

## NO FOREST FIRES BURNING AS YET

WASHINGTON, July 16.—As the summer progresses without heavy fire losses on the national forests, the forest service is having hopes for small fire damage during 1913. Not only has the fire loss on national forests to date been gratifyingly small, but conditions everywhere except in the southwest, according to the officials of the forest service, are more than ordinarily favorable. They point out, however, that the situation may change almost overnight, and that a comparatively short period of general dry weather and high winds may bring disaster. The appropriations for fire fighting are not yet large enough to insure immunity from heavy losses.

A system of telegraphic reports from the field keep the chief forester at Washington informed as to conditions on the 163 forests under federal supervision. During the past week general rains in the far western states, with the exception of Arizona and New Mexico, have reduced the present fire danger to a minimum. But in the latter two states the weather is reported very dry, with occasional electrical storms that bring chances for fires set by lightning. Four fires are burning on the Coronado forest in Arizona, and during the past week there have been fifty-eight fires all told in the two southwestern states. The acreage burned is reported as 2090 acres, as against only 20 acres reported burned on national forests in all the other western states.

Thus far this season there have been 30,798 acres burned over on the national forests, or only sixteen-thousandths of one per cent of the acreage which the forests include.

### WILLIE RITCHIE TOURS CALIFORNIA IN AUTO

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 16.—A tour of Southern California is planned today by Willie Ritchie, world's lightweight champion, who has just bought a \$3000 automobile. He expects to leave the latter part of the week. The champion will be accompanied by Harry Foley, his trainer, his father, G. Steffen and Frankie Edwards, an Oakland pugilist.

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## CLOSE WATCH ON FISHERMEN KEPT

Chief Deputy Fish Warden Sam L. Sandry is back from a trip down the Rogue. He speaks of conditions existing as follows:

"Since the arrest and conviction of the Grants Pass fishermen last month, I find the majority of the men respecting the law more than heretofore. There are at the present time twenty-five to twenty-eight boats fishing in Josephine county and of course in a bunch like this, there are always a few that will take a 'chance in the foam,' by this, they mean under the dams."

"The deputies and I have kept a close watch on the river since the opening of the season, but as the commercial fishing is all done at night it would require a warden stationed every mile of the river to hold the 'fish hogs' down, and then they would have to go some."

"There is at the present time a good run of steelheads and if netting these fish were permitted the river would soon be depleted. Every opportunity we go through the fishermen's boats and boxes from stem to stern and this is where the big holler goes up, but we do it just the same. Both fishways at the Ament dam are in good condition and there is no reason why the boys will not have good sport from now on."

### NEW FORESTRY OFFICE TO ADJUST PRIVILEGES

WASHINGTON, July 16.—A law officer of forest appeals is a new position in the department of agriculture created by Secretary Houston. It will be filled by Thomas G. Shearman, formerly of the forest service. The new officer assumes his duties Wednesday and will be entirely outside the forest service and directly responsible to Secretary Houston.

Appeals from the chief forester's decision regarding homesteaders' claims for agricultural lands in national forest reserves, grazing privileges, timber sale rights and like matters will be referred to Shearman for final decision.

### PLAYER WHO STRUCK MANAGER J. J. MCGRAW



Ad Brennan, the Philadelphia National League baseball player, who struck Manager John J. McGraw of the New York Giants, and beat him badly after a recent game in Philadelphia, has been suspended for five days and fined \$100. McGraw at the same time has been suspended for five days and fined \$100. McGraw at the same time has been punished for his part in the row. He was suspended for five days, but President Lynch of the National league, thinking his part was not so serious, failed to levy a fine.

### KLAMATH INDIAN LANDS FOR SALE

KLAMATH FALLS, July 16.—Nearly two thousand acres of Indian lands, classified as inherited and non-competent Indian lands are to be offered for sale September 12th. Announcement to this effect has been made by Indian Agent Edson Watson and the sale is being advertised.

The lands are located in various parts of the Klamath reservation. Some are heavily timbered, while others are choice farm lands.

These tracts are the allotments made to Indians who have since died. In order to settle the matter, the heirs in each case have asked for a sale, and the tracts will be disposed of to the highest bidder by the Indian service. The money derived from the sale of each allotment will be divided among the heirs of that Indian.

## BRITAIN FIXES UP INDIAN STATIONS

LONDON, July 16.—An extensive program of improvements of naval stations and defenses in the West Indies, in view of the proximity of the opening of the Panama canal was unofficially published here today. All the principal British harbors in the Caribbean, it was learned today, have already been surveyed in order to furnish material for a comprehensive scheme of defense which the Admiralty and the war office are now jointly considering. Among the recommendations already adopted is one for the establishment of a large coal- and oil-bunkering station for the exclusive use of British war ships at Castries Harbor, St. Lucia. It is likely also that the plan of the Colonial government, prepared several years ago, for a similar fuel depot in Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, but which was not carried out for lack of funds, will now be undertaken by the Admiralty.

Recently the Jamaican authorities bought a large site abutting the harbor of Kingston in order to deal with an extra demand for coaling, docking or repairing facilities. It is understood that the government's scheme includes also the creation of a naval base at Fanning Island on the Pacific side.

### KISSING SOOTHES NERVES SAYS SAVANT

BERLIN, July 16.—In a long article, carefully prepared months ago, and printed in a local publication today, Professor Adolph Paskau, of Breslau, strongly champions osenation. "Far from being harmful," says the noted savant, "kissing may soothe the nerves, and have a really beneficial effect, physiologically." This pleasing note in the article is based, says the savant on experiments. He doesn't say if the experiments were personal ones. "Humanity has survived kissing ten thousand years," the article continues, "and it will survive many more ten thousand, if the world last that long. It is doubtful if any one ever contracted tuberculosis through kissing—at least not in Germany."

## HERMIT THREATENS LUTHER BURBANK

CRAIG, Colo., July 16.—Minus his artillery, "Uncle Bill" Austin, an old hermit living near here, was released today, following his arrest for making threats to kill Luther Burbank, the California plant wizard, whom he accuses of stealing the results of his vegetable experiments.

When arrested, Austin said he was on his way to California to kill Burbank. He carried a rifle, two revolvers, a knife and several kinds of poisonous herbs.

For several years the old man has experimented along similar lines to those employed by Burbank. He claimed Burbank had stolen his process for the creation of a seedless blackberry. After an investigation it was decided that he was harmless, if unarmed.

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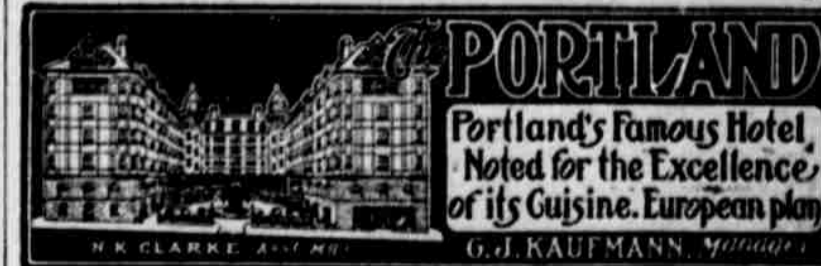
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