

YEAR 1907 LEAVES A RECORD OF DISASTER

Natural Phenomena and Direful Accident Furnish Long Lists of Dead.

EPITOME OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

Recent Financial Disturbance—Oklahoma a State—Fine and Gift of Millions.

The chronicler who scans the record of 1907 that he may write of it finds himself confronted by an exhibit of destruction and disaster that he had not fully appreciated before. Since the opening day of the year the great catastrophes that have been accompanied by large loss of life have numbered 26, an average of slightly more than two for each month. Several of these have been great convulsions of nature. There was the earthquake that destroyed Kingston, Jamaica, out of which came the disagreeable Swettenham incident; subsequently occurred other earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in Mexico, Chile and China. An earthquake and mountain slide that destroyed the town of Karatagh, Russian Turkistan, snuffed out 15,000 lives, and a frightful typhoon at Hongkong, China, killed unknown hundreds of the inhabitants. A hurricane in the Caroline Islands wiped out 200 lives; a great flood in Japan caused 600 deaths. Among the catastrophes originating in the operations and enterprises of humanity there have been explosions—several of them in mines, others in blast furnaces and on shipboard—collisions of ships and of railway trains, the collapse of the great uncompleted bridge over the St. Lawrence river near Quebec, and the blowing up of the Du Pont powder works in Fontanet, Ind. All these produced long casualty lists.

The roll of eminent dead is also an extensive one. Sweden has lately been called upon to mourn the decease of its beloved king, Oscar II., and his son and successor has assumed the reins of government. In Persia, also, the old Shah has died and a new one rules. Not death, but abdication has also changed the governmental head in Korea. Politics, art, science, letters, and the platform have each paid its toll to death in the loss of some foremost representatives. Among the names may be recorded those of former President M. Casimir Perier of France, Senators Morgan, Pettus and Alger, Galusha A. Grow, James H. Eckels, Maurice Grau, Richard Mansfield, Joseph Joachim, Edvard Grieg, James McGranahan, Col. Will S. Hayes, Prof. Alexander S. Herschel, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Dr. John Watson (Ian MacLaren), Theodore Tilton, Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, Francis Murphy and Mrs. Helen M. Gougar. Mrs. Wm. McKinley and John Alexander Dowle are also in the list of the well-known dead.

A financial disturbance of widespread influence has made itself felt during the last three months of 1907.

The number of States in the Union has been increased to 46 by the admission of Oklahoma.

That modern minds are not appalled by large amounts is shown by two of the year's transactions. The Standard Oil Company has been fined \$20,000,000 by a Chicago judge, and John D. Rockefeller has made donations of \$32,000,000 to educational projects.

Two great exhibitions have been held. That at Jamestown, Va., did not receive the patronage expected and is in the hands of a receiver. The other was in Greater Louisville, Ky.

A public work of vast magnitude was begun when Mayor McClellan of New York broke ground for the construction of the great Catskill aqueduct which in a few years is to convey to the metropolis an inexhaustible supply of pure water.

The Harry Thaw trial in New York and the general strike of telegraphers the country over were subjects of much interest to the public while they continued.

The principal happenings of 1907 are briefly given below:

- JANUARY.**
- 2—Wreck on Rock Island near Voland, Kansas, kills 35 persons. . . . Chas. M. Floyd, Republican, elected Governor of New Hampshire by Legislature.
 - 5—Bomb thrown in Fourth Street National bank, Philadelphia.
 - 8—Death of Shah of Persia.
 - 9—James Cullen lynched in Charles City, Iowa. . . . Gen. Vladimir Pavloff assassinated in St. Petersburg. . . . 30 miners killed by explosion in Pittsburg blast furnace.
 - 10—Typhoon in Philippines kills 100 persons.
 - 11—Fire near Strassburg, Germany, causes 20 deaths. . . . \$1,000,000 fire in Lancaster, Pa.
 - 14—Earthquake destroys Kingston, Jamaica.

- 10—Sixty lives lost in two Big Four railroad wrecks in Indiana. . . . Mohammed Ali Mirza crowned Shah of Persia. . . . Admiral Davis and American squadron sent away from Kingston, Jamaica, by Gov. Swettenham.
- 20—Death of Josiah Flynt Willard, tramp and author. . . . England apologizes for Swettenham incident.
- 23—Twenty miners killed by explosion near Primero, Colo. . . . Thaw trial begins in New York.
- 24—Death of Senator R. A. Alger of Michigan.
- 28—Explosions in mine near Saarbrueck, Prussia, kill 300 persons. . . . 100 lives lost by typhoon in Hongkong harbor.
- 29—Ninety miners killed by mine explosion near Thurmond, W. Va.

- FEBRUARY.**
- 7—John D. Rockefeller makes \$32,000,000 gift to educational work.
 - 12—200 lives lost by sinking of Joy line steamer Larchmont off Block Island, R. I. . . . Death of ex-Gov. Frank W. Higgins of New York.
 - 16—25 persons killed and 100 injured in train wreck on New York Central in New York City.
 - 20—\$173,000 stolen from U. S. sub-treasury in Chicago.
 - 21—English steamer Berlin goes down off coast of Holland; 180 lives lost. . . . Cornelius J. Shea and associates acquitted of conspiracy in Chicago. . . . Mrs. Dora McDonald shoots and kills Webster S. Guerin in Chicago.
 - 22—Pennsylvania railroad's 18-hour flyer wrecked near Johnstown, Pa. . . . Missouri Legislature adjourned by small-pox scare.

- MARCH.**
- 4—Fifty-ninth Congress adjourns sine die. . . . Three changes in President's cabinet take effect.
 - 7—Strether brothers in Culpepper, Va., acquitted of murder under "unwritten law."
 - 9—Death of John Alexander Dowle. . . . Will J. Davis freed of responsibility for Iroquois theater disaster by Judge Kimbrough of Danville, Ill.
 - 12—Death of M. Casimir Perier, former president of France. . . . Magazines on French battleship Jena explode at Toulon, killing 80 and injuring 500 persons.
 - 14—Death of Maurice Grau, impresario.
 - 16—Burning of Helicon Hall, Upton Sinclair's colony, near Englewood, N. J.
 - 18—Greater Louisville exposition opened.
 - 19—Death of Thomas Bailey Aldrich.
 - 22—Many persons killed in riots in Moldavia.
 - 25—Death of Alexander Beaubien, first white male born in Chicago.
 - 31—Death of Galusha A. Grow, former Congressman from Pennsylvania.

- APRIL.**
- 2—Chicago elects Fred A. Busse, Republican, Mayor and approves new traction ordinance by majority of 33,123.
 - 4—Hotel fire in San Francisco kills 17 persons. . . . Lunacy commission declares Harry K. Thaw sane.
 - 9—Howard Nicholas and Leonard Leopold convicted of murder of Mrs. Margaret Leslie in Chicago.
 - 11—Lord Cromer, British ruler in Egypt, resigns.
 - 13—Standard Oil Company convicted in Illinois court of rebating.
 - 14—Death of James H. Eckels of Chicago. . . . Earthquakes at Chilapa and Chilpancingo, Mexico.
 - 15—Great Northern's Oriental Limited derailed by wreckers at Bartlett, N. D.
 - 16—19—Volcanic eruptions in Chile.
 - 20—Great fire in native quarter of Manila.
 - 26—Opening of Jamestown (Va.) Exposition.
 - 30—Hurricane in Caroline Islands kills 200 people.

- MAY.**
- 2—Great loss of life from explosion in Canton, China.
 - 3—Sir Alexander Swettenham retires as Governor of Jamaica.
 - 6—Dr. John Watson (Ian MacLaren) dies in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. . . . Tornado wipes out towns of Birthright and Ridgeway, Texas.
 - 10—Son born to King Alfonso of Spain.
 - 11—Mystic Shiner special wrecked at Honda, Cal., and 31 lives lost.
 - 12—Mine fire at Velardena, Mexico, kills 90 men. . . . Earthquake in China kills 4,000 persons.
 - 17—Isaac Stephenson elected United States Senator from Wisconsin.
 - 25—Death of Theodore Tilton in Paris.
 - 26—Death of Mrs. William McKinley.

- JUNE.**
- 5—Oscar II. resumes reign as King of Sweden.
 - 6—Sudden death of Mrs. Helen M. Gougar.
 - 7—Fatal and destructive tornado in Kentucky and southern Illinois and Indiana.
 - 9—Death of Julia Magruder, novelist.
 - 10—Great strike against government in wine growing regions of France. . . . 500 lives lost in burning of Chinese theater in Hongkong.
 - 11—Death of Senator John T. Morgan of Alabama.
 - 12—200 lives lost in hurricane on Caroline Islands.
 - 13—Mayor Schmitz of San Francisco convicted of extortion.
 - 14—Olympic Theater burns in Chicago.
 - 16—Czar dissolves the Duma.
 - 18—Death of Prof. Alexander S. Herschel, English astronomer.
 - 20—Mayor McClellan of New York breaks first sod for construction of great Catskill aqueduct.
 - 26—Fire destroys block of buildings adjoining Jamestown exposition.
 - 30—Death of Francis Murphy, temperance evangelist.

- JULY.**
- 3—Fatal windstorm sweeps western Wisconsin.
 - 3—John D. Rockefeller appears as witness in court in Chicago.

- 7—Tornado damages Long Pine, Neb.
- 8—Death of James McGranahan, gospel song writer.
- 14—Assassination of President Fallieres attempted in Paris.
- 15—Powder explosion on battleship Georgia kills 8 seamen and injures 13.
- 18—Emperor of Korea abdicates.
- 20—30 killed in Pere Marquette wreck near Salem, Mich.
- 21—Steamer and freight boat collide off California coast and 150 lives are lost.
- 23—Death of Col. Will S. Hayes, ballad writer.
- 27—Death of Senator E. W. Pettus of Alabama.
- 28—Jury in Boise, Idaho, acquits William D. Hayward of murder of Gov. Steunenburg. . . . Big fire at Coney Island, N. Y.

- AUGUST.**
- 1—Standard Oil Co. fined \$20,000,000 for accepting railroad rebates by Judge K. M. Landis of Chicago.
 - 8—Beginning of telegraphers' general strike.
 - 12—Death of Robert A. Pinkerton.
 - 15—Joseph Joachim, violinist, dies in Berlin.
 - 19—Prince Wilhelm of Sweden at Jamestown exposition.
 - 26—Great fire in Hakodate, Japan.
 - 27—Nelson Morris, Chicago packer, dies.
 - 29—Great bridge over St. Lawrence river, near Quebec, collapses, carrying 84 workmen to death.
 - 30—Death of Richard Mansfield.

- SEPTEMBER.**
- 4—Death of Edvard Grieg, Norwegian composer.
 - 7—Anti-Japanese outbreak in Vancouver, B. C.
 - 9—Japanese battleship Kashima blows up at Kure with loss of 40 lives.
 - 15—25 lives lost in wreck of excursion train near Canaan, N. H.
 - 17—First election in Oklahoma. . . . Chicago defeats new charter.
 - 21—Frank J. Constantine convicted of murder of Mrs. Louise Gentry in Chicago. . . . Grandstand blown down in Hegins, Pa., and 50 people hurt.
 - 25—Flood in Japan drowns 600 persons.
 - 28—Eight lives lost in B. & O. wreck at Bellaire, Ohio.
 - 30—McKinley mausoleum dedicated in Canton, Ohio.

- OCTOBER.**
- 6—Death of Mrs. Mary J. Holmes, authoress.
 - 10—Steamship Lusitania crosses Atlantic ocean in four days twenty hours. . . . Death of Mrs. Cassie Chadwick in Columbus (Ohio) penitentiary.
 - 12—Steamship Cypress wrecked on Lake Superior and 22 lives lost.
 - 14—Town of San Jose del Cabo, Lower California, destroyed by cloudburst.
 - 15—Du Pont powder works near Fontanet, Ind., explodes, killing 50 people.
 - 16—Wall street flurry causes great slump in copper stocks.
 - 22—23—Panic in New York and the East marked by suspension of Knickerbocker Trust Company and of various financial concerns, appointment of receivers for Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, and wild scenes on Stock Exchange.
 - 23—Germans win balloon race from St. Louis with France second.
 - 27—New \$20,000,000 Union station opened in Washington.
 - 30—Earthquake and mountain slide destroys town of Karatagh, Russian Turkistan, and causes 15,000 deaths.

- NOVEMBER.**
- 1—Great railway strike in Great Britain called.
 - 5—End of telegraphers' strike. . . . Elections in many States.
 - 11—Death of Dexter M. Ferry, secedist, of Detroit.
 - 15—Death of Moncure D. Conway, American author. . . . Fire destroys town of Cleary, Alaska.
 - 16—Oklahoma admitted to statehood.
 - 24—Jury in Steve Adams case in Rathdrum, Idaho, disagrees.
 - 25—Thirteen lives lost in New York tenement house fire.
 - 26—Death of Gen. B. D. Pritchard of Allegan, Mich., whose regiment captured Jefferson Davis.

- DECEMBER.**
- 1—Explosion in mine at Fayette City, Pa., kills 40 miners.
 - 2—Sixtieth Congress opens.
 - 4—King Oscar of Sweden resigns government into hands of Crown Prince as regent.
 - 6—Explosion entombs 400 miners at Monongah, W. Va.
 - 8—Death of King Oscar II. of Sweden and accession of his son as Gustaf V.
 - 11—President Roosevelt reiterates his declaration that he will not again be a candidate for chief executive.
 - 16—Dust explosion kills 75 men in mine at Yolande, Ala. . . . Great war fleet sails from Hampton Roads for Pacific.
 - 17—Death of Lord Kelvin, English scientist.

New Principle in Structural Work.

A new principle in engineering practice is described by the Scientific American in the case of a lookout tower built by Alexander Graham Bell, in which the structure is composed of tetrahedrons, and is said to be the first iron structure built on this principle. Each tetrahedral cell, which is the unit of construction, is made of one-half inch iron piping, and measures exactly 48 inches from tip to tip. Two hundred and sixty of these cells were employed in the tower, which rises 70 feet above the ground. Some of the advantages claimed for this method of construction are lightness, great rigidity, rapidity and ease of construction, very little false work being required, and the facility with which any part may be renewed.

Yellow and black pearls are in demand in Europe.

More potatoes are eaten in Belgium than in Ireland.

NEWS ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

NEW KLAMATH INDUSTRY

Stockmen Organize Company to Operate Packing House.

Merrill—The organization of the Klamath Packing & Commercial company, incorporated is about complete. The capital stock is \$500,000.

The company has purchased of N. S. Merrill ten acres of land at the foot of Front street, bordering on Lost river. The object of the concern will be to pack and ship all kinds of meat. During the past season over 25,000 head of cattle and sheep have been driven through this city to Montague and thence shipped to Sacramento and Oakland, where they are slaughtered for market.

There are many conditions which make this long drive and shipment unsatisfactory. Among these are the loss of flesh on the 100-mile drive, the damaging of meat caused by the good stick of the cartender, the fevered condition resulting from the close confinement, the cramped position in the crowded cars, and the general unfitness for market of the four footers upon arrival at their destination.

The slaughter of these animals in this county will insure perfectly healthful and palatable meat, will eliminate the shrinkage, and will double the profits of the stock raiser, as he will receive not only his first profit as producer, but as a stockholder in the company will receive a second profit as wholesaler.

Because of the lateness of the season, comparatively little work can be done this year, but the company will be put upon a working basis and several hundred head of hogs will be converted into hams, bacon and lard. Early next spring conveniences for the preparation of all by-products will be installed.

ASK TIME ON RANGE TAX.

Wallowa Sheepmen Don't Want to Pay \$14,000 Until Next August.

Enterprise—At a meeting of the Wallowa County Woolgrowers, in this city, resolutions were adopted requesting the government to defer collection of range dues until after shearing, or about August 1. The sheepmen of Wallowa pay about \$14,000 for rent of ranges, and this would be hard to raise under the present scarcity of money.

It was recommended that the present county bounty of \$1.50 a head on coyotes be continued, and 1 1/2 cents a head tax on sheep be levied to pay for it. There are 146,000 sheep being fed in Wallowa county this winter. Twenty-two sheepmen joined the state association and with the \$2 yearly dues and \$2 assessment on each 1,000 sheep sheared last June, the sum of \$257 was collected and sent to the state body.

To Develop Oregon Borax.

Burns—The Oregon Borax company, of which Joseph Gaston, of Portland, is president, has commenced the work of developing the soda and borax deposits at Alkali lake, on the edge of Lake county near the Harney county line at Gray's Butte. A large amount of lumber has been ordered for permanent buildings, and Superintendent Zell Young, with a party of carpenters, is on the ground to carry on the work. In addition to these preparations, the sheet iron for boiling and settling tanks has been ordered in California and will be shipped up to the lake by the narrow-gauge railroad from Reno to Alturas, where the tanks will be constructed on the grounds.

Warnings to Entrymen.

Lakeview—The numerous decisions rendered the commissioner of the general land office no longer leave any doubt in the minds of homesteaders as to what they must do if they expect to hold the lands in the Southern Oregon pine belt. In every case of contest where it was shown that the homesteader had failed to comply with the law in any particular, no matter how trivial, the decision has gone to the contestant and the homestead entry has been ordered cancelled.

Gold Cane for Calbreath.

Salem—The medical staff of the Oregon state insane asylum last week presented Superintendent J. F. Calbreath with a fine goldheaded cane as a token of their esteem. Dr. Calbreath has served eight years as superintendent and has enjoyed very harmonious relations with his subordinates and with the board of trustees. His second term ended January 1, when he was succeeded by Dr. E. L. Steiner.

Eugene Invites Visitors.

Eugene—The promotion department of the Eugene Commercial club has had notices printed and will hang them in every depot in the state, to the effect that strangers will be made welcome at the rooms of the club, and inviting any visitors to visit the city of Eugene. The cards state that the club has nothing to sell, but is anxious to be of any service it can to strangers.

APPLE SHIPMENTS INCREASE

Railroads Give Out Figures Showing Oregon's Sale of Fruits.

Portland—More than twice as many apples were shipped out of this state during 1907 than in 1906, according to reports compiled by the railroads. The Southern Pacific and O. R. & N. lines have completed figures showing the cars of apples shipped from every point on the allied lines, and the total number of cars is a surprise.

"Nearly all these apples were bought f. o. b. at the station nearest the orchards," said General Freight Agent Miller, of the Harriman lines. "This shows the fruit is in demand, and Eastern buyers come here in search of it. The prices this season are better than ever before. One station on our lines that never shipped an apple before this year sent away 40 cars to the East a short time ago. This indicates how the apple industry is going ahead. I predict it will only be a few years before apple growing will be one of the biggest activities of Oregon people."

Can't Use Wood.

Burns—The forest rangers of the Blue mountain forest reserve have fined several Harney citizens for cutting timber in the reserve without permits from the forest guards. The largest fine imposed was on B. A. Dickenson, who operates a sawmill about eight miles from Harney. He was caught taking timber from government land and fined \$300 for about 17 trees. The sawmill men have been making this a practice for years before the reserve was created, and thought it no harm to continue the practice. Last fall was the first time a forest guard has been stationed here to give permits for cutting timber for wood and other purposes. There has always been plenty of timber outside the reserve for wood and timber for building purposes until lately, when it was all secured by outside people, to be transferred in time to large timber companies.

Board Raises Teachers' Pay.

Oregon City—The teachers of the city schools will receive a substantial increase in salaries next year. This was assured at the annual meeting of the local district, at which a special tax of 3 1/2 mills was levied. The levy is 1 million excess of the recommendations of the board of directors, and the excess will be added to the salaries of the teachers, making the amount expended next year about \$10,000, in comparison with \$8,000 for the year just closed. The annual report of the directors shows the schools to be in a flourishing condition, and the financial report shows that the floating indebtedness is \$900 less than last year.

Clyde Sayne Acting President.

Salem—The executive committee of the state normal schools has elected C. E. Payne, of the department of science at Ashland normal, to serve as acting president for the remainder of this year in the place of B. F. Mulkey, resigned.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

- Butter—Fancy creamery, 35@37 1/2c per pound.
- Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8 1/2@9c; 125 to 150 pounds, 7c; 150 to 200 pounds, 5@6 1/2c.
- Poultry—Average old hens, 12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11 1/2c; spring chickens, 11@12c; roosters, 8c; dressed chickens, 14c; turkeys, live, 15c; dressed, choice, 18@20c; geese, live, 15c; ducks, 14c; pigeons, 11@15c; squabs, 12@13c.
- Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 32 1/2@35c per dozen.
- Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 6@6 1/2c; packers, 6@6 1/2c.
- Wheat—Club, 85c; bluestem, 85c; valley, 83c; red, 81c.
- Oats—No. 1 white, \$28; gray, \$28.
- Barley—Feed, \$27 per ton; brewing, \$31; rolled, \$30.
- Corn—Whole, \$32; cracked, \$33.
- Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$16 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$22@23; clover, \$15; cheat, \$15; grain hay, \$15@16; alfalfa, \$15; vetch, \$14.
- Fruits—Apples, 75c@82c per box; deaches, 75c@81c per crate; pears, \$1.25@1.75 per box; cranberries, \$9.50@12 per barrel.
- Vegetables—Turnips, 75c per sack; carrots, 65c per sack; beets \$1 per sack; beans, 7@9c per pound; cabbage, 1c per pound; cauliflowers, 75c@81c per dozen; celery, \$3.25@3.50 per crate; onions, 15@20c per dozen; parsley, 20c per dozen; peas, 11c per pound; peppers, 8@17c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1 1/2c per pound; radishes, 20c per dozen; spinach 6c per pound; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 1@1 1/2c per pound; tomatoes, \$1.50 per box.
- Onions—\$1.75@1.85 per hundred.
- Potatoes—60@65c per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, \$2.75 per cwt.
- Hops—1907, prime and choice, 5@7 1/2c per pound; old, 1@2c per pound.
- Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 13@20c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 18@20c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 29@30c per pound.