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W. P. Now Laying Rails South of Siuslaw River

Eugene, Or., Sept. 30.—The work of laying rails on that portion of the Willamette-Pacific grade just south of the Siuslaw river was started this week, according to Ralph Moody, attorney for the Southern Pacific company, who has returned from a trip to Mapleton

and Cushman, in company with Engineer H. P. Hoey, in charge of construction.

The big bridge across the Siuslaw will now permit the crossing of construction trains so that the rails may be laid past Tallcoos Lake and as far as Lake Tahkenic, where work on a long trestle is now in progress. After the track is laid ballast trains will be started out of the Natron pits.

LIVES ARE LOST AND PROPERTY DAMAGE IS GREAT

News Coming In Slowly From Storm Stricken Territory of New Orleans

Mobile, Ala., Sept. 30.—Thousands of dollars of damage and several lives lost were the estimated results today of the tropical cyclone which swept New Orleans yesterday. Wireless communication with vessels outside the city were the means available. These vessels said the storm had died down in the city, and has turned northeast with diminished violence.

Lake Ponchartraine was reported six feet over its banks, flooding the country for miles, while residents fled for their lives into New Orleans. The delta dikes are reported to have crumbled at many points. Trains are marooned, and service has halted between here and the crescent city.

Mobile escaped without serious loss, though the waves lashed over wharves and damaged several buildings. The death toll is believed to be the largest in small cities along Lake Ponchartraine and the Mississippi. Milburg and other New Orleans suburbs were reported under water. A long lane trestle was reported swept away between Bay St. Louis and New Orleans.

New Orleans is without light, telephone or trolley service. One of the big railway car barns is reported to have been toppled over by the hurricane whose velocity ranged from 90 to 130 miles an hour. A number of houses, too, crashed into ruins.

Pears were felt for the Southern Pacific Proteas, known yesterday to have been in the center of the storm. The revenue cutter Tallapoosa had the liner by wireless yesterday morning, but suddenly this communication ceased.

Much Property Wrecked.

Shreveport, La., Sept. 30.—Five to ten killed and much property wrecked was the reported toll in the New Orleans hurricane, according to advices reaching here before wires were prostrated by the storm.

All wire and train service with New Orleans and the Louisiana-Mississippi

coast district went out last night. The Peavy Byrne sawmill at Kinder, La., was destroyed by fire with a \$60,000 loss, while the gale threatened to spread the embers and wipe out the town.

The Texas Pacific has annulled its service to New Orleans because of the danger of crossing the Mississippi.

The Vicksburg, Shreveport & Pacific railroad dispatchers lost Vicksburg after a message from there said an east-bound passenger train had been delayed two hours at the crossing because of the high wind.

Ten Reported Killed.

Beaumont, Texas, Sept. 30.—Reports filtering in today over crippled wires from towns outside storm swept New Orleans indicated that the West Indian hurricane which hit that city Tuesday night and yesterday killed ten persons, injured more than 100, and destroyed more than \$1,000,000 worth of property. Direct communication with the city is shattered, but reports declared the telephone, light and trolley systems were shut off, the Masonic temple, many schools and churches were badly damaged. Warnings by the weather bureau were credited here with having saved many lives and much shipping. People fled into hotels or locked themselves securely in their homes, while shipping men saw to it that vessels riding in the harbor were securely anchored. Hence only small crafts suffered from the fury of the storm.

The force of the hurricane can be gathered from the fact that it swept through the city at a rate of nearly 130 miles an hour, according to wireless reports.

Washington, Sept. 30.—The weather bureau today was unable to communicate with New Orleans, through its usual channels, but hoped to be able to establish wireless communication before night.

Increased Price of "Hop" Drives Fiends From Frisco

San Francisco, Sept. 30.—The increased price of hop due to the passage of the Harrison act, March 1, has driven 5,000 "dope fiends" from San Francisco, Secretary Zeh of the state board of pharmacy said today.

On the streets and in the dens of San Francisco cocaine and morphine are selling for 50 cents and \$1.00 a "shot," where they sold for 15 cents and 50 cents three months ago. Opium has become a luxury among its users, rising from \$30 a tin to \$60 a tin.

Driven by their cravings, thousands of victims of the drug are flocking in to Los Angeles, where "hop" is some cheaper because it can be more easily smuggled into this country, via Mexico, Secretary Zeh said.

GARDEN OF EDEN SCENE OF CONFLICT

British and Moslem Battle On Site Made Famous by Fall of Man

By J. W. T. Mason.

New York, Sept. 30.—A most important victory for the British has been gained in Mesopotamia in the heart of the territory in which German statesmen planned to make future colonial expansion in Asia. When the English captured Kut-el-Amara, on the road to Bagdad, they made probable the fall of the Arabian Nights city before the end of the winter. Germany's ambitions, therefore, in this most fruitful region must disappear unless the Germans gain concessions in the peace conference after the war.

The Turks are demoralized and in some need of munitions, though they outnumber the British. The Germans at Constantinople have been prevented from reinforcing Mesopotamia or they would have done so long ago. A fresh Turkish army was sent out after the British had crossed the legendary site of the Garden of Eden, where the Tigris and Euphrates join. They attempted to make flank attack from the west, but were routed in July when their ammunition was exhausted.

BEARS RAID MARKET.

New York, Sept. 30.—Following on the heels of bull activity for several days past, the bears today raided the market, and sent prices tumbling. Selling was heavy in an excited market. A partial recovery had set in by afternoon, but not before many weak speculators' accounts had been wiped out. The market closed irregular.

WHEAT ADVANCES TODAY.

Chicago, Sept. 30.—September wheat jumped 11 points today in the pit before closing, hitting \$1.15 1/4. Because of delayed shipments due to bad weather, the shorts were caught and had to buy heavily to meet contracts today, the settlement day.

Josh Billings Said

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Plans to Make Study of Northwestern Apple Crop

Washington, D. C., Sept. 30.—Complying with numerous requests from the growers' councils, chambers of commerce, growers' and shippers' organizations in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, the office of markets and rural organization of the United States department of agriculture has made plans to establish temporary headquarters in the northwest for the study of the distribution of the 1915 boxed apple crop.

The plan as outlined is based upon assurance that the office of markets and rural organization will receive the

co-operation of all those interested in the apple industry, for without this co-operation the efforts of the office would not produce valuable results.

It is probable that the field headquarters for this work will be in Spokane, because of the necessity of that point to the apple territory in the northwestern states.

The work which the office will do is not that of a telegraphic market news service, but rather contemplates the collection by mail and the compilation of data and issuance of weekly bulletins concerning the shipments and destination of the northwestern boxed apples. In this connection similar work will be carried on to a certain extent in the apple section of Colorado, Utah and California.

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