

FIGHTING THE FOREST FIRE

DISASTERS THIS YEAR HOLD THE RECORD

Government Issues Bulletin Telling How to Combat the Flames. Skilled Men Needed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Officials of the United States department of agriculture are of the opinion that 1910 will hold the record among many years for the severity of the losses from forest fires. The summer fires following a spring season believed to have been the worst, certainly in the lake states, known for a long time. Nor is it wise to assume that the danger is over when the fierce conflagrations which have called forth in the mountain states the efforts of three federal departments have been conquered. The forecasts will not be safe until the fall rains and snows have once more made a wet blanket of the dry forest floor. That the total losses of the year will run up to many millions of dollars is considered certain.

How such losses may be prevented is a matter of general public concern. To the national forest timber burned must be added great amounts on state and private holdings, besides the immense damage done to town, farm and other property. Railroads have suffered from the interruption of traffic as well as from direct losses. A bulletin by Forester Henry S. Graves discusses forest fires and the proper methods of preventing and fighting them, as follows:

Fires May Be Prevented

"In some sections of the country forest fires have always been of such common occurrence that there is a popular notion that they cannot be prevented. The risk from fires can never be entirely eliminated, for in the forest there is always inflammable material which is very easily ignited. They may, however, be largely prevented, and under efficient organization their damage may be kept down to a very small amount. The problem is like that in cities, where fires can never be entirely eliminated, but where the risk of loss to property may be reduced almost to insignificance."

The importance of systematic provision for the early discovery of fires and for getting a properly equipped force of fire fighters quickly to the scene of an outbreak is insisted upon by Forester Graves. "A careful supervision or patrol during the dry season," he says, "is one of the most important measures in organized forest protection. One of the fundamental principles in fire protection is to detect and attack fires in their incipient stage." After pointing out the value of lookouts, telephone or signal communication and various methods of patrol, the forester tells how to fight fires, as follows:

Principles of Fire Fighting

"The principles of fighting forest fires are essentially the same as those recognized in fighting fires in cities. The following are of first importance: (1) Quick arrival at the fire; (2) an adequate force; (3) proper equipment; (4) a thorough organization of the fighting crew, and (5) skill in attacking and fighting fires. Quick access to fires is accomplished through the work of supervision and patrol in discovering fires before they have gained much headway, and by a well-developed system of communication through the forest by roads and trails.

"A small fire may be put out by one man, but in extensive forests several hours may pass before the fire can be reached. It is important to secure an adequate force of men and to get them to the fire quickly. In a well-organized system of patrol the guard who discovers a fire communicates quickly to other guards and to headquarters by telephone signal, or other means, and indicates the number of men he needs.

Need Skilled Men

"The efficiency of the fire fighting crew depends very largely on their skill and experience, and particularly on the skill and experience of the man directing the work. It is not only a question of knowledge of how to assign each man where his work will be most effective, but there must be judgment exercised in determining the general method of attack.

"The condition of the atmosphere, the strength and direction of the wind, the rapidity with which the fire is running, and many other points have to be taken into consideration."

After describing how surface fires may be put out by beating, by throwing sand or loose earth, and by other methods, the account goes on: **Methods of Attack.**

"Sometimes the front of the fire is so fierce that it is impossible to meet it directly. One method under such circumstances is to direct the course of the fire. The attack is made on the sides near the front, separating the forward portion of the fire from the main wings. A part of the crew

attacks the forward part and others go down and extinguish the wings. The front of the fire, attacked from the sides is forced gradually and constantly into a narrower path. Usually the front can be directed toward some cleared space, road, pond, stream, swamp or fire line, when it will be checked enough to admit of a direct front attack. Sometimes by this plan the front may be rapidly narrowed by working from the sides, until it is at last entirely extinguished. The plan of giving direction to the course of the fire has often been successfully carried out when the fighting crew is too small for a direct attack.

"When fires gain such headway that it is impossible to stop them by direct attack, no matter how numerous and efficient the crew or complete the equipment for fighting, back firing becomes the only means of stopping the fire. It should, however, be used only when it is absolutely necessary. One of the commonest mistakes in fighting fires is to overestimate the rapidity of the fire and the difficulty of putting it out. A forest fire is always a frightening spectacle, particularly if it is sweeping in the direction of one's own property. Men often become excited and start back fires when it is entirely unnecessary. Back firing necessarily involves deliberate burning over property. When this belongs to another person and one's own forest seems in danger there is a great temptation to sacrifice it.

Back Firing
"If it is found that a back fire is necessary, a favorable point is selected in front of the fire, from which to set the new fire. This must be a point where it is safe to start a back fire, such as a road, fire line, stream or swamp. The leaves are ignited at points five feet to a rod apart for a distance not greater than the estimated width of the head of the fire. These small fires gradually meet and form a continuous line, eating back against the wind. A part of the crew is stationed across the road or other break from which the back fire is started and put out at once the small fires which may result from the sparks blown over from the back fire.

"The meeting of the two fires stops at once the head of the main fire. It is usually possible then to attack the wings with the ordinary methods of fighting. It is necessary to attack the wings at once, particularly if there is a strong wind, for otherwise each wing of the old fire would soon form an independent fire with a well-developed head. It is necessary, also, that a number of men be stationed where the original fire and the back fire meet in order to extinguish smoldering fires in tops, logs and other debris."

Always Danger
"A fire is never out" the bulletin concludes, "until the last spark is extinguished. Often a log or snag will smolder unnoticed after the flames have apparently been conquered, only to break out afresh with a rising wind. After the fire fighting crew has left the ground it is always well to assign at least one man to patrol the edges of the burned area until it is certain that the fire is entirely out. This may not be for several days."

SAN FRANCISCO GREATLY INTERESTED IN KLAMATH

Keep Posted on Conditions Here and Are Familiar With Progress of the City

E. R. Willis of the Willis Furniture company returned last evening from San Francisco, where he had been for the purpose of placing an order for furniture. One of the purposes of his trip was to purchase the furnishings for the W. P. Johnson residence, and he states that it is the largest individual order for furniture ever shipped to this city. While there he was continually besieged by people inquiring about Klamath Falls.

"I was never more surprised in my life" said Mr. Willis, "than I was by the knowledge of Klamath Falls possessed by those whom I met in San Francisco. As soon as a person learned that I was from this city they forgot everything else and started to talk about the city. They seem to keep thoroughly posted on the progress of affairs here, and in this respect seem better informed than many of the people who live here. They believe that Klamath Falls is the coming city of this part of Oregon, and everyone expressed a determination to come and look the country over."

PHILADELPHIA HAS OVER A MILLION AND A HALF

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 6.—Philadelphia's population is 1,549,008, according to the census returns.

Leave for School

Mrs. J. A. Best and children came down from Fort Klamath Thursday and left for Pendleton, Ore., this morning, where the children will enter school.

THE BASIS FOR APPROPRIATIONS

GOVERNMENT ENGINEERS LAYING OUT ROADS

Intention Is to Make the Park One of the Greatest Resorts in the Country

United States engineers, under the direction of Major I. J. Morrow, chief of the engineering corps, are busy at work in the Crater Lake national park, laying plans for a complete system of roads and trails in the park. There are three parties in the field making the surveys, and it is the intention to make one of the most complete systems of roads and trails that has ever been laid out in a national park.

Last year congress appropriated \$10,000 for the making of a survey of the park, the result of the work being what will eventually be the basis on which future appropriations for the improvement of the park will be made.

The United States geological survey has just completed a topographical and contour map of Crater Lake park, which shows all of the points of interest as well as the roads and trails through the park. This map will be published the first of next year.

The recent visit of Secretary Ballinger to Crater Lake park and his sincere appreciation of the beauties of that great pleasure ground has stimulated activity in the work, and officials of the government have assured those interested in the development of the park that the work of completing the roads and trails will be hurried as fast as possible.

It is the intention to make the park one of the greatest summer resorts in the world. It will not only be made a summer resort, but a tourist resort as well, and the improvements outlined by the engineers will make Crater Lake park equal to the Yellowstone in attractiveness.

The unexcelled fishing, the exhilarating climate and the delicious water form a combination that is difficult to find anywhere else. Alfred L. Parkhurst, manager of the Crater Lake company, which has the concessions in the park, was here this week, and stated that his company was building a large lodge on the south part of the rim of the crater. This lodge will contain a kitchen 24x40, a dining room 30x50, a main hall 40x60, with two fireplaces, and an administration room with lobby, lavatories, toilets and baths. The guests will be lodged in tents.

When the Oregon Trunk and the Southern Pacific railroads are completed near the park a magnificent hotel will be built on the opposite side of the crater, nearest the railroad, and close to a falls where the water drops over 300 feet.

Both the lodge and the hotel will be massive structures to withstand the weight of the heavy snow which falls during the winter months.

Crater Lake park is one of the natural wonders of the world, and the completion of the roads and improvements which the government contemplates doing will make it one of the most frequented spots in the West.

SUCCESSFUL IMITATION OF THE NOBLE RUBY

A gem expert of the British museum in a lecture the other day warned lay buyers of precious stones against investing in sapphires and rubies, which he said, could be produced artificially in such perfect condition that the difference between the product of the mine and that of the laboratory was all but imperceptible. The latest synthetic stones, indeed, are so perfect that even under a microscope their genuineness or not as a natural product cannot be positively guaranteed. European pawnbrokers are chary of lending money on rubies especially and consequently there is a slump in the value of that stone. The Russian czar suffers in pocket by this, as he owns one of the finest collections of rubies in the world. The St. Petersburg court jewelers estimate the loss in value of the czar's rubies at \$4,000,000. Some time ago he tried to take out a policy of insurance on them, but no company would accept the risk.—New York Sun.

LEE O'NEILL BROWNE FOUND NOT GUILTY

Man Charged With Lorimer Bribery Acquitted by Jury—Verdict Received With Cheers

CHICAGO, Sept. 9.—The jury in the case of Lee O'Neill Browne, charged with the legislative bribery in connection with the election of United States Senator William Lorimer, returned a verdict of acquittal today. They were ready to report at 3 o'clock, but were compelled to wait until Browne appeared. The verdict was cheered. The jury retired at 5 o'clock yesterday.

IKE HARRELL'S LIFE ENDED FRIDAY

SENTENCED BY JUDGE NOLAND ON JULY 9TH

Lost His Nerve at the Last, and Groaned as He Ascended the Scaffold Today

◆◆◆◆◆
◆ **IKE HARRELL** ◆
◆ ◆◆◆◆
◆ Murdered Walter and Herbert ◆
◆ Newell June 9th. ◆
◆ Captured June 14th. ◆
◆ Sentenced by Judge Noland July ◆
◆ 9th to hang September 9th. ◆
◆ Died on the scaffold at Salem ◆
◆ penitentiary at 12:30 today. ◆
◆ Born near Salem in 1862. ◆
◆◆◆◆◆

SALEM, Sept. 9.—Ike Harrell, the murderer of Walter and Herbert Newell in Lake county last June, ended his life on the gallows in the penitentiary at Salem at noon today.

The nerve which has sustained him until the last faltered him today, for he groaned as he ascended the scaffold from which he was soon to be launched into eternity.

The noose was adjusted and the trap was sprung at 12:30 today. The knot tore his neck when the rope tightened and the blood spurted from his jugular vein. Death was instantaneous.

The murder for which Harrell suffered the death penalty was one of the most cold-blooded ever committed in this part of the state.

Walter and Herbert Newell, aged 22 and 24 years respectively, were two of the most popular young sheep men in Lake county. By hard work and perseverance they had accumulated a large number of sheep. They started with a few pet lambs, and by buying lambs that had strayed from the flocks and those that had lost their mothers they accumulated over 4,000 head of fine sheep.

Harrell was working for the boys, but of late he had been negligent in his care of the flocks. One day in June the Newell boys went out to look at the herds and when they arrived at the flock that Harrell was in care for he was not to be found. He did not appear until 6 o'clock that night and Herbert took him to task for his failure to care for the sheep.

Kills Walter Instantly

The two had some words over the matter and Herbert told Harrell that he could leave and kneel down to write a check for the amount due Harrell. He held his checkbook on one knee, and as he was kneeling Harrell struck him with a heavy revolver he carried. Walter, who was standing near, saw Harrell's act and ran to his brother's assistance. As he came up Harrell fired one shot at him, the bullet striking Walter in the left breast, killing him instantly.

A young man named Allen was also working for the Newell boys and witnessed the murder of Walter. He was so frightened, however, that he mounted his horse and fled, thinking he was taking the road to Plush, five miles away, but in his fright taking the opposite direction.

Murder Not Believed

He reached Plush, however about 3 o'clock in the morning, and meeting Jack Kellihier told him of what had occurred. Kellihier had seen Harrell since the tragedy, and as he appeared cool and unconcerned he paid no attention to Allen's story, thinking the boy was mistaken.

Allen then returned to the sheep camp where the murder had taken place.

In the meantime, Herbert had recovered from the effects of the blow of Harrell's revolver, and evidently the latter had shot the boy either while he was lying on the ground or just as he was getting up, for the bullet had entered his right side and passed through his lung, coming out at the back. Harrell then walked away.

Writes Account of Tragedy

Herbert had strength enough to crawl to the tent and there wrote the following note:

"I was shot by Ike Harrell, and so was Walter. He turned the sheep loose and I fired him and told him he was no good, and then he pulled his gun, and Walter said: 'I am not afraid of you.' At that he shot me in cold blood, and then shot me. I had strength enough to come to camp, but am in such awful pain I cannot stand it any longer, and I know I will die anyway. Walter is about three-quarters of a mile southwest of here. **'HERBERT NEWELL'**

When Allen arrived at the camp again he discovered the body of Herbert in the tent, lying with his arms folded across his breast and the top of his head blown off. His rifle was lying across his body. It is evident that Harrell returned to the camp for some purpose, and seeing Herbert in the tent picked up the boy's rifle and shot him in the head, the bullet from

the high-power gun blowing the top of the young man's head off. The murderer then folded the boy's hands across his breast with the evident attempt to make it appear as though he had committed suicide.

As soon as Allen found Herbert's body he at once started for Plush again and gave the alarm.

Murderer Is Unconcerned

The murder occurred near Honey creek, about five miles from Plush, and after killing the boys Harrell walked toward Plush, sleeping in a haystack that night, and eating his breakfast in a Plush restaurant the next morning. He talked with a number of persons, and appeared as cool and unconcerned as though nothing had happened. He disappeared shortly afterward and was not seen again until captured by the posse.

As soon as Allen brought word of the tragedy a posse was at once organized and started for the place where the murder had been committed. The bodies of the two boys were found and brought to Lakeview.

Posse Start in Pursuit

The posses then started after the murderer. A reward of \$2,000 was offered for the capture of Harrell, but there was no need of an incentive to capture the fiend. Every man in the county was eager to get him.

The boys were killed about 6 o'clock in the evening of Friday, June 9th, and the following Tuesday Harrell was captured at 6 o'clock in the evening near Mud creek, a mile and a half from Stein's station, and eighteen miles from Lakeview.

A posse composed of Deputy Sheriff Arthur O. T. McKendree, Chas. Robinson, Billy Burch, Louis Monsa, Oliver B. Carroll, Jesse Sawyer, Jack Dubois, Man Wharton, S. C. Beckwith, Bob McCully, Lou McCally, Bert Wade and a young man named Allen started in one direction after the fugitive. Other men in automobiles, on

horseback and on foot were also in pursuit of the murderer.

Harrell Is Captured

The posse headed by Deputy Sheriff Arthur and Mr. McKendree saw Harrell as he was sneaking through the brush, and McKendree and Arthur opened fire on him. One of their bullets struck the stock of Harrell's gun, disabling it, and glancing struck Harrell in the leg. He threw up his hands in token of surrender, and was taken to Lakeview and lodged in jail.

Sentenced to Hang

Judge Noland and District Attorney Kuykendall were apprised of the murder, and they went to Lakeview where Harrell was given a hearing. He had confessed to the killing, and after he was given a chance to plead and the evidence had been presented, Judge Noland sentenced him to be hanged. Sentence was pronounced July 9th, and the date for his execution was set for September 9th, today.

Harrell was brought to this city and taken from here to Salem, where he was confined in the penitentiary until the day for his execution should arrive.

The only excuse Harrell gave for the murder of the boys was that "they bothered" him.

Ike Harrell was born near Salem in 1862, and came to Lake county in 1901. He killed the Newell boys on June 9th. On July 9th Judge Noland sentenced him to be hanged for the crime, and he pays the penalty for his bloodthirsty act today, Friday, September 9th, sixty days from the day he committed the murder.

With Harrell in the penitentiary is a man named Rosclair, who is to be hanged for the murder of a woman. Rosclair is afraid to die, while Harrell is just the opposite. He ridicules Rosclair for his weakness and boasts that while his companion is to hang for killing a woman, he took the lives of two men.

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