

BEAUMONT OIL FIELD AFIRE

Great Blaze is Sweeping Spindle Top District.

FLAMES ARE BEYOND CONTROL.

Threaten to Destroy Property Worth Millions of Dollars—Fire Runs Along Saturated Ground, Communicating to Tanks.

Beaumont, Tex., Sept. 12.—The oil field is on fire and judging by the great volume of smoke which is floating in from Spindle Top there is great danger that great loss will be sustained, if the field is not entirely destroyed. The fire started early last evening in some waste oil along the Texas and Sabine tracks and burned about sixty feet of trestle. This was gotten under control, and it was believed all danger was past, but in the meanwhile the fire had been communicated to the field, and a number of huge selling tanks, containing thousands of barrels of petroleum, have exploded and others are reported as being in the direct line of the fire, which has spread over a wide area already. The ground is saturated with oil and there is no chance for stopping the progress of the flames. The fire is spreading rapidly and it is believed that the whole field will be ignited.

Kieth-Ward Tract Burned Over.

A telephone message from Gladys, which is the station at the oil field, says the whole of the Kieth-Ward tract, embracing several acres and containing a large number of wells, have been burned over and it is believed that some of the wells have caught, though this is not as yet positively determined, as no one can approach to find out.

The big tanks belonging to the Higgins company are burning.

The telephone service is entirely inadequate to care for the scores of calls and the streets are filled with people, thousands of them now on the way to the field in every sort of vehicle and on foot.

Getting Too Hot for Operator.

The telegraph operator at Gladys says he fears he will be compelled to leave his post, and all means of communication will be cut off. It is reported that two men have been seriously burned. The workmen on the hill are standing around unable to do anything toward protecting that portion of the field which is not on fire. The entire apparatus of the fire department was loaded on cars and sent to the field.

The tank known as "Higgins" has blown off its top and the burning oil is running along the ground and may be communicated to other tanks.

A statement issued yesterday shows that there are 410 producing wells in the field, some of which are buried against earth to secure against fire.

ORDERED TO THE ISTHMUS.

Secretary of Navy Wires Commanders of Warships to Proceed to Panama.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Secretary Moody telegraphed to the commanders of the battleship Wisconsin, now at Bremerton, and the cruiser Cincinnati, at Cape Haytien, directing them to proceed as soon as possible to the isthmus of Panama, the Wisconsin reinforcing the Ranger at Panama and the Cincinnati taking station at Colon.

It will take the Wisconsin fully twenty days to make the long trip of over 4,000 miles down the Pacific coast to Panama. The navy department had intended to send the Boston, which is now getting ready for service at San Francisco, to relieve or reinforce the Ranger, but the alarming situation which has so quickly risen on the isthmus prompted the officials to take more extensive measures to increase the naval representation of the United States in that section.

The Cincinnati will only consume a few days in its trip across from Cape Haytien, so that by the beginning of next week it should have reached the next terminal of the Panama railroad. The destruction of Admiral Killick's flagship swept away the entire naval force of Hayti, and naval officials believe that the Cincinnati can relinquish its post there with safety.

Forest Fires Threaten Town.

Tillamook, Ore., Sept. 12.—Forest fires here reached the timber near this town and the inhabitants are panic stricken. The entire population is out fighting the fire in order to prevent the destruction of the town. Four farmhouses have been destroyed. Large quantities of ashes and clinders cover the town and the smoke is so thick that it is hardly possible to see a block away.

Arrested for Shooting Affray.

Keokuk, Ia., Sept. 12.—Fred Foster is under arrest at Fort Madison, charged with fatally shooting Fred Robinson on a steamer near Fort Madison. The killing was the result of a quarrel over gambling. A man named Jones was also taken in, charged with complicity in the killing.

Snow in Wyoming.

Cheyenne, Sept. 12.—A cold wave accompanied by snow swept over Wyoming yesterday, the mercury dropping to 30 degrees.

ROOSEVELT IS ENDORSED.

Utah Republicans Omit Mention of an Reciprocity. Sept. 12.—The Republican state convention in Utah, which opened in Salt Lake City yesterday, for congress and judiciary, a year ago, and adopted a platform in which mention of Cuban reciprocity was omitted. On this point the beet sugar interests of the state won out after a somewhat bitter and protracted debate in the committee on resolutions. Friends of Congressman Sutherland, who was one of the Republican "insurgents" on the reciprocity question in the last session of congress, were determined that specific endorsement of the president's Cuban policy should have no place in the platform, and they prevailed. In this they were aided by the church people, who insisted that a compromise platform cordially endorsing President Roosevelt's administration be adopted, but leaving out direct reference to the proposed 20 per cent reduction. So strong was the feeling over the feature that had the original program as regards the order of business been carried out, it is probable that an unpleasant incident would have occurred. Senator Beveridge of Indiana was scheduled to deliver a speech in the evening, marking the formal opening of the Republican campaign in Utah. This program was changed to have Senator Beveridge speak at the close of the morning session. When the beet sugar sympathizers heard of this they openly threatened to give him a hostile reception, believing it a plan to influence the convention in favor of a Cuban reciprocity plank, the result being that the program was changed. Senator Beveridge speaking in the evening. Then, with the platform adopted, the delegates more than made up for their refusal to hear him in the morning by greeting him with wild cheering. An amendment to the platform, offered by Congressman Sutherland, declaring it to be the sense of the convention that "President Roosevelt be nominated for president in 1904 as his own successor" was carried with a whoop.

RESTORE HARMONY IN TEXAS

Republicans Nominate George P. Burkitt for Governor.

Fort Worth, Tex., Sept. 12.—The state Republican convention adjourned last night after a two days session. Only two nominations were made, as follows: Governor, George P. Burkitt; treasurer, Eugene Nolte. The convention, which promised to be one of the most turbulent in the history of the party in this state, closed in perfect harmony. The Auditorium was packed to the doors. The leaders, arm in arm, on the platform, and the delegates, white and black, in the hall, stood upon the chairs and cheered for President Roosevelt and the Republican party. The last act of the convention was to give E. H. R. Green full authority to supervise the campaign in Texas during the next two years.

Andrews Pronounced Legally Dead

Boston, Sept. 12.—Captain W. Andrews, who twice crossed the Atlantic in a fifteen-foot cockle shell, has been pronounced legally dead by the Massachusetts courts. Letters of administration upon his estate have been granted to his son. Captain Andrews sailed Oct. 6 last from Atlantic City with his bride, to whom he had been married in the presence of 3,000 people. The boat was sighted only once, about a week after it sailed.

To Keep Out of Politics.

Detroit, Sept. 12.—Nearly 100 delegates to the National Firemen's association convention were present at the first session here yesterday. Fire chiefs from all parts of the country are among the delegates. One of the chief objects of this year's convention will be to devise means to separate politics from the management of the fire departments of the cities.

Boies Is Nominated.

Dubuque, Sept. 12.—Ex-Governor Boies of Waterloo was formally nominated for congress by the Third district convention last night.

SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

Snow fell in the northern part of the Black Hills Thursday.

Peter Maher knocked out Jim Jeffords in six seconds at the Broadway Athletic club, Philadelphia, Thursday night.

At Roff, I. T. B. Whitlock, a well known cattleman, was accidentally shot and killed by Deputy Marshal Edgar Wilhelm.

Mrs. Rosa La B. Dauphin of New Orleans, widow of the Louisiana lottery president, was indicted for perjury for securing \$254,000 from his supposed \$100,000 estate.

The executive committee of the Western Passenger association re-elected P. S. Eustis, passenger traffic manager of the Burlington, as the chairman of that committee.

The dressmakers' convention at New York blamed ill fitting corsets for the appearance of ugly women. Good dressmakers cannot fit gowns over bad corsets and good corsets are a necessity.

The Jackson county (Ill.) grand jury indicted Mrs. Ella Riley on the charge of murdering her husband, W. H. Riley, a dairyman, who was killed at his home near Murphysboro when a shotgun while he lay asleep in bed.

MEAT PACKING MERGER

Combination of All Big Concerns Now Assured.

DEAL GOES INTO EFFECT SEPT. 27

Nearly Three Hundred Millions of Capitalization Represented—Efforts Will Be Made to Save Every Dollar Possible in Cost of Production.

Chicago, Sept. 12.—The Record-Herald says: "The long-expected merger of the great meat packing interests of the United States will go into active operation Saturday, Sept. 27, unless there should be an unlooked for change in the plans agreed on by those concerned in the deal at a meeting held here yesterday. An industrial combination, second only to the steel trust, is therefore practically an accomplished fact.

Details of the Plan.

"Reports concerning the actual terms of the consolidation differ. The most reliable light shed upon the subject was the plan outlined by a Boston authority, who has possessed the most inside information about the deal ever since its existence was rumored in the early part of last spring. According to this expert the new concern is to be capitalized at the rate of twenty-five times the last year's earnings of the constituent companies. For example, Cudahy & Co. are said to have earned about \$20,000 in 1901, which would make their share of the capital stock of the merger, \$21,000,000. A 4 per cent dividend that the new consolidation might be expected to declare would amount to \$840,000 on this lot of stock—approximately its legitimate earnings.

Armour Will Have Immense Interest.

"On this basis of capitalization, Armour & Co., whose last year's profits are supposed to have been about \$8,000,000, will receive \$200,000,000 in the new security in exchange for their business. Swift & Co. will receive \$50,000,000 and the Schwarzschild & Sulzberger Co. would receive \$26,000,000. "It is said that it is the undoubted determination of the consolidated meat interests to control all the packing houses and stock yards of the country and to save every possible dollar in the cost of manufacturing and distribution. In addition to all this, by-products will be absolutely controlled and efforts made to buy up in districts that are closely allied to the meat business."

ST. LOUIS BOODLE SCANDAL.

Former Assemblyman Tamblin is Brought Back From Cleveland.

St. Louis, Sept. 12.—The principal items of interest in connection with the investigation being carried on by Circuit Attorney Folk into the alleged boodle combine in both branches of the municipal assembly were the return of former Delegate William Tamblin from Cleveland in the custody of an officer, and the sessions of the grand jury. Before being placed in a cell Tamblin asked to see Mr. Folk. His intention was to tell all he knew about the doings of the combine in the house of delegates, but he finally decided not to say anything at this time, for the circuit attorney told Tamblin that if he desired to make any statements about matters that were being investigated he must do so voluntarily, without hope of clemency. Mr. Folk said that he had all the evidence needed to convict the members of the house combine.

Circuit Attorney Folk said that almost every one of the indicted members of the combine had offered to turn state's evidence, but he declined to accept more than two or three, with a promise of clemency. Before J. K. Murrell's return and confession the members of the combine, Mr. Folk said, were so sure of their position that offers of the authorities to take care of informers were spurned. Now the situation is different. The grand jury held two sessions yesterday. At each session a number of members of the council that passed the city lighting bill in 1899 were called on to tell what they knew of the transactions connected with the defeat and passage of such measures.

Battleship Iowa is Ashore.

Rio Janeiro, Sept. 12.—The United States battleship Iowa has run aground near Cape Nossa Senhora Do Desterro. The Iowa had just finished target practice and was returning to Friars Island. The Brazilian minister of marines has ordered a warship to go to the aid of the Iowa.

Frightful Epidemic in Egypt.

Cairo, Egypt, Sept. 12.—The weekly cholera returns for Egypt show that there have been 1,380 fresh cases of cholera reported, making totals since July 15 of 20,328 cases and 16,209 deaths.

Young Colored Woman is Murdered.

Ottumwa, Sept. 11.—The mining town of diamond was in a state of great excitement as a result of finding the body of Ella Clark, a young colored woman, with a bullet hole in her head. Biggon Woodson, colored, has been arrested.

Iowa Democrats Nominate.

Iowa City, Sept. 11.—Judge Martin I. Wade was nominated for congress by Democrats of the Second district.

GERMAN "ENEMY" WINS.

Defending Army in Kaiser's War Game Loses Men and Guns.

Frankfurt-on-Oder, Sept. 12.—Generals Young and Wood and their aides-de-camp, Lieutenants McKinley and McCoy, charged with the cavalry led by Emperor William yesterday. The Americans did not draw their swords, but they rode with the Garde du Corps, the emperor's bodyguard. This charge was the climax of the maneuvers. About 9,000 horsemen, lancers, cuirassiers and dragoons fell upon the flank of the retreating blues, defending army, capturing thirty of the latter's guns and 2,000 of its infantry. When the cavalry were within 100 yards the infantry quickly formed into close platoon groups, which the horsemen broke up, galloping between the groups and the guns. Several horses fell dead. The emperor, mounted on a white Arab horse, directed the movements and at the finish galloped ahead as recklessly as any trooper. The empress was present on horseback. General Corbin, Earl Roberts and other foreign guests were on a hill, around which the charge was made. General Corbin said it was the finest military spectacle he ever saw. Emperor William's customary salute to the Americans has been, "Well, how's the khaki brigade." His majesty has also been disposed to chaff the Americans a little. Yesterday they wore blue fatigue uniforms. The emperor noted the change and remarked pleasantly upon it.

Die From Grass Diet.

Winnipeg, Sept. 12.—A report from Yorkton says nihilist agitators have been busy among the Doukhobours and many of the latter are turning their cattle and horses adrift and the men and women are hauling wagons. One, Vladimir Madowie, who professes to be a religious leader, teaches that all things belong to God and that there should be no government. He says the men should have no money, and acting on his words several Doukhobours offered all the money they had to the Dominion immigration authorities. There is an unconfirmed report that two Doukhobours died from the effects of trying to live on grass.

Cholera on Transport Sherman.

Washington, Sept. 12.—Confirmatory information of the prevalence of cholera and of several deaths from that disease on the transport Sherman has been received at the quarter master general's office of the war department from the depot quartermaster at Nagasaki. The names of those who died are not given. It is believed that the vessel will be held in quarantine at least five days before being allowed to proceed on her voyage. Officials express no apprehension over the appearance of the disease aboard the ship as the measures taken for its treatment and for the isolation of those afflicted are regarded as ample.

Typhothetae Elects Officers.

Pittsburg, Sept. 12.—With the election of officers and the selection of Atlantic City as the next meeting place the three national conventions of printing trades, which have been in progress in this city for the past week, ended their work yesterday. The officers elected by the Typhothetae are: President, Edward Stern, Philadelphia; first vice president, William Green, New York, and several other vice presidents, including Samuel Rees, Omaha; Secretary, Edwin Fregard, St. Louis; treasurer, Thomas E. Donnelly, Chicago.

Rebels Advancing on Panama.

Asheville, N. C., Sept. 12.—United States Consul Gudgeon of Panama, who is now here, last night received a cablegram from his son, who is vice consul at Panama, who stated that the revolutionists are advancing on Panama. The message says that the outlook appears grave, as only about 3,000 government troops are in Panama, while the insurgents have twice that number.

Marconi Solves Problem.

Rome, Sept. 12.—Marconi, in an interview published here, declares he has completely solved the problem of sending wireless messages over a distance of more than 1,500 miles. He is confident that communication between Europe and America will be established in the immediate future. He is to visit King Victor Emmanuel at Racconigi, Piedmont, Sept. 4.

To Join Colombian Navy.

San Francisco, Sept. 12.—The steamer Jessie Banning arrived here from Seattle, en route south to join the Colombian navy. Captain Marmaduke, who was a participant in the historic Merrimac-Monitor fight, admitted that the steamer had been converted into a man-of-war for the Colombian government and that he would command her.

Grand Jury Indicts Prince.

London, Sept. 12.—The grand jury in the Old Bailey returned a true bill against Prince Francis Joseph of Braganza, a lieutenant in the Seventh Austrian Hussars, and who was a member of the Austro-Hungarian mission to the coronation of King Edward, charged with misconduct under the criminal law amendment.

Dan Patch Falls to Lower Record.

Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 12.—Dan Patch failed to beat Star Pointer's record of 1:59 2/5, doing the mile in 2:00 1/2.

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