron railing was on the outside instead of the inside of the iron rods that support the balcony. When the railing gave way more than 300 of the spectators on that side of the building plunged head foremost to the floor below.

So far were the people leaning out over the balcony that when the railing gave way practically every one in the balcony in that vicinity was swept overboard.

Both city police patrols and every available ambulance in the city, together with scores of private automobiles and scores of physicians hurried to the scene. A squad of police clubbed their way into the crowd and made way for the people to assist the injured to the waiting ambulances and automobiles, which hurried them to the hospitals.

CLEMENCEAU DEFIED.

French Civil Servants Organize Union and Trouble May Follow.

Paris, May 7.—The famous P. T. T.—that is, the Posts, Telegraphs & Telephone Employees association—threw down the gauntlet to the government today by transforming itself into a syndicate or union under the law of 1884. This places the association on the same footing with workmen's unions with the right to strike.

This defiance, which is nothing short of open revolt, came as a sudden and sensational sequel to Premier Clemenceau's failure today to receive a deputation of postal employees, who called to demand the redemption of promises they say the government made when the recent strike was declared off.

The government, which claims to be prepared for any eventuality, it is conceded must now act vigorously or abdicate. The leaders of the movement have no option but to declare a strike the minute the government makes a hostile turn. The entire country is tremendously excited by the violent agitation to which it has been subjected for months, and fears are entertained that a whirlwind may be unleashed. There are even intimations that the monarchist and other reactionaries are furnishing funds to stir up a revolution in the hope of imposing a new regime.

BROKEN LEVEE COSTLY.

Over 14,000 Acres Are Flooded by Rise in San Joaquin River.

Stockton, Cal., May 7.—Reports from the islands tonight say it will be impossible to save reclamation district No. 17, on which a break in the levee occurred this morning.

The water is pouring from the San Joaquin river through a crevasse almost 100 feet wide opposite Lathrop. Owners of property are rushing a dredger and steamer to the scene, but at the rate the water is running into the large tract the indications are all of the 14,000 acres will be inundated. The land is very rich and was expected to produce fully 35 sacks of barley to the acre. The loss this year will be near \$250,000.

Thousands Face Starvation.

Hadjin, Asiatic Turkey, May 7.—Notwithstanding the presence of troops here, the situation is desperate because of the lack of food and medical supplies. The troops arrived just in time as the besiegers had succeeded in setting fire to a house on the edge of the city. The fire spread, but as the breeze was blowing away from town, only five buildings were destroyed. A heavy rifle fire was kept up against those who tried to extinguish the flames. The Mohammedans carried off all the cattle outside the city.

Abdul's Hoards Are Found.

Constantinople, May 7.—The commission which is taking an inventory of the property at the imperial palace at Yildiz has, it is stated, discovered bank notes to the value of \$2,250,000 and a large quantity of jewelry. Papers seized at the palace show that Abdul Hamid had over \$5,000,000 on deposit at a foreign bank.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

BIG SHEEP MOVEMENT.

Great Activity Reported Around Pendleton by Secretary Smythe.

Pendleton—Secretary Dan P. Smythe, of the State Wool Growers' association, reports great activity in the movement of sheep in this section and several large sheep sales during the past few days. One of the largest of these sales is reported from the vicinity of Arlington, where between 20,000 and 25,000 head of yearlings have been shipped to outside markets. The sale price received for the mixed yearling weathers ranged from \$3 to \$4 per head, as compared with the prices of from \$2.75 to \$3.25 received for the same grades last year. The buyers are Wright of North Yakima and R. F. Bicknell and Scott Anderson, who will ship to Idaho.

Sheep shearing in Umatilla county will last for perhaps two weeks yet, though some of the earlier shearers have already finished their season's clipping. Results from the shearing plants prove that the earlier prophecy of good clips for this year is proving as predicted. The fleeces are found to be unbroken and the staple good, due largely to the early grass and the better than common condition of the sheep because of the close winter.

The lambing season for Umatilla county will last but a few days longer, though it will not close quite so soon up in the foothills of the county. The increase this year in the county will be above 95 per cent, with the total nearer the lower figure. The increase in Umatilla county will approach the maximum this year because of the exceptionally good weather conditions. The winter left the sheep fatter than usual, due to the regularity of the snow conditions and the plentifulness of hay. Then the grass came early in the spring keeping the fat of the sheep up and aiding more. The lambing season proper has found the weather conditions especially good again. Those who chanced winter lambing report an especially good increase.

WOOL CLIP GOOD.

Mitchell Growers Say Quality is Better Than Usual.

Mitchell—Woolgrowers in this locality report that the season which is just closing has been the most favorable for lambing for many years. The weather has not only been ideal but the range grass was more abundant than usual, which fact enables the ewes to start the suckling period with plenty of nourishment. All the shepherms report that the crop of 1909 lambs will go beyond the 100 per cent mark. Shearing will start here about May 10, although those who have yearlings and mutton sheep contracted for early driving are just commencing to shear them. The wool this year is of a better quality than usual, and the prices are likewise. Farmers of this section are beginning to complain of drought and cold north winds. Fall sown grain is not doing so well as it should and the spring sown crops will need moisture to insure a good stand. A larger acreage has been sown to grain this year than in former years and all concerned regret that the weather should remain so unfavorable.

While the weather has such a backward effect on the crops, it is pleasing to know that the range is abundantly supplied with the finest crop of grass that the stockmen could desire. All classes of stock are in fine condition, and prospects point to a favorable grazing season. No cattle or horses are moving on the market at present, but G. L. Frizzell, of Girds creek, will drive 300 head from this county to Toppenish, Wash., via Arlington, about the middle of the month.

Heppner's Clip is Sold.

Heppner—Wool has been transferred in Heppner this week to the extent of over 1,000,000 pounds. W. W. Smead has purchased nearly 800,000 pounds of this for William Ellery and the balance has been secured by Frank Lea for F. Frankenstein. The lowest price paid was 18 cents and the highest 20 1/2 cents. Smead is now offering 21 cents and it is likely he will secure several more clips before the rush is over. Sheep are all sold and the wool will be practically all off the market by the middle of next week.

Cruising Season Timber.

Mist—Between 20 and 30 timber cruisers are working on the large Bowen timber holdings, located on the headwaters of the Clatskanie river and along Oak Ranch creek to the Nehalem river. It is rumored among timber men that this tract will change hands by the end of the month. A prominent Michigan syndicate is said to be in the deal.

Prune Orchard Brings \$15,000.

Salem—A. F. Hofer, W. P. Babcock and other local business men have closed a deal for the Jory prune ranch of 128 acres south of Salem. The price was \$15,250. The farm, which is one of the best in this section, will be subdivided.

FARM LANDS SOLD.

Large Tract in Yamhill and Polk to Be Subdivided.

Portland—More heavy buying of Oregon farm lands has just come to light. Three deals involving the transfer of over 7,000 acres in which the total money consideration was about \$275,000 were reported.

Broadmead, better known as the Ladd & Reed farm located in Yamhill and Polk counties, was sold to a Portland syndicate, composed of J. R. Patterson, D. E. Keasey, L. R. Menefee and George Akers, for \$150,000. The Keasey-Menefee syndicate secured an option on this property some weeks ago from Martin Winch, representing the Reed estate, and from the Ladd interest which was closed up by the formal transfer of the title. At the same time the property was turned over to the Columbia Trust company and by this concern will be subdivided into five, ten and 20-acre tracts and put on the market.

Millmen Have Protest.

Oregon City—Complaint has been made at Salem by 17 lumber manufacturers of Clackamas county against the Southern Pacific company, with the object of compelling the corporation to provide adequate facilities for loading cars at Oregon City. It is stated that the complainants are unable to increase their business and market their products because of the failure of the Southern Pacific company to afford facilities for loading lumber in car loads. The lumbermen ask for an investigation by the State Railroad commission and it is probable that a time will be set for a hearing at Oregon City in the near future.

Gilliam Farmers Join Union.

Condon—Dr. W. R. Campbell, of Pendleton, state organizer of the Eastern Oregon branch of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative union of America, has affected an organization of farmers in this vicinity. It will be the aim to secure equitable freight rates, lower warehouse charges and to investigate the different methods of handling grain. The organization will work in conjunction with the different granges of the county and state.

Santiam Bridged at Detroit.

Albany—A suspension bridge has been erected across the North Santiam river at Detroit, eastern terminus of the Corvallis & Eastern railroad. The bridge was erected by John Outerson, a Detroit merchant, and is the first bridge to connect the Linn and Marion county sides of the river directly above Detroit. There is an old wooden bridge a short distance above the town.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem milling, \$1.30@1.35; club, \$1.20@1.25; Turkey red, \$1.26; valley, \$1.17; forty-fold, \$1.26; red Russian, \$1.17 1/2@1.20.

Corn—Whole, \$35 per ton; cracked, \$36.

Barley—Feed, \$34@35 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$40@41.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$14@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$17.50@19.50; clover, \$11@12; alfalfa, \$13@14; grain hay, \$13@14; cheat, \$14@15.50; vetch, \$14@14.50.

Apples—65c@72.50 per hundred.

Potatoes—\$1.85@2 per hundred.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.50; beets, \$1.75; horseradish, 10c per pound; artichokes, 60c@75c per dozen; asparagus, Oregon, 12 1/2@15c per pound; lettuce, head, 20c@50c per dozen; onions, 12 1/2@15c; parsley, 35c; radishes, 15c@20c; rhubarb, 2 1/2@3 1/4c per pound; spinach, 90c@1.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 24c; fancy outside creamery, 22@24c per pound; store, 18@20c. Butter fat prices average 1 1/4c per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 24@25c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 15@15 1/2c per pound; broilers, 25@28c; fryers, 18@22 1/2c; roosters, old, 10@11c; young, 14@15c; ducks, 20@22 1/2c; geese, 10@11c; turkeys, 20c; squabs, \$2.50@3 per dozen.

Veal—Extras, 9 1/2@10c per pound; ordinary, 8 1/2@9c; heavy, 7@8c.

Hops—1909 contract, 9c per pound; 1908 crop, 6@7c; 1907 crop, 3c; 1906 crop, 1 1/2c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 15@20c per pound; valley, fine, 22c; medium, 21c; coarse, 20c; mohair, choice, 24@25c.

Cattle—Top steers, \$5.50@5.75; fair to good, \$5@5.25; common to medium, \$4.50@4.75; cows, top, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good, \$3.75@4.25; common to medium, \$2.50@3.50; calves, top, \$5@5.50; heavy, \$3.50@4; bulle and stags, fat, \$3@3.50; common, \$2@2.75.

Hogs—Best, \$7.50@7.75; fair to good, \$7.25@7.50; stockers, \$6@6.50; Chula fats, \$6.75@7.

Sheep—Top wethers, \$4@4.50; fair to good, \$3.50@4; ewes, 1/2c less on all grades; yearlings, best, \$4.50@4.75; fair to good, \$4@4.25; spring lambs, \$6.

BLOW AT UNIONS.

French Premier Takes Steps to Put Down Organization.

Paris, May 5.—Premier Clemenceau apparently has taken the bit in his teeth and has decided to test the power of the government to put down the present "syndicalist" movement, so far as it affects state employes, even if this involves the precipitation of the threatened general strike. Dangerous signs are manifest throughout the country, and it is conceded generally that the belated determination of the government to vindicate its authority comes none too soon.

The recent gigantic strike of "syndicalists" and its arrogant attitude under the leadership of the General Federation of Labor, with which the various classes of state employes now insist upon affiliating, has almost created a public panic. The property interests of the country will support unflinchingly any measures that the government, takes, no matter how rigorous, which might end the agitation.

The attitude of the Combes and other previous radical governments, which encouraged state servants to form unions even in the navy yards, and the records of Mm. Harthou and Viviani, respectively ministers of public works and labor, have heretofore embarrassed M. Clemenceau. Since the visit of King Edward, however, who, it is understood, let the premier see the anxiety existing abroad that France was drifting into a condition approaching anarchy, M. Clemenceau resolved to act.

ADANA MASSACRE RENEWED.

Looting, Shooting and Burning; Aim to Exterminate Christians.

Adana, May 4, via Cyprus, May 5.—Adana is still lawless. More people were killed yesterday. There are 30,000 dead in Adana province as a result of the massacres, and 35,000 homeless and penniless refugees are wandering into the vilayet.

The deaths in Adana city alone are estimated at 6,500. Adana is terrorized by 4,000 soldiers who are looting, shooting and burning. No respect is paid to foreign properties. Both the French schools have been destroyed.

The new law has not yet inspired confidence. There is reason to believe the authorities still intend to permit the extermination of all Christians. The troops here are making a pretense of throwing water on the flames, but instead of water they are using kerosene.

All letters and telegrams sent out through Turkish channels are censored.

WILSON GIVES LINK.

Shows Connection of Reef With San Francisco Bribery.

San Francisco, May 5.—Andrew M. Wilson, whose failure to testify to certain recollections in one of the trials of Tires L. Ford was followed by revocation of his immunity contract and his indictment upon three charges of having accepted bribes, was the principal witness in yesterday's session of the trial of Patrick Calhoun, president of the United Railroads. Under direct examination of Assistant District Attorney John O'Gara, Wilson recited the story of how he sounded the members of the Schmitz board of supervisors on the proposal to pass the overhead trolley permit, and was promised \$10,000 for his vote and effort after conversations with James L. Gallagher and Abraham Reef. Stanley Moore, of the defense, supplementing Earl Rogers as cross examiner, subjected Wilson to a severe cross examination that had not been completed when the hour of adjournment had arrived.

Haymarket Anniversary.

Chicago, May 5.—Yesterday was the anniversary of the two most memorable events in the criminal records of Chicago—events that will long live in the memories of Chicago policemen. The great Haymarket riot, in which six policemen were killed and 60 others severely injured, occurred May 4, 1886. Three years later, May 4, 1889, the noted murder of Dr. Patrick H. Cronin took place. Deaths of those connected with the trials subsequent to those tragedies have been numerous, most of them unnatural.

Fairbanks Admits Hawaii.

Honolulu, May 5.—That the territory of Hawaii is destined to become a full fledged state of the Union, and that the inhabitants of the islands are capable of governing themselves, is the opinion of former Vice President Fairbanks, who is touring the islands in company with his wife and daughter. Fairbanks addressed the Hawaiian legislature and announced himself as favorably impressed with conditions here. He was cordially received.

10 Railroads Are Sued

Jefferson City, Mo., May 5.—Attorney General Major instituted quo warranto proceedings today against 10 railroads, charging them with having violated the common law in conspiring and agreeing to fix passenger rates. An alternative writ was made returnable to the court on June 1.

SCHOOL IS BURNED

All American Property at Kessab Has Been Destroyed.

HORRIBLE CONDITIONS PREVAIL.

People Return to Homes Only to Find Them Looted, and Wander About Absolutely Destitute.

Beirut, Asiatic Turkey, May 8.—An investigator who has just returned here from a trip to Kessab reports that all the American property at that place has been completely destroyed by the Moslem raiders. The American property there consisted of a girls' high school under the direction of Miss Effie N. Chambers. Three-quarters of the native houses also have been destroyed, but the Armenian church and the new Protestant school building are standing. Almost all of the people who fled from Kessab have returned to find their houses looted. They are absolutely destitute. Some food and clothing are being distributed, but there is no system in the work and the supplies are inadequate.

One band of Turkish reserves has returned to the town, but as they took part in the rioting and killing there, the people cannot trust them. The protection afforded is in no sense sufficient. The situation at Deurtyul, on the coast north of Kessab, is still critical.

STRIKE SEEMS SURE.

French Government Will Dismiss Employees Who Take Part.

Paris, May 8.—Warned in advance that to strike means dismissal from the service, the members of the Post, Telegraph & Telephone Employees association in various cities have already voted in principle for a general strike, and the congress of railroad men has ordered a referendum on the question of ordering a strike and has appointed a strike committee.

That a strike will result is a foregone conclusion. The cities where it has been decided upon include several of the largest industrial centers, such as Lyons and Havre. The time to strike alone appears to be undecided, having been left by the local unions to the general strike committee of each organization.

The determination of the government to fight to a finish the question of the right of state employes to strike is shown by the declaration of M. Harthou, the minister of public works, that the government, in the event of an attempt being made to strike, will instantly discharge from the service any postman who ceases work.

New Line to Butte.

Helena, Mont., May 8.—Montana is to have a new railroad. Because of its proposed Western connection, it is supposed to be a Harriman property. The company has an authorized capital stock of \$16,000,000, for which a filing fee of \$1,800 was paid by J. L. Wines, of Butte. The road will run from Lapwai Junction, where it connects with the O. R. & N. company's line along the Clearwater, crossing into Montana by way of Lolo pass; thence through Missoula, Granite, Powell and Deer Lodge counties to Butte, 350 miles.

Rivers Found Navigable.

Los Angeles, May 8.—Lieutenant L. C. Easton, assistant to Captain Friss, government engineer here, returned today from an exploration of the Grand and Green rivers in Utah and Arizona, and stated that as a result of the trip a report will be sent to Washington declaring those two rivers navigable for many miles above their junction where they meet and form the Colorado.

Vast Fortune All Gone.

New York, May 8.—C. W. Morse, the ex-banker, who is now in the Tombs prison under sentence for violation of the national banking laws, has not a share of stock, a bond or a piece of real estate left of his fortune of an estimated value of \$30,000,000, according to evidence which he gave in supplementary proceedings made public today.

Houses for Homeless

Messina, Sicily, May 8.—Lieutenant Commander R. R. H. Knapp, the American naval attaché at Rome, has turned over to the prefect 400 American wooden houses to be used to shelter sufferers from the earthquake of last December. The attaché expects that 2,300 houses will be completed by June 7.

Abdul's Money in New York.

Constantinople, May 8.—The parliamentary commission has learned that Abdul Hamid recently deposited considerable sums of money in New York banks, and it appears that he has in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000 in German banks.