

The Columbus Journal.

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WHOLE NUMBER 1,689.

DIED IN A PANIC

SEVENTY-EIGHT COLORED PEOPLE LOSE THEIR LIVES.

"FIGHT" MISTAKEN FOR "FIRE"

Stampede Follows Quarrel Between Delegates and Choir Master—Suffocation Causes Most Deaths—Heard Ten Feet High at Doors.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 20.—Seventy-eight people known to be dead and eighty injured, some perhaps fatally, is the result of a panic which occurred in Shiloh negro Baptist church here last night during the evening session of the national Baptist convention. Fifteen hundred delegates were crowded into the church, which had only a seating capacity of 400, when the audience was thrown into a stampede by a conflict between two of the delegates in the rear of the church. The cries of "fight" and the audience mistook for an alarm of "fire," and in the wild rush seventy-eight persons were crushed to death and eighty more received injuries some of which may prove fatal. The list of dead and injured included only negroes in attendance. In the case of the visiting delegates the identification has been difficult.

The catastrophe occurred at 9 o'clock, just as Booker T. Washington had concluded his address to the national convention of Baptists, and for three hours the scenes around the church were indescribable. Dead bodies were strewn in every direction and the ambulance service of the city was utterly incapacitated to move them until after 10 o'clock. Dozens of dead bodies were arranged in rows on the grounds outside of the house of worship, awaiting removal to the various undertaking establishments, while more than a score were laid out on the benches inside.

The church is the largest house of worship for negroes in Birmingham, and the pastor says there were at least 2,000 persons in the house when the stampede began. Instructions had been issued to the negroes forced their way inside and were standing in every aisle. Even the entrance to the church was literally packed.

Just as Booker T. Washington concluded his address, Judge Billou, a negro lawyer from Baltimore, engaged in an altercation with the choir leader concerning an unoccupied seat and it is said a blow was struck. Someone in the audience cried "They're fighting." Mistaking the word "fighting" for "fire," the congregation arose en masse and started for the door. One of the ministers quickly mounted the rostrum and admonished the people to keep quiet. He repeated the word "quiet" several times and motioned his hearers to be seated. Again the excited people mistook the word "quiet" for "fire" and renewed their efforts to get out. Men and women crawled over one another to get to the door. The ministers tried again to stop the stampede, but no power on earth could stay the struggling mass of humanity.

The level of the floor is about fifteen feet from the ground and long steps lead to the sidewalk from the lobby just outside of the main auditorium. Brick walls extend on either side of these steps for six or seven feet, and these proved a veritable death trap. Negroes who had reached the top of the steps were pushed violently forward and many fell. Before they could move others fell on them, and in fifteen minutes persons were piled upon each other to a height of ten feet, where twenty died from suffocation.

SUPREME COURT TO SIT SOON.

Will Resume Next Month with Case Against Dewey.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—The United States supreme court will reconvene October 13. No business will be transacted on the opening day. The court will make its customary call on President Roosevelt. On the following day the court will resume the hearing of cases.

Among the first cases to be heard are those of Bird against the United States, brought to determine the legality of a murder trial in Alaska; the Line Wolf case, involving the validity of an act of congress relating to Kiowa Indian lands; and the prize money cases of the United States against Admirals Dewey and Sampson.

Stamped Envelope Contract.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Acting Postmaster General Madden today awarded the contract for furnishing stamped envelopes and newspaper wrappers for the post office department for the four years, beginning January 1, 1903, to the Hartford Manufacturing company of Hartford, Conn. It being the lowest bidder. Upward of \$3,000,000 will be paid this company under the contract. Their bid is \$55,000 less than the next lowest.

Two Starving High Enough.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 20.—Carlos Mirra of Guatemala, a confidential agent of President Cabrera, has just arrived here. He is entrusted with a commission to purchase steel and iron for sixteen new public buildings to take the place of those destroyed in the earthquake of April 18 last. None of the buildings will be over two stories in height and nearly all of them will be erected in the cities of Menlo and Mantamango.

FOOD IS THE ONLY PROBLEM.

When that is Solved No Trouble to Reach the North Pole.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook of Brooklyn, who was with Lieutenant Peary on his first Arctic expedition to the south pole as chief surgeon, expresses the opinion that Peary's latest endeavor was by no means a failure, and that the explorer has added "material to the annals of science which will be found invaluable, in fact, more valuable than the actual discovery of the pole itself."

"All this talk about the terrible dangers to be met before reaching the pole is sheer rot," continued Dr. Cook. "A man, all things taken into account, is just as safe on the Arctic ice fields as he is in New York. There is no severe sea, no cut of the saline glaucousness, no unwholesome swamps, no rotting rags. Everything is on ice. There is no danger in traversing the ice fields, nor from the cold, which is not so severe as the cut of the saline blasts on the Atlantic seacoast."

"It is the food question," he added, "that closes up the way to the pole." When this problem is solved reaching the pole will, in his opinion, be quite a simple undertaking.

BOXERS ARE GROWING QUIET.

Gunboats Are Hurrying Toward the City of Chen Tu.

PEKIN, Sept. 20.—The situation at Chen Tu, capital of Sze Chuan province, and the scene of the recent boxer activities has improved. British and French gunboats are now within ninety miles of the city. A squadron of French marines has reached Cheng Tu Fu and they are expected to return to their gunboat with the French consul there. An investigation is to be made by the French consular agent into the murder of the missionary, Bruce and Lewis, at Chen Chow. Ho Nan province, by a mob has disclosed the fact that military officials of Chen Chow are culpable in the matter because they refused to receive or protect the missionaries.

At Baltimore Next Year.

DES MOINES, Ia., Sept. 20.—The Sovereign Grand L. O. O. F. will adjourn at noon today, after the installation of officers, to meet the third week in September, 1903, at Baltimore, Md. The location was determined by a vote of 95 for Baltimore to 33 for Hot Springs, Ark. An amendment to the constitution was adopted providing that "attentive adepts" which involve the payment of money shall be only given those members who are entitled to weekly benefits.

Queen is with Her Father.

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 20.—Queen Alexandra arrived here today from England on board the royal yacht Victoria and Albert, which was met outside the harbor by King Christian, her father, and other members of the royal family and was escorted into the roadstead by a Danish squadron of warships. All the cabinet ministers and members of the diplomatic corps met the royal party at the landing place and they all drove to Bernstorff castle through cheering crowds.

Wreck on the Baltimore.

CHILLICOTHE, O., Sept. 20.—No. 2, the Royal Blue flyer on the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern, was wrecked at Leesburg last night, the train having run into an open switch while running at the rate of fifty miles an hour. To add to the disaster, the engine exploded and Engineer Philip Roe and Fireman Charles Studer, both of this city, were killed outright. Every coach on the train left the track but passengers were not seriously injured.

To Release Ten Millions.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Secretary Shaw announced before leaving Washington this afternoon for the west that during the week he had authorized the distribution in round numbers of \$10,000,000 of public funds among banks throughout the country which have bonds available for security. The money will be released and deposits will all be completed within a few days and just as rapidly as the bonds are received at the treasury.

Smallpox in Jamaica.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Sept. 20.—News has reached here that 296 cases of smallpox occurred at Barbados, B. W. L. during the fortnight ended September 15.

British Flag Over It.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—Officials here have been told that the British government has raised the British flag on the island of Patos, which is near Trinidad, notwithstanding the protest of the Venezuelan government, says a dispatch from Port of Spain, Trinidad. Sovereignty over the island of Patos has been in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela for a long time.

Rumors Hurt the Iron Trade.

LONDON, Sept. 20.—Speaking at a meeting at Uxbridge, Monmouthshire, yesterday evening, Windsor Richards, a director of Guest, Keen & Co., declared that all the recent statements regarding the formation of combinations of iron firms, promoted to combat the competition of the United States were absolutely imaginative. He added: "There is not an atom of truth in them. Such statements do a great amount of mischief."

PRESIDENT'S TRIP

SECRETARY CORTEYOU GIVES SCHEDULE OF THE GAME.

FIRST STOP IS AT CINCINNATI

Several Points in Iowa and Nebraska Will Come in for the Executive Privileges—A Number of Speeches by the Way.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., Sept. 19.—Secretary Cortelyou has made public the following outline of President Roosevelt's tour of the northwest September 19 to October 7:

The president, Secretary Cortelyou and Assistant Secretary Loeb will leave Oyster Bay, Friday, September 19, at 10:30 a. m. The first public stop scheduled is at Cincinnati at 10 a. m., Saturday, the 20th.

Leaving Cincinnati at midnight, the president and party will reach Detroit early the following morning and remain there until Tuesday morning, the 23. Sunday will be spent quietly without public program.

On Tuesday three or four hours will be spent in Indianapolis, where the president will attend the third annual encampment of the Spanish-American War veterans and the party will be entertained at luncheon at the Columbus club. One hour will be spent in Fort Wayne late in the afternoon and Milwaukee will be reached during the night.

The program for Milwaukee contemplates a visit to the Soldiers' home, a drive in the afternoon and a banquet in the evening.

About two hours will be spent at La Crosse, Thursday morning, the program including a drive to the fair grounds and an address by the president. St. Paul and Minneapolis will be visited later in the day.

On Friday the 26th Sioux Falls and Yankton will be visited in the morning. Two hours will be spent in Sioux City in the afternoon and stops will be made at Arion and Denison, Ia.

Several points in Nebraska will be visited Saturday, including Kearney, Grand Island, Hastings, Lincoln and Fremont. Omaha will be reached late in the afternoon and the president and party will be escorted to the Omaha club, where dinner will be served. In the evening the president will review an electrical pageant.

Sunday, the 28th, will be spent quietly in Topeka, where on Monday morning the president is to address a public meeting in Auditorium. A brief stop will be made late in the morning at Lawrence, Kan. Kansas City, Mo., will be reached about noon. The program there, covering about four hours, includes the two cities of Kansas City, Mo., and Kansas City, Kan. Leaving Kansas City, Kan., late in the afternoon brief stops will be made at Leavenworth and Atchison. St. Joseph will be reached after 6 o'clock. There the president will deliver an address and the party will dine at the hotel.

A number of brief stops will be made on Tuesday, September 30, at points in Iowa, including Clarinda, Van Wert, Osceola, Des Moines and Oskaloosa. At Ottumwa in the evening the president will deliver an address. Leaving Ottumwa during the night the train will go by way of Keokuk, Quincy, Ill., Hannibal, Louisiana and Clarksville, Mo., to St. Louis, arriving at the last named place about 4 o'clock and leaving the following morning. In St. Louis the president and party will be taken for a drive through the city, Forest park and the world's fair grounds. They will be entertained by the Mercantile club and in the evening the president will deliver an address at the Coliseum. From St. Louis the train will proceed to Springfield, Ill., arriving shortly after noon and leaving about midnight. In the afternoon a drive will be taken to the fair grounds and in the evening the president and party will be entertained at dinner at the governor's mansion.

BRYAN'S ENGINE SMASHED.

Collides with Switch Engine, but No Passengers Are Hurt.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 19.—The Big Four train No. 2, which arrived here today with William J. Bryan on board, struck a yard engine at the New Jersey street crossing. The pilots of the engines were smashed and they were sent to the shops for repairs. The wreck caused considerable delay, and Mr. Bryan, who was not in the least injured, disembarked and held an impromptu reception in the street. None of the passengers were injured.

Ready for Western Trip.

OYSTER BAY, L. I., Sept. 19.—Lyman Abbott of New York and President Roosevelt's guests were President Roosevelt's guests at luncheon yesterday. The president will leave here today on his western trip. He will go to New York on the Sybil, which sails about 9:30 o'clock. He will be accompanied by Secretary Cortelyou, Assistant Secretary Loeb and the White House stenographers and messengers.

Forest Fires Spreading.

DENVER, Sept. 19.—Forest fires are sweeping bare of timber sections of the Rocky mountains from the Wyoming line to central Colorado. The fires are spreading with terrible rapidity and conditions are more serious now than at any time since the first fire was reported. Government inspectors and forest brigades are doing all in their power to check the progress of the flames and are receiving assistance from ranchers.

FIRM GRIP SAVES HIS LIFE.

Man Suspended in Air One Hundred Feet High Twenty Minutes.

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—Suspended only by his hands, McLaughlin Wright, a prominent member of the Board of Trade, hung between life and death for twenty minutes at the top of a grain chute in the Rock Island elevator.

When rescued Mr. Wright was exhausted and on the point of losing his hold, which would have meant a fall of 100 feet to the hard floor of an empty bin, and almost certain death. He had entered the elevator to inspect some wheat. Making a mistake, he fell into the chute, but succeeded in clutching the edge and hanging by his hands. Mr. Wright's calls for help were finally heard by an employee, who pulled him out. He fainted then and was unconscious for nearly an hour, so great had been the strain.

INDIAN PRINCE A BANKRUPT.

In Debt Because the Government Has Made Allowance Too Small.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—At a meeting today of the creditors of Prince Victor Dulep Singh, who was declared a bankrupt September 4, the chairman said the prince's debts amounted to \$471,500, of which \$350,000 was secured.

The debts were attributed to stock exchange speculation and gambling. Among the assets is a claim for \$3,000,000 against the Indian government with respect to the estate of the bankrupt's father.

The prince ascribes his bankruptcy to the "ridiculous insufficiency" of his allowance from the Indian government. To maintain his position the price received \$35,000 yearly and his wife received \$10,000.

BOERS WISH NO FIREWORKS.

Both Telegraphs Brussels Not to Prepare Demonstrations.

BRUSSELS, Sept. 19.—The Boer reception committee here has received the following telegram from General Botha: "We shall be glad if you inform the population of Brussels that we desire no anti-English demonstration to occur upon the occasion of our visit to Brussels, our mission being non-political and purely charitable."

HAY'S NOTE ABOUT JEWS.

Protest Against Their Treatment in Roumania Approved.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—The United States' initiative in protesting to the countries which are parties to the treaty of Berlin of 1878, against the treatment of Jews in Roumania, meets with approval here.

The Globe, however, the only afternoon paper which comments on Secretary Hay's note on the subject, sees nothing in Mr. Hay's action but self-interest. The Globe, nevertheless, hopes that it will lead to a check being placed on the wholesale exportation of undesirable persons from eastern Europe to Great Britain and America.

The Boxer Attack.

PEKIN, Sept. 19.—The Boxer at Cheng Tu Fu, capital of Sze Chuan province, in which 50,000 Boxers made an ineffectual attempt to take the city, began September 14. When the rebels endeavored to enter the city a conflict ensued. The attackers were driven back and the gates of the city were closed and guarded by troops. Soldiers quelled the disorder within the city. Fourteen Boxer leaders and several other rebels were executed.

Senator Bard Improving.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 19.—The condition of Senator Bard this morning was more hopeful than at any time since his illness, and it is felt that his chances for recovery are now excellent.

Will Remain for Short Session.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Sept. 19.—It is announced tonight that Speaker Henderson does not intend to resign the speakership at the coming session of congress.

Union Pacific Goes Higher.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—The question of the right of a telegraph company to occupy, through condemnation proceedings, right of way owned by a railroad company in Colorado is involved in the case of the Union Pacific Railway company, plaintiff in error, against the Colorado Postal Telegraph company, the appellants, plaintiffs in which were docketed in the supreme court. The railroad company lost in the court of Colorado.

No Swords for Cavalry.

NEW YORK, Sept. 19.—The earl of Dundon, the new commander of the Canadian military, has just issued a sweeping order abolishing the sword as a cavalry weapon, says a Montreal dispatch to the Times. Mounted troops, Lord Dundon declares, must depend for efficiency on the rifle, and he recommends that officers and men fit themselves to obtain musketry certificates. The carbines now in use will be replaced gradually by rifles.

SURROUND A CITY

THE BOXERS MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO TAKE CHENG TU FU.

WHAT ITS FALL WILL MEAN

A Chinese Merchant Predicts That the Whole Province Will Be on its Bad Behavior if the Fifty Thousand Rebels Succeed.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—Cabling from Shanghai under date of September 17, the correspondent of the Daily Mail says that Cheng Tu Fu, capital of the province of Sze-Chuan is surrounded by 50,000 Boxers, but that their attempts to take the city have failed so far. Without immediate help, however, Cheng Tu Fu must fall.

"A prominent Chinese merchant tells me," continues the Daily Mail correspondent, "that if Cheng Tu Fu is taken a rising in the province is inevitable. To further complicate matters, the feuds between Catholic and Protestant converts are worse now than at any previous stage and magistracy injunction in various matters has been unavertably interfered with by priests and missionaries."

VICTORIA, B. C., Sept. 18.—A letter received from a thoroughly trustworthy Chinese correspondent at Nan-

ting states that the rebellion is entirely at an end. General Ma, one of the ablest Chinese officers in the south was killed.

Though the rebellion, so called, is at an end, a disquieting feature of the situation is that a large quantity of up-to-date rifles are still imported constantly. The Chinese complain that they are smuggled over the Tonkin frontier. The town of Tungshua Hsian, northwest of New Chungang, is reported to have been occupied by the brigand leader, Tin Tang Tsue, and followers. Making this their headquarters they are said to be busily looting all the districts around.

The Boxers are still active in Chengtu and increasingly so. The local foreign officer reports the district to be in great disorder, several places having been attacked, others burned down and a number of Christians and others who have resided having been killed. The British and Foreign Bible society has had one killed in that district and there are rumors, not yet confirmed, but believed to be reliable, that two others have suffered the same fate.

A gentleman who recently visited New Chungang says the Russians are making all preparations for retirement from Manchuria at an early date, and expressing the belief that they will do so. At the same time he admits that they are not likely to give up some of the places on which they have spent considerable sums, such as New Chungang and Tsalien bay, nor to retire without some sort of equivalent, for what they supposed they had acquired nor even then to make an absolute relinquishment of their claims upon that country.

PREMIER BOND IS SATISFIED.

Newfoundland Statesman Pleased with Progress of Fisheries Treaty.

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—Sir Robert Bond, premier of Newfoundland, who recently visited Washington with the object of furthering a fisheries reciprocity treaty with the United States, is in this city. Regarding reports that his mission had been a failure, he said:

"I was unable to accomplish anything in Washington the other day simply because Acting Secretary of State Acheson needed to consult the president in order to get authority to begin negotiations. During the interval of the slight delay occasioned by the necessity of consulting the president at Oyster Bay I took advantage of my freedom to come to this city for reasons of private business."

"I am waiting now until negotiations can be properly carried on. I expect to return to Washington for that purpose the latter part of this week or the first of next."

"I do not see any indications that the project will fall of success. It is not, of course, proper to make public at the present time any of the propositions which I may submit, but I have no reason to believe that they will not be well received."

Life without faith is like a roofless house. It lets all the elements in and offers no protection against the ills of living.

Confesses to Four Murders.

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 18.—A special to the Times from Dawson says: Peter Fournier has made a full and detailed confession of four murders. He admits that he abetted Ed Labelle in killing Constantine, Beaudette and Bouhillette, but says Labelle did all the shooting. In July, about thirty miles above Circle City, they shot Gilbert Duffer, robbed him of \$700, weighted his body with stones and threw it in the river.

Packers Give a Promise.

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—Union labor was a victory in the packing house district when Swift & Co. agreed not to discriminate against members of the organization in the future in the employment of men. On the wage scale of the wood workers, who went on strike yesterday, the company asked for further time. A conference has been arranged between the men and officers of the company, when a new scale of wages will be made.

HOLDS FOR RAILROADS.

Assessment Made by State Board of Equalization is to Stand.

LINCOLN, Neb., Sept. 22.—In a sixty-page opinion the supreme court denies the application for a mandamus asked by the Omaha Bee Building company against the state board of equalization. The court holds that as the board is legally constituted a special tribunal for the purpose of assessing railroad and telegraph property it is clothed with quasi judicial powers, and when it has once acted on sufficient information and expressed an honest judgment as to valuation its judgment cannot be controlled by the writ of mandamus, which is a writ to compel action and not to correct action.

The court holds that in the case at bar under the evidence the inference is not warranted that the respondents acted with improper motives and fraudulently in making the assessment complained of, with the wrongful intention of discriminating in favor of the railroad and telegraph companies whose property was assessed. An assessment may be treated as fraudulent when well known rules of valuation are disregarded, where relevant and pertinent information is declined and an arbitrary assessment at grossly inadequate figures made.

The court holds, however, that the board of equalization must include and assess the value of franchises with the tangible property, but that where it assesses the property of a railroad as a unit and considers the purposes for which it is used, the fact that it is earning an income and exercising the rights of such corporation, such assessment would include the intangible property also and be an assessment of its franchise. In this case the franchises were assessed. It is held, too, that the market value of a railroad's stocks and bonds are an important factor to determine cash value of the property represented by those stocks and bonds, and that the earnings is evidence of the true value of the property, is one of the chief elements that give it value and should be considered in making the final assessment.

PUT SPIKES ON THE RAILS.

Apparent Attempt to Wreck a Burlington Train.

SEWARD, Neb., Sept. 22.—An attempt was apparently made to wreck passenger train No. 43 about one and one-half miles east of Uteka. Fifteen or twenty spikes had been placed on the rails, the pointed end of the spikes being placed to the east and the projecting head of the spike being placed between the ends of the rails at the joints and were scattered along the track for a considerable distance. After running over two or three of these spikes the engineer applied the air and stopped the train, and some of the trainmen went ahead and gathered up the spikes. The matter has been kept as quiet as possible by the railroad people with the hope, no doubt, of discovering the guilty parties.

Irrigation Congress Delegates.

LINCOLN, Neb., Sept. 22.—Governor Savage has appointed the following partial list of delegates to attend the national irrigation congress, which will meet at Colorado Springs October 6: Edgar S. Bradley, Omaha; O. V. P. Stout, Adna Dobson, Lincoln; B. E. Forbes, Beatrice; H. O. Smith, Lexington; James Ferrier, Culbertson; R. H. Willis, Bridgeport; E. F. Seeburger, North Platte; P. T. Francis, Crawford; L. D. Cox, Miltare; C. H. Meeker, McCook; H. W. Fanning, Crawford; A. M. Allen, Gering; F. C. Hamer, Kearney; A. G. Wolfenbarger, Lincoln; Samuel C. Smith, Beatrice; Peter Jansen, Jansen; Robert C. Kyrd, Beatrice; J. G. Preston, Oxford; Irving F. Montgomery, Bloomington; R. J. Kilpatrick, Beatrice.

Stacks of Oats Burned.

DEWITT, Neb., Sept. 22.—Sparks from a threshing machine engine set fire to the straw where a company of men were working and burned four stacks of oats containing about 400 bushels belonging to John Kubovec, five and one-half miles west of here, and a new separator valued at \$1,500 and owned by Halsey Cook. The separator was insured for \$600.

Best Sugar Making Begins.

FREMONT, Neb., Sept. 22.—The sugar factory at Leavitt began operations with a full force of workmen.

Farm Sells for \$16,000.

SILVER CREEK, Neb., Sept. 22.—The George Hutchings farm of 280 acres, east of town, was sold by Davis & Hill to Robert Murray of Saunders county for \$17 an acre.

Rural Routes in Saline County.

DEWITT, Neb., Sept. 22.—Three routes from this place are being inspected by Captain Clark, special agent, with a good prospect of being established.

Celery is Profitable.

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 22.—The celery raisers around Kearney are today making 50 per cent more than the celery raisers of California, while the men who raise celery around Kalamazoo, Mich., are simply not in it at all when compared with the Nebraskaans," said David Cole, who is handling such of the Kearney crop this year. He says it does not cost as much to raise celery in Nebraska as it does in California.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

The school board of Omaha has raised the salaries of teachers.

Uncle Sam will furnish men and money to fight the Wyoming forest fires.

Governor Dole of Hawaii reports increasing herds of cattle destroying forests. He needs the aid of a packing house.

William Waldorf Astor's daughter, Gwendoline, died of consumption at Cliveden, England. Her body will be taken to New York for burial.

The weekly cholera returns for Egypt show that there have been 1,300 fresh cases reported, making total since July 15 of 20,323 cases and 15,209 deaths.

Prof. Doollittle, the Pennsylvania astronomer, says Prof. G. W. Hough of Northwestern errs when he declares he is sure that Mars and other planets are inhabited.

At London a syndicate with a capital of \$50,000,000 is being organized by the coal combine, which proposes to purchase the Fife and Clyde companies' mines.

President Roosevelt has issued an executive order closing the departments in Washington on the day of the G. A. R. parade during the encampment next month.

At Carlisle, Ill., Mrs. Sarah Bound, wife of Harry Bound, one of the most prominent and wealthy citizens of the city, committed suicide by jumping into a well.

Stephen McCormick, said to have been the oldest employe of New York City in point of service, and the oldest member of Tammany Hall, is dead. He was 75 years old.

Growls from Mount Pelee are finally diminishing, says a dispatch from Martinique, by way of London. The volcano is still in eruption, but its activity is now insignificant.

The Bijou Opera company of Boston went to pieces in Topeka and several of the chorus girls are stranded there. The Elks have started a subscription to send the girls back to Boston.

Red Eagle, a full blood Osage, living about thirty miles from Tulsa, L. T., is dead, aged 90 years. He was a prominent character and served in the union army during the civil war.

It is rumored in London that a combination of steel manufacturers, representing plants worth £60,000,000, has been formed for the purpose of resisting the invasion of the United States Steel corporation.

Governor Otero of New Mexico received harrowing details of the suffering caused by the recent Mimbres valley flood. A letter from the relief party says: "Rations have been distributed to 836 people. Crops are laid waste."

Charles V. Weston of Chicago has been commissioned by Director of Works Isaac S. Taylor to design the eight miles of intramural railway which will be constructed on the world's fair site at a cost of \$750,000.

A treasury warrant for \$39,509 was forwarded to Mrs. Ida S. McKinley, widow of the late president, for salary which would have been due him on July 1, 1902, the appropriation for which was made at the last session of congress.

The birthday of President Diaz of Mexico was celebrated as usual. The diplomatic corps, cabinet ministers, senators and deputies and officers of the army and navy called at the national palace to congratulate him on reaching the 72nd anniversary of his birth.

High records for stock exchange seats in New York have been broken by the purchase of a membership for an unknown western man for \$1,000. In addition to this sum \$1,000 will be the price of the initiation. Memberships were sold seven years ago as low as \$13,500.

At Norfolk, Va., Dr. William Schmoele of Portsmouth has been used to recover \$5,000,000 by Char's H. Borwn of New York. Dr. Schmoele is the only surviving officer of the former Memphis, El Paso & Pacific railway, which is now a part of the Texas & Pacific system.

A dispatch to the London Standard from Shanghai says a force of armed Boxers entered Cheng Tu Fu, capital of Szechuan province, September 15. Some of them were killed or captured in the streets of the city and the shops there are closed.

Heads of the passenger departments of the roads in the western passenger association decided not to change the position taken last week in the matter of declining to give rates for shipper's excursions to Minneapolis, St. Paul and other cities.