

FIRE FIGHTERS BELIEVED DEAD

THREE HUNDRED ARE MISSING IN COUER D'ALENES

NO HOPE HELD OF THEIR RESCUE

Fire in Idaho the Worst Ever Known There—Were Working in Piece-by Piece Burning Section

United Press Service.

WALLACE, Idaho, August 23.—Three hundred government fire fighters in the Couer d'Alenes are believed to be dead. This appalling information was given out by Supervisor Weigelo today, who declares that 300 of his force of 600 are missing. All hopes of rescuing them alive have been abandoned.

"I had 600 men working at the north of the headwaters of the Couer d'Alene, about 60 miles from Wallace, and at the headwaters of the St. Joe river, 100 miles south of Wallace," said Supervisor Weigelo. "Up to 5 o'clock this morning the 300 who were working in the worst section where the flames raged the fiercest have not been accounted for. I have never seen conditions so appalling. The flames defied all resistance, and are rushing at a rate of from 20 to 70 miles an hour. They have swept everything before them."

CRUELTY OF SMALL BOY ASTONISHING

Drove a Nail Into a Dog and Strangled Chickens to Death for His Amusement

NEW YORK, August 19.—Ernest Diers is said to be the worst boy that ever lived in New Jersey. He is only 8 years old. His father is Ernest Max Hermann Diers of Fairview. The boy is now at the Bergen County Children's home at Hackensack, locked up in the juvenile offenders' room pending his removal to the reform school.

"This Diers boy is the worst I ever heard of," said Justice Phillips yesterday. "In the first place, Ernest is a moral degenerate, and for a boy of his tender age some of his immoral acts are really astounding. He is incorrigible and defies his parents. He is brutal beyond all comprehension. Recently he slowly strangled two chickens, and his face beamed with fiendish delight as he watched the chickens struggle. He threw their bodies over a fence."

"He next tied a dog to a post and after fastening the legs proceeded to drive a nail into the dog's body. The yells of the dog only increased the power behind the blows, and not until the flesh was penetrated and the blood came did the child stop his work."

"Two days ago the lad slashed his brother's head with a scythe because he had more apples than Ernest did. This boy will have to be carefully watched."

Deputy Superintendent W. H. Bratt of the Children's home locked Ernest up for the safety of the other inmates.

ENGLISH HORSE MEAT SOLD AS UNITED STATES BEEF

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 19.—That British meat dealers are in the habit of palming off horse meat on the inhabitants of Northern Europe as American beef is charged in a report to the state department.

The light-haired Teutons in the countries of Northern Europe are averse to eating horse meat; wherefore they protested when reports were spread among them to the effect that horse meat was being shipped to them from the United States via England under the guise of beef.

When the state department learned of this it instructed the American consuls at Hull and Newcastle, England, through which ports it was said the meat was being reshipped to the countries on the continent, to investigate the conditions.

Both consuls reported to the state department that no horse meat from the United States has reached the English ports.

Walter C. Hamm, American consul at Hull, informed the department that while no horse meat from the United States has reached that port, "there has been a traffic in live, worn-out English horses between Hull and continental ports."

MAN ASTRIDE A POLE IN WELL FOR TWELVE DAYS

RALIEGH, N. C., August 19.—After straddling a pole thirty feet below the surface of the earth and within eight feet of water for twelve days in an old, unused well near Bagley, a station on the Atlantic

Coast line in Johnson county, N. C., a young German was found still alive and in the act of eating a frog.

On July 27th Mrs. Hattie Watson whose farm is near Selma, and in whose employ the recent importation from Germany was, sent him to Bagley. On the way he met two men, Charley Creech and Doc Jones, who were apparently intoxicated. They threatened the German. Thoroughly frightened, he took to his heels to escape violence.

For ten days a search had been made for the missing man and Creech and Jones were about to be arrested for his supposed murder. A searching party carefully looked down the well as they were passing by it, and discovered the man, who had been there twelve days. He had fallen into the well and lodged on the cross pole.

WILL MAKE HIS CROPS HURRY

Texas Man to Keep Lamps Burning All Night on 900-Acre Farm

COTULLA, Tex., August 19.—D. A. Walker is preparing to put electricity to remarkable use in his farming operations in the valley of the Nueces River, a few miles south of Cotulla. He owns 900 acres of land, which will be converted into a model farm.

He has had plans drawn for a dam which he will erect across the river to afford a water supply for operating a hydro-electric plant which he will install and for irrigating the land.

Mr. Walker is an expert electrician, being president and general manager of the San Antonio Independent Telephone company's exchange. He has conducted experiments in the use of electricity in growing different kinds of vegetation and is convinced that wonderful success can be obtained by employing this agency on a large scale.

He will run transmission lines all over his farm. Every fifty feet he will string a Tungsten lamp. These lamps will serve a two-fold purpose. It is claimed that by keeping them burning at night the growth of the crops will be greatly stimulated and that the products will reach maturity much quicker than where they are dependent upon nature.

The other purpose of the lamps will be to protect the growing crops from frost during the winter season. An effort will be made to raise various kinds of tropical products. The lamps will be kept burning every night in the year, and two shifts of labor will be employed, one during the day and the other at night.

Mr. Walker expects to place his lighting experiment in operation on 200 acres of land this fall. He will plant a great variety of vegetables. He is also arranging to plant 100 acres in fig trees.

400,000,000 CHINESE TO CUT THEIR QUEUES

Regent Prince Chun Ready to Give the Order and Rioting is Feared If Order is Given

PEKING, August 22.—An imperial edict promulgated by the regent, Prince Chun, instituting the most modern reform in Chinese life, is being prepared. It directs 400,000,000 Chinese to cut off their queues. The order will be issued as soon as the grand council deems public sentiment ripe for the radical change from an immemorial custom of the Mongol.

Behind the order lies one of the greatest fights in recent years between the reform Chinese and the older officials of the grand council.

Prince Tsai Tao, who, with Tong Shi Yi, bore the imperial thanks to Washington for the remission of the Boxer indemnity, is sponsor for the reform. After a tour of the world Prince Tsai told the grand council that Chinese generally were ridiculed because of their queues.

He called upon Prince Chun to authorize an edict. Wu Yuk Sang, a member of the council, supported by many of the other members, objected and incurred the wrath of the regent, who ordered the severance of Wu Yuk Sang's official queue. Prince Chun first will order the soldiers of the Chinese army to cut their queues; then will come the navy, and lastly the people.

The queue has been worn by the Mongolians as a badge of obedience to the Tartar or Manchu sovereignty, and although the Manchu dynasty still is on the throne and hated by the Mongols, it is feared that a sudden order to abandon the queues will cause much rioting.

ROCKEFELLER'S HOME IS ASSESSED AT \$300,000

TARRYTOWN, N. Y., August 19.—The Tarrytown assessors again have raised their estimate of the valuation of John D. Rockefeller's home at Pocantico Hills. This year it goes on the rolls at \$300,000, instead of \$250,000. Mr. Rockefeller has sent word that he is perfectly satisfied with the additional assessment.

MANY LIVES HAVE BEEN LOST

IDAHO AND MONTANA CITIES IN RUINS

Millions of Dollars Worth of Property Has Been Destroyed—Fire Fighters Are in Danger

SPOKANE, August 22.—Half of Wallace, Idaho, is in smoking ruins and Taft, Mont., St. Regis, Wash., and Avery, Idaho, have been destroyed by forest fires. The situation is the gravest today that has been so far. Thirty bodies have been recovered from the fire zone and more are missing. The death list at Wallace will total 50, and only seven have been recovered.

Eighteen are missing at St. Joe, Idaho, and it is said that 180 fire fighters are surrounded by the flames. A rescue party is endeavoring to reach them.

Three thousand refugees arrived here last night and this morning. The hotels and homes have been thrown open to them. The hospitals are caring for the sick and the nurses and doctors are leaving for the burning section. The flames are increasing every minute, and many settlements are doomed. The loss is estimated to run into the millions.

High winds are threatening Wallace, but it is hoped that the remainder of the town may be saved.

There is no hope to save Burke, Idaho, and the fire fighters there are exhausted.

138 Reported Lost at Avery

ELLENBURG, August 22.—It is reported that 138 fire fighters were burned to death at Avery, Idaho, by the forest fire which destroyed that town last night. The details are very meagre, and the reports have not yet been verified.

Fire at Forest Hill

NEVADA CITY, August 22.—Supervisor Bigelow of the Tahoe National forest reserve received a message today stating that the fire raging in Forest Hill, Placer county, was getting beyond control. One supposed incendiary fire was started at the hoisting works of the Bullion mine. The entire plant was destroyed. The plants of other mines were also destroyed. There are 150 men engaged in fighting the fire, and double that number is needed. Miles of the reserve are burning, and the fire is gaining rapidly. Troops will be sent as soon as available. Every available man is exhausted from fighting the fire in Nevada county.

Secretary Bigelow wired San Francisco this afternoon for troops to aid in fighting the fire at Forest Hill.

Clearwater Reserve Again Aflame

LEWISTON, August 2.—The Clearwater national reserve is again aflame and high winds renders the work of the rangers worthless. For miles the forest is a great furnace, and the progress of the fire cannot be checked. Over 800 men are fighting the flames.

Burke at the Mercy of the Flames

PORTLAND, August 22.—Burke, Idaho, ten miles from Wallace, is now at the mercy of the forest fires, according to advices received this afternoon. The town is afire, and notwithstanding the energies of all the available men it is believed the town is doomed. Burke has a population of about 1,000.

Idaho Towns Doomed

RATHDRUM, Idaho, August 22.—Athol, Granite, Sovern and Dry Wood are isolated by the flames. Before wire communication failed the inhabitants were pleading piteously for help.

Troops to Aid Fire Fighters

PORTLAND, August 22.—Companies A and I of the First infantry, numbering 252, and a pack train are en route to Medford to aid the fire fighters. The Crater national forest fire is the worst. Four companies go to Butte Falls to fight the conflagration near Ashland. Acting Governor Bow-orman of Oregon is preparing to issue a call for volunteers. He intended to call the militia, but found the law did not authorize him to do so.

Train Thought to Be Lost

SPOKANE, Wash., August 22.—That a train load of 42 refugees and nine nurses was probably burned to death near Wallace, while fleeing from Missoula, Mont., was admitted by Northern Pacific officials today. Railway officials say that all trace of the train has been lost. Reports from the fire zone indicate that the refugees perished. There was 42 patients from the Providence hospital at Wallace, Idaho, and were in the care of nine sisters of charity.

ROOSEVELT WILL TOUR THE PACIFIC COAST

NEW YORK, August 19.—It is predicted that Ex-President Roosevelt will tour the Pacific Coast next March.

OLD FORT KLAMATH IDEAL SPOT

GOVERNMENT MAY SELECT THIS COUNTY FOR MANEUVERS

Land Owners Around American Lake, Wash., Charging Too Much, and Uncle Sam Will Move

Two years hence Klamath county may be scene of the maneuvers between the state militia from Washington and Oregon and the United States troops from Vancouver and other Western forts. The reason for this is mainly because of the exorbitant rates that have been charged by the owners of the land surrounding American lake in Washington, where these maneuvers have been held in the past.

The first intimation that Klamath county was being considered in this light came in a dispatch to the Oregonian from American lake. This message stated that a certain locality near Klamath Falls would in all probability be the scene of the next maneuvers, that particular section having been highly recommended by the army officers that investigated it and made a report to the secretary of war. All of the expense connected with the maneuvers is met by the government, and it rests entirely with the county whether this county shall be selected or not.

There is no section on the coast that is better adapted for the purpose of the encampment than that surrounding old Fort Klamath. That this is the section referred to as having met the favor of the army officers is almost certain, for it combines all the attributes necessary for the carrying out of the plans for the sham battles that are fought during the gathering together of the troops engaged in the work.

If Klamath county should be selected it would be a big thing for this county, and especially for the northern part of the county. It would mean the bringing here of thousands of men every two years, with the possibility that the annual encampment of the state militia would also be held on the same grounds.

This is a matter that should be looked into and everything possible done to keep Klamath county prominently before the war department as a site for these maneuvers.

BRITISH CRUISER GROUNDS OFF THE KOREAN COAST

Eighteen Men Are Drowned and the Vessel May Be a Total Loss. Crew Numbered 687 Men

LONDON, August 22.—An exchange telegraphic message reports that the British cruiser Bedford had grounded on Queltch island off the coast of Korea, and that eighteen of the crew were drowned. The vessel went aground yesterday en route from Wei Hai Wei to Nagasaki with the squadron. Captain Fitzhubert was in command. The cruiser carried a crew of 687 men and cost \$3,500,000. It is feared it will be a total loss. The cruisers Minotaur and Monmouth attempted to render the vessel aid, but were forced out to sea by the gale.

GLAD TO BE OUT OF IT, SAY ROOSEVELT'S FRIENDS

NEW YORK, August 19.—It is believed that recent events have decided Roosevelt not to participate in any way in the New York campaign.

Though the Colonel is glad to escape the responsibilities of the campaign, believing that Republican defeat is not probable. It is intimated that if the democrats win and the republicans drift backward, Roosevelt will take command of affairs, and may run for president in 1912. Griscom wants Roosevelt to make a fight on the state convention but other advisers oppose the plan, saying that even if Roosevelt gains control of the convention, the old guard probably would bolt, and Roosevelt would then face the responsibility of a democratic victory at the next election.

ENGLAND TAKING GREAT PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CHOLERA

Officials Are Required to Inspect All Immigrants From Russia and Italy Before Landing

LONDON, August 22.—The officials of the various ports of England have been ordered to examine all arrivals from the continent to prevent the introduction of cholera which is raging in Italy and Russia. Over 15,000 Russians have already been detained, besides hundreds of Italians. The English health officers say that 50,000 are dead in Russia from the dreaded scourge. Rome denies that there is cholera in that city.

SITUATION IMPROVING IN THE NORTHWEST

PORTLAND, August 19.—The forest situation is improving in the Northwest. Southern Oregon, North-

ern Idaho still report many fires, but the majority of them are of small dimensions. Rain in Eastern Washington has saved the day there, and the fires are all under control. Twenty-five fires are reported in the Crater lake section, which are being fought by soldiers.

TAKES TWENTY HOURS TO LAND MONSTER STURGEON

George Matthews Gets 271-Pound Catch in an All-Night Fight

OROVILLE, Calif., August 19.—People went to bed and got up, papers went to press and were sold, twenty hours elapsed, and all that time, in the Feather river near Oroville, a monster sturgeon, 8½ feet long, was fighting to free himself from the line of George Matthews, August Johnson and his son.

At half past one Sunday the fish was hooked by Matthews and the struggle began which lasted until about 9 o'clock on Monday morning. The sturgeon had been seen before several weeks ago, and broke from M. E. Phaire and R. Saville, who hooked it. Matthews was equipped with a steel rod, a bass line and hook made especially for the sturgeon.

The sturgeon took the boat into thirty feet of water, so that it was impossible to spear him. At one time the fish cleared the water, nearly swamping another boat near by. Shots were taken at the gigantic fish, but none was effective. The fish showed no exhaustion until morning, when, to the joy of the crowds on the bank the three men landed with their catch, which weighed 271 pounds.

Mrs. Mary E. Voorhees of Corona, N. Y., is visiting her son, I. S. Voorhees, who is connected with the reclamation service.

ROAD WORK WILL BEGON ON FRIDAY

HAUL THE ROCK THE COUNTY CRUSHER BREAKS UP

Some Improvement Should be Made Between Here and Lakeview—Needed Very Badly

The county rock crusher which was at work crushing rock to repair the Anderson road near the Carr ranch on the Merrill road, finished that work last Friday. As soon as that was completed the crusher began crushing stone for the repair of other roads in that vicinity.

The farmers have asked the county court to furnish them with stone so that the road in various parts of the district near Merrill may be fixed up, and they have agreed to furnish the farmers all the crushed rock they can use if they will spread it on the road themselves. This they have agreed to, and the crusher will be put to work breaking stone for the farmers near Merrill to spread on the place where they believe them to be most needed.

While this is a most commendable proceeding on the part of the county court, they should not forget that there are other roads that need attention, particularly the one between this city and Lakeview. All the money paid out on that road will be well expended, as it is one of the most traveled highways in the county, and one over which an enormous amount of freight goes.

W. W. Patch is away on a trip to the lava beds in Modoc county, inspecting the work there and also the soil survey which the reclamation service is making.

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