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CHINESE BURN THE MISSIONS

Missionaries in Chang Sha Attacked by Rioters and Their Missions Burned Take Refuge With Their Families on Warships.

CAUSE, HALLEY'S COMET

Claimed the Outbreak Was Caused By Chinese Officials Cornering the Rice Market and Exporting Rice—This Is Considered Only an Excuse as the Natives Are Superstitious and Are Greatly Alarmed Over the Reported Coming of the Comet.

Pekin, April 15.—Riots at Chang Sha have broken out following the demonstrations against the missionaries of the Wesleyan Inland Mission and today the governor's yamen, where the missionaries had taken refuge, was burned. The missionaries are reported safe on board a merchant ship. The mob has forced the abandonment of the British consulate and the customs house, and the situation is so serious that most of the foreigners here have sought safety aboard ships. Four British gunboats are on their way up the Siping Kiang river to quell the disturbance. The cause of the outbreak is said

to lie in the fact that Chinese officials cornered the rice market and exported much of the rice.

It is rumored however, that the cause lies much deeper and that a "rice riot" merely was used as an excuse to inflame the fury of the Chinese against the missionaries.

For some time there has been a noticeable unrest among them, and Christians have been the target for much abuse.

Many persons here, who are acquainted with the customs of the coolie class, declare that the rioting probably was caused by the stories of the approach of Halley's comet.

The ignorant laborers are greatly alarmed over the comet's approach, which they fear has been sent to punish them.

In seasons of fear they always try to propitiate the gods by killing the "foreign devils," say old-time residents.

The missionaries who lives were sought by the infuriated Chinese are: Rev. Robert Warren, Rev. W. H. Watson, Rev. Comper, Mrs. Comper.

All of them are Methodists. The mission has 700 converts at Chang Sha.

There is danger that the mob will turn on the converts and attack them.

No reports have been received of any other attacks on missionaries in Chang Sha.

Fair Weather for Census Man.

[UNITED PRESS LEASING WIRE.] Washington, April 15.—Uniformly fair weather was reported throughout the United States today when the army of census enumerators started on their work of taking the census of the country.

Director Durand is determined that the work shall be accomplished in record time. He expects that the preliminary count, which usually is within a hundred thousand of being correct, will be in within five days.

The certified figures of the population will be announced about 100 days later.

ESTRADA AGAIN ON WARPATH

His Army Strengthened and Recruited by Adventurous Yankees Gives Battle to Madriz and Drives Him From the Field.

BOTH SIDES LOST HEAVILY

Bluefields Rejoices Over Madriz' Defeat and Foresees a Speedy End to the War—Earthquake Does Not Seem to Have Cut Any Ice, as Nothing Is Said of It in the Dispatches—No Details of the Fighting, Much of Which Was Hand to Hand.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, by wireless to Colon, April 15.—Fighting between the Estrada and Madriz factions of the government of Nicaragua has been resumed, following a long truce. An engagement occurred yesterday between the armies somewhere on the road from Lamagua and Acopyapa, according to runners who reached here today.

Heavy losses are reported on both sides, as a result of the engagement. The Madriz army retreated late in the day to Acopyapa, where it is resting today.

The Estrada army, which was cut to pieces in the fighting around Man-

agua, when Estrada essayed an advance to the capital in an effort to crush the Madriz forces, has been reinforced by recruits, many of whom are said to be Americans.

After the defeat of the Estrada army there, Madriz began an advance on Bluefields. His troops got as far as Acopyapa, where he stopped to recruit and establish a base of supplies.

The threatened attack on Bluefields made the Estradists work desperately to recruit their army, and a force was sent to Acopyapa.

Part of the force, according to the reports received from the front, consisted of a number of Americans, attracted by the chances of adventure. The artillery was formerly commanded by General Gordon, of Texas, once reported killed. He endeavored to recruit a number of soldiers in New Orleans. The state department was asked to stop him, on the ground that the movement was one against a friendly power. Gordon abandoned his expedition, but is said to have induced a number of Americans to go to the front and enlist as individuals. This is the force that has given Estrada's army its great strength.

No details of the fighting have been received. The runners who brought the news say that the fighting was desperate and hand to hand, and that many soldiers on both sides were killed, but could give no definite idea of the loss. From the fact that Madriz' army fell back, it is believed that the victory was in favor of Estrada, and the people here who have supported the Estrada cause are jubilant.

Some of the heaviest fighting of the war has occurred near Acopyapa.

Idleness Means Vagrancy.

North Yakima, Wash., April 15.—The sheriff of Yakima county has ordered the arrest of every idle man. Five were arrested in Toppenish yesterday and sentenced to the chain gang today.

Idleness is henceforth to be an evidence of vagrancy here, the sheriff reasoning that with farmers crying for help, a man not working evidently doesn't want to work.

CENTRAL AMERICA IS SHAKEN

Violent Earthquake Shocks Do Immense Damage Through Entire Country—Hundreds Reported Killed, But News Is Meager.

THOUSANDS LEAVE CITIES

In Some Mountain Towns the Earth Opened and Engulfed Many Houses—All Business Is Suspended Throughout Costa Rica, Which Suffered the Worst—Interior Cities Are Practically Deserted—The People Taking to the Open Country.

Colon, Panama, April 15.—A dispatch from San Jose, Costa Rica declares that the earthquake shocks are becoming more violent and reports of loss of life are heavy. The heaviest loss of life, it is reported, is in the small towns north and west of San Jose.

In the mountain towns west of San Jose the earth opened and engulfed a score of houses, the reports say. The report of property damage is growing and it is believed it will cause an enormous total.

Business has been suspended throughout the republic. Telegraph lines are working intermittently. The government officials are al-

ready trying to organize relief expeditions and expeditions will be sent from San Jose today into the mountain regions, if the shocks subside somewhat.

Quakes Continue Today.

Colon, Panama, April 15.—Reports from the interior today say that many towns have been destroyed and a heavy loss of life has resulted from earthquakes which have shaken the whole of Central America. The shocks continue today but are not as violent as those of yesterday.

No definite report of the loss of life has been received, but it is reported that scores have been killed. It is estimated that the property damage will reach a million dollars.

In the interior cities today are practically deserted. Thousands have left San Jose and Costa Rica. They are camped in the open court outside the cities. The towns of Cartago, Liberia, Palanda, and San Ramon are reported among the heaviest sufferers.

Relief expeditions have been sent to these cities and full reports of the damage done are expected to be received soon. The Sierra De Tilaran range on the west coast of Costa Rica is believed to be the quake center.

Square Themselves With Taft.

[UNITED PRESS LEASING WIRE.]

Washington, April 15.—Amid loud cheers, the convention of the National Woman Suffrage association adopted unanimously a resolution thanking President Taft for the speech he delivered before the delegates. Reference to the issue with which a portion of the speech was greeted, was omitted from the resolution. It is declared that the delegates will take no formal notice of the incident, on the ground that the visitors in the hall, and not delegates to the convention took part in the demonstration against the convention's guest.

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[UNITED PRESS LEASING WIRE.]

London, April 15.—Three months, the builders say, will see the completion of the palace in course of construction at the west corner of Queen Anne's gate, London, for the English residence, as it is still rumored, of John D. Rockefeller.

Architect Ernest Runtz still insists that the building is wholly for the use of the directors and staff of the Anglo-American Oil Co., or English branch of the Standard. Estate agents familiar with the transaction

THE HOUSE OF JOHN D. IN LONDON

Oil King Building a Nine-Story Residence That Looks Down on all the Aristocratic Homes of the English Lordlings.

BLUE BLOODS COMPLAIN

Only John Outbid the English Government for the Site, Paying \$375,000 for It, and Whole Neighborhood Kicked Because They Thought a Business Block Was to Occupy the Land—Now They Kick Harder Than Before—Don't Like Oil Smell.

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(Continued on Page 5.)

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PERMANENT OPEN RIVER ASSOCIATION ORGANIZED

Raise in Rates Will Be Taken Before the Interstate Commission--Resolutions Endorsing the Free Locks and Canal Fight.

Albany, April 14. (Special)—The Open River and Freight Rate convention met here and there was a large delegation present from every town in the Willamette valley. The people of Albany had made all arrangements for a large and successful gathering, and concluded the affair with an elegant buffet lunch at the Alco club. The city was highly complimented by all the speakers for its fine appearance and spirit of progress.

Able Speeches Made. Very able speeches were made by W. S. McFaddon of Corvallis, I. H. Bingham of Eugene, and H. S. Gile of Salem. The first two spoke for the open river and the latter for the return of the arbitrary freight rate to valley towns. Harold M. Sawyer of Portland spoke of the Harriman

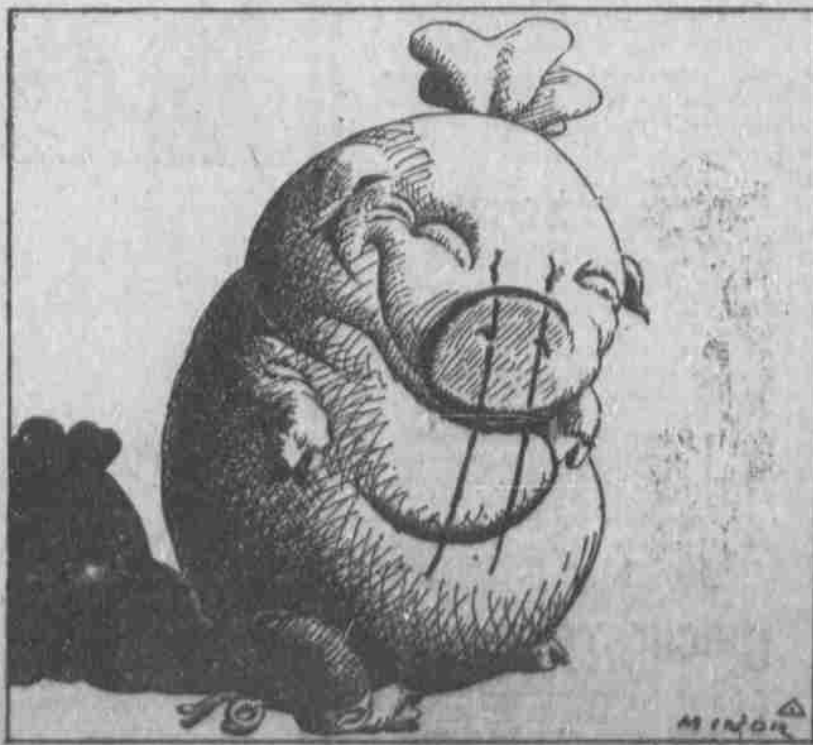
merger and closing the Sacramento gateway and its effect on freight rates, and recommended that the towns affected by the advance in freight rates make up a case before the interstate commerce commission.

Other Speakers Present. O. M. Kem of Cottage Grove, Mayor Matlock of Eugene, T. F. Ryan of Oregon City, M. O. Buren of Salem, J. R. Cartwright of Harrisburg, M. J. Lee of Canby, and Railroad Commissioner West of Salem, delivered addresses.

Battle for Free Locks. Col. E. Hofer, of Salem, recited the work done for the past three years to secure the action of the legislature that resulted in the state putting up a \$300,000 appropriation

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"PIGS IS"—GOLD.



—Minor in St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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