

JOHN MUIR, NOTED NATURALIST, DIES

Famous Geologist Passes Away at Home of His Daughter, Near Los Angeles.

DISCOVERER OF GREAT GLACIER

He Made Scientific Investigations in Europe, Asia and Australia—Greatest Work in Mountains of the West.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 24.—John Muir, the naturalist, died in a hospital here of pneumonia. He was 76 years of age.

Mr. Muir was visiting his daughter, Mrs. Helen Muir Funk, at Daggett, a town in the desert of San Bernardino county. He was stricken with pneumonia last week. Doctors from Los Angeles were called into consultation Tuesday, and it was determined to bring him to this city for treatment.

When he arrived here last night, Mr. Muir was in a critical condition. He sank rapidly, death coming at 10 o'clock this morning. His daughter was with him.

John Muir, like John Burroughs, with whom his name often has been linked, belonged to that school of naturalists whose work was so fused with the writers' personality and so penetrated by individual feeling that their output was as much literature as science.

Philosopher and artist, as well as an observer, he took a creative delight in his work which no mere classification of details could have brought.

Native of Scotland. Born in Dunbar, Scotland, in 1838, Muir came to this country at the age of 11, and after graduating at the University of Wisconsin with the class of 1854, plunged immediately into his life work of geologist, explorer and naturalist.

His descriptions of the Yosemite valley first brought it into national fame, and his visit there left him with a love of the west which remained through all his travels and led him to make his home at Martinez, Cal., in his later years.

He chose a site in the Contra Costa valley, sheltered on one side by a wooded hill, and surrounded on three others by vineyards, orchards and streams, confronted by the towering outline of Mount Diablo. The grounds were a riot of pines, nativa cedars and exotic vegetation, for botany was one of Muir's delights.

To the great glacier Muir discovered in Alaska in 1881 his name was given, and as a member of the DeLong relief expedition he made further valuable polar reports.

Travels in Asia and Europe. Later his travels, partly in company with John Burroughs, took him to Hawaii, Russia, Siberia, Manchuria, India, and Australasia, but his life work was in the mountains of western America, where he made an elaborate classification of faunal and floral life, supplemented by much descriptive writing, both in book form and in the periodical press and the newspapers.

Harvard, Yale, Wisconsin and other universities granted him honorary degrees, and he was elected to membership in many scientific societies. Of recent years his signature was rarely seen, but he had remained sturdy and active until his sudden seizure by pneumonia.

Cutierrez and Villa Confer at the Capital; Carranza Won't Flee

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Provisional President Cutierrez and General Villa had a long conference last night in Mexico City, according to advices today from State department agents here. As no mention was made of any street fighting or friction between the followers of the two leaders, State department officials regarded their dispatches as evidence against reports that Cutierrez had been made a prisoner and that his forces had been engaged with Villa troops.

The dispatch, dated late last night, referred in optimistic terms to the progress being made in rehabilitating the central government.

Apparently confirming the State department view, the minister of foreign affairs in Cutierrez' cabinet, telegraphed the Washington representatives of Cutierrez today that there was absolutely nothing new in the situation in Mexico City.

General Carranza has no intention of leaving Mexico, according to a telegram dated yesterday, received at the Carranza agency here from Apizaco, a small town northeast of Puebla. In addition to requesting his representatives to deny all such reports, the message says:

"I am still in the town of Apizaco visiting the camps of our troops and find them in high spirits and eager to assume the offensive against the reactionaries. Necessities of the campaign demand that I visit the lines of operation, so that I may become acquainted with the necessities of the troops and keep in close touch with their movements."

A dispatch to the State department today says Carranza is reported to have reached Cordoba, on the line between Vera Cruz and Mexico City. His troops, it is added, have taken live stock and other articles at Orizaba and other places along the railway.

A dispatch from Mexico City states that General Villa has taken a house there and will remain there indefinitely.

Cotton for Bremen is Examined With X-Rays by Britons

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Official representatives of the British government examined with the X-ray today 10,000 bales of cotton consigned to Bremen, Germany, to determine whether any of them contained contraband of war. The cotton was being loaded aboard the steamship City of Savannah, which sails tomorrow. The X-ray machines, according to the English officials, had been especially designed for the purpose and enabled them to inspect the interior of the bulky cotton bales, which could easily conceal arms, ammunition or other contraband. They had decided to use this method, they said, after it was found that, owing to the varying weight of the bales, the scales could give no certain guarantee that each bale was honest.

Read the "For Sale" ads if you want bargains of the minute.



LION AND LION-KILLER—S. P. C. A. Officer Bickett and Allico, the lioness he killed. Below is a picture of Mrs. T. B. Gehedy, who escaped being cornered in a box by a lion by climbing to the balcony when six lions escaped from their cages on the stage of the Eighty-sixth Street theater in New York, invading the auditorium and creating a panic among the audience. One of the lions managed to get to the street and was finally cornered in the hall of a photograph studio. Three policemen and four others were shot or badly trampled during the panic.



GIRL NURSE'S CARE OF PRINCE REPAID

Interest Taken by French Woman in Dying Man Brings Boon to Maubeuge.

KINDNESS OF THE CONQUERERS

Father of Kaiser's Nephew Orders City Especially Favored Because of Considerate Action.

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) BOULOGNE, France, (via London), Dec. 24.—Because a young French Red Cross nurse took a particular interest in an 18-year-old German lieutenant who was brought unconscious into the hospital at Maubeuge and died three days later, the little manufacturing city of Maubeuge has been highly favored by its German conquerors and is enjoying a greater amount of freedom than any of the French border towns in German territory.

Proves to Be Prince. The wounded German proved to be the prince of Saxe-Meiningen, nephew of the emperor. He had suffered a fractured skull in an encounter with a French chasseur, and died without regaining consciousness.

At the suggestion of the little nurse, the local authorities rendered the prince the funeral honors due his rank, photographed the body and coffin and sent the photographs, together with the personal belongings of the prince, and a detailed account of his illness to his family at Meiningen. This occurred while the town was still under French control.

The young man's father, the duke of Saxe-Meiningen, acknowledged the courtesies in a letter expressing deepest appreciation, and later, when the Germans entered Maubeuge, he proved his gratitude by directing the troop occupying the fortress town to treat the inhabitants with the utmost consideration. The nurse was given a safe conduct through the German lines and has just arrived at Boulogne.

Smallest Man of Garrison. The chasseur, who was responsible for the death of the prince, was known as the smallest soldier in the Maubeuge garrison, but in the battle against the Prince's crack cavalry regiment, he acquitted himself with distinction.

Besides placing the prince hors du combat, he wounded and captured the prince's orderly, two troopers and a non-commissioned officer, thereby earning special mention in the official report of the engagement. A few days later he was himself, taken prisoner by the German reinforcements, which occupied Maubeuge.

German Astronomers Co-Operating With Russ Now Prisoners

(Correspondence of the Associated Press.) BERLIN, Dec. 24.—The astronomical observatories of Berlin, Hamburg, Munich and Potsdam have just issued a statement regarding the fiasco of the four German expeditions that went to the south of Russia to observe the total eclipse of sun on August 21. Although the expeditions were undertaken with the assistance of the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, the astronomers and their technical helpers were arrested and kept as prisoners for a time in Odessa. The older scientists were finally allowed to return to Germany, but the four younger men were kept at Odessa till November 14, when they were sent as prisoners of war to Astrakhan. Their valuable astronomical instruments had a still worse fate. They had to be left, packed in boxes, at Fedosa, in the Crimea, and they were later confiscated by the Russian government and given to the University of Odessa.

German Airman Crosses Channel; Drops Bomb Near Castle of Dover

LONDON, Dec. 24.—A hostile aeroplane dropped a bomb over Dover this morning and then disappeared, according to a statement this afternoon by the official press bureau. The text of the statement follows: "An aeroplane of the enemy dropped a bomb while passing over Dover this morning. The missile fell in a garden and exploded, but no damage was done. The aeroplane was seen for a few seconds only. It left immediately, passing out over the sea. A British aircraft went up, but did not see the enemy again. The weather was cloudy and foggy." This German raid from the air in the city of Dover is the first news of an authentic character of any hostile aircraft visiting Great Britain. The machine today came from the direction of Deal and was flying very high. It was not

sighted from Dover until it suddenly emerged from the clouds. Apparently Dover castle was the objective of the raid, for the bomb thrown from the aeroplane fell in the garden in the rear of St. James rectory, which is located in front of the castle. The windows in the rectory and some in the houses immediately surrounding the rectory were broken. For made easy the escape of the hostile airship. Immediately he had dropped his bomb the pilot started straight across the channel. Two British aeroplanes went up in an endeavor to catch the raider, but the hostile ship had too much of a start and could not be overtaken. PARIS, Dec. 24.—A German aeroplane, trying to reach Paris, says the Journal was pursued and brought down by the French air patrol at Pontoise, nineteen miles northwest of Paris, Sunday.

CLUBS REMEMBER EMPLOYEES Are to Receive Costly Gifts for Their Efficient Services.

BIG FIRMS ARE LIBERAL, TOO Five-Dollar Gold Pieces Seem to Be the Popular Gift of Many of the Business Houses to Their Employees.

Many of Omaha's large business firms, clubs, et cetera, distributing Christmas presents to employees yesterday afternoon. Turkeys and cash seem to be the popular gifts.

The Commercial club has raised several hundred dollars by the donation system. At the Commercial club tips are not customary, so subscriptions, running from \$1 to \$5, are donated to give the employees a lump sum for Christmas.

The Omaha club is said to have subscribed over \$200 by the same system. The cash is divided and distributed at the Omaha club in proportion to the length of the employee's service. The University club has received donations amounting to several hundred dollars. At this club also the fund is divided and distributed on the ratio of proportionate service.

The Elks' club gives a stipulated sum to its employees each year. The donation system is not followed, but a sum is taken from the general fund. This sum is not made public. The National Biscuit company gives each employe a bright, new \$5 gold piece. Dan Gaines, new proprietor of the Merchants hotel, gave each of his employes \$5.

The Fairbanks-Morse company and the Plater Lumber company make it an annual custom to distribute turkeys to their employes, as do many other big wholesale and retail firms in the city.

Rev. Leavitt Asks for Old Clothes for Released Prisoners

Rev. J. A. Leavitt, superintendent of the Society for the Friendless, is making an appeal for warm clothing to be given to men coming out of prison. In a great many instances some of these men have been incarcerated since summer, and being without means they are rather poorly clothed for the prevailing weather.

Rev. Mr. Leavitt asks that all who have discarded clothing, still in usable shape, to send it to the check room of the Young Men's Christian association and mark it "Jail."

FOSTER DISCHARGES TWO "JES" PLAYING WITH GUNS

Cornelius Hughey and Bessie Woods, colored, were arrested at Thirteenth and Mason streets Wednesday evening when they were threatening one another with large and murderous appearing revolvers. "What's the trouble Bessie?" inquired the magistrate.

"Nuthin', judge; Cornelius and I was just a-playin'," replied Elizabeth. The judge discharged the pair with the advice not to play so hard.

PUBLIC LIBRARY CLOSING TILL SATURDAY MORNING

In observance of Christmas, the public library closed Thursday evening at 6 o'clock and will be locked until the usual opening hour Saturday morning. Following the usual custom, every department will be closed, including the circulation, reading and reference rooms, throughout the holiday.

Homesteader Held on Forgery Charge Confesses to Murder

NEWPORT, Wash., Dec. 24.—Henry M. Kennedy, a homesteader near Big Sandy, Mont., brought here to answer a charge of forging the name of H. M. Warner of Spokane to a \$20 check at Milan, Wash., has confessed to the sheriff, it was stated today that prior to the forgery, he shot and killed Warner November 2 last in a quarrel over methods of trapping game. After the killing Kennedy said he took Warner's valuables and check book, cashed the forged check at Milan and went to Montana. The prisoner agreed to conduct the sheriff to Warner's grave.

TAYLOR SURPRISES FORCE WITH CHRISTMAS GIFTS

When the force of janitors, charwomen, elevator conductors and others connected with the federal building called on Custodian Cadet Taylor to wish him "Merry Christmas," he surprised them with holiday gifts. They will have a holiday Christmas.

Advertisement for A. Hospe Co. featuring a large question mark and the text: "PIANO Questions Answered Forever at Hospe's". Address: 1513 Douglas St.

IF THE BABY IS CUTTING TEETH USE Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup A SPLENDID REGULATORY PURELY VEGETABLE—NOT NARCOTIC

Advertisement for Hotel Breslin, Broadway at 29th St. New York. Features: "An Hotel Where Guests are Made to Feel at Home", "Not too large, yet large enough to afford the maximum of value at minimum expense.", "Exceptionally Accessible", "500 Rooms—Moderate Restaurant Charges".

Advertisement for Berg Clothing Co. Overcoat Sale SATURDAY. "Our 1/2 Price Merry Christmas". Lists various overcoat styles and prices: Overcoats of chinchilla, shawl collar, belted back, single and double breasted. \$7.50 to \$25 values—\$12.50. Box back, balmacean form fitting overcoats. \$9.00 to \$30 values—\$14.50. Overcoats with satin lining. \$20 values—\$14.50. English and medium English Overcoats. \$10.00 to \$35 values—\$17.50. Astrakhan collar Overcoats. \$22.50 values—\$17.50. Fur Collar Overcoats. \$11.25. ALL AT HALF PRICE SATURDAY (Men's and Young Men's Suits, \$14.50 Special.)



Advertisement for Nebraska Telephone Company. "A Merry Christmas To All". "The spirit of Christmas is shown in the happy faces of the people we meet on the street, in the jolly, good-natured bustle of the shoppers and in the mysterious hiding of bundles." "Kindness and forgiveness and laughter will be on the telephone wires all during the joyous holiday season." "Old time friends will be reminded that they are not forgotten. Where in the old days one Christmas visit was made in person ten will now be made by telephone." "If you have a surplus of happiness during the holiday season, why not telephone a part of it to someone who has less?" "The telephone will carry the slightest inflection of the human voice out to the far-away friend and relative. The telephone, you know, is the great and almost limitless roadway over which Christmas spirit may travel." "Why Not Telephone and Spread Good Cheer?" NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY

Advertisement for "LOST!" featuring a cartoon of a woman shouting. "Most people are honest and would hasten to return any found article if they knew where to find the owner." "The first place they think of is the 'Lost and Found' column, and if you have failed to announce your loss there, you have little chance of ever recovering your loss." "When you lose anything telephone at once to Tyler 1000 and thus get quick action." Telephone Tyler 1000 THE OMAHA BEE Everybody Reads Bee Want Ads.