

AETNA VOMITS FIRE AND LAVA

TOWN OF BORRELLO IN SERIOUS DANGER AND INHABITANTS ARE LEAVING.

VINEYARDS DESTROYED

River of Molten Rock and Earth is Winding Its Way Toward Belpasso and Nicolosi, Destroying Everything in Its Path—Stream is Twenty Feet High and More Than Thousand Wide.

Catania, Sicily, March 24.—Mount Aetna is again in a state of violent activity. A pronounced movement within the crater began last night, steadily increased in volume and tonight the gravest fears are entertained of the results if the activity continues in its present form.

At Nicolosi, 10 miles from the crater, the entire population had gathered in the square to watch the volcano, which appeared as a black phantom above. Now and then it was illuminated with flashes of light.

Higher up, the rain of cinders became thicker and extended like a veil across the mountain. A deep roaring was heard and detonations resembling artillery followed one another in quick succession, while the earth shook.

Flashes of Fire.

Proceeding a little further four colossal columns of black smoke could be observed. Occasionally they were cut by flashes of fire, presenting an awe-inspiring spectacle. The wind opened the clouds for a moment and a wide strip of fire could be seen in the distance, advancing with monstrous contortions. It fell like a torrent from Mount Capriolo, spreading out in the valley below.

The meteorological station on the mountainside has been destroyed and the village of Borrello is in serious danger. The populace, terror stricken, are fleeing from their homes. There have been 50 earth shocks and there is a continuous vibration and trembling for many miles.

Help for the people of the devastated region is being organized here. A detachment of soldiers and a large number of engineers and doctors have been stationed at various points to see that these orders are obeyed.

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The authorities have issued orders that no one shall be permitted to go beyond Belpasso and soldiers have been stationed at various points to see that these orders are obeyed.

"The eruption is very grave and I think it will become much more serious. The lava has covered five miles in 16 hours and if my calculations are right, the eruption of the volcano will not be short."

Dr. Walter Craven, an Englishman, after his return today from Nicolosi, where he made photographs of the lava, said:

"Horrible detonations made the ground tremble under my feet and it was impossible to keep the camera steady more than for a moment."

Many tourists, among whom Americans are conspicuous, are pouring into Catania to view the spectacle. Latest reports from Nicolosi said that the lava is moving at the rate of about 100 feet an hour and that it has passed over Mount San Leo. Cardinal Francesco Nava, archbishop of Catania, visited Nicolosi this afternoon. There earth shocks continue.

PERSONAL QUEST.

Berlin, March 24.—Ex-President Roosevelt is to be the emperor's personal guest at the palace in Berlin May 12 to May 15.

DRAWING WEB ABOUT THE ACCUSED

FIRE INSURANCE INQUIRY DEVELOPS STRONG EVIDENCE AGAINST BUCKLEY.

HAD STRANGE INFLUENCE

Testimony Tends to Show That He Exercised Such Power at Albany That He Could Even Tell What Court Decisions Were Going to Be Before They Were Made Public.

New York, March 24.—Bit by bit, there was unfolded at the fire insurance inquiry today the story of the career of William H. Buckley, the Albany lawyer who for years was legislative agent for the fire insurance companies. On the face of documentary evidence produced, Buckley was well nigh inviolable at Albany.

Buckley's influence at Albany went even further, according to his own words. He was able to learn in advance a decision of the court of appeals, he said, and would keep Sheldon informed as to what was coming off in court.

When evidence was produced showing E. E. McCall, now a state supreme court justice, had written Buckley's name above his own on a check for \$25,000, which was one of the three loans made by the Phoenix Fire Insurance company of Brooklyn through Sheldon, McCall knew nothing at all of the transaction and had merely acted in the matter at his request.

When seen this afternoon Justice McCall said he did not care to discuss the insurance inquiry except to say he had never any relations or transactions whatever with Mr. Sheldon, with his company or with any fire insurance company except the Munich. He said he was for some three years the retained counsel for the Munich company.

The letters relative to the court of appeals were read later in the afternoon. There were two of them. The first, dated April 29, 1903, was from Sheldon to Buckley. It read in part: "I note the court of appeals has decided the franchise tax law is constitutional. I wish I could have got onto this early enough, for I am satisfied this is one of the things which have been hanging over the market, and if I could have learned previously what the decision was likely to be, there would have been money in this for all of us."

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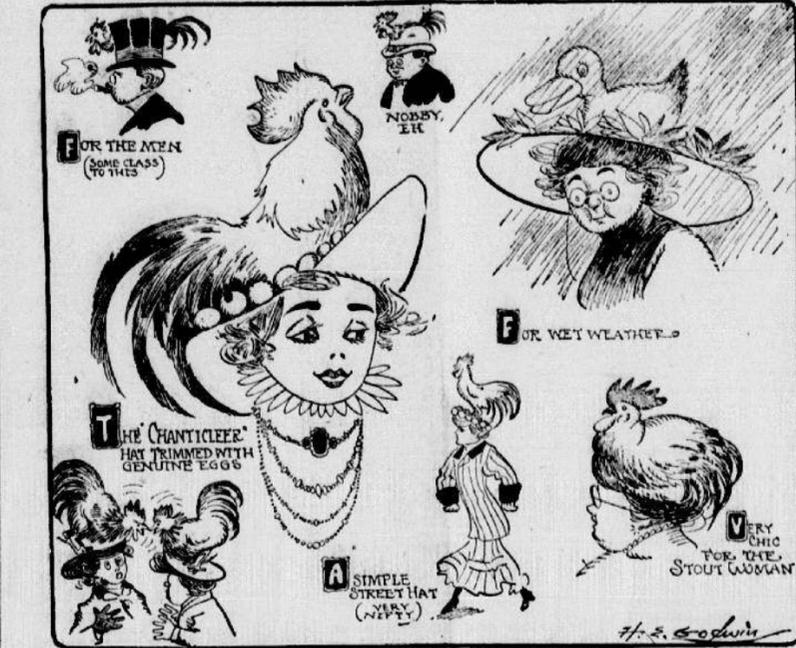
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HATS A LA CHANTICLEER



DEMOCRATS CHOOSE THE MINORITY MEMBERS

FOUR REPRESENTATIVES NAMED TO SERVE ON THE RULES COMMITTEE.

Washington, March 24.—With scarcely the semblance of a struggle, the democratic members of the house tonight nominated the following four minority members of the enlarged rules committee: Champ Clark, 125 votes; Oscar Underwood of Alabama, 102; Lincoln Dixon of Indiana, 99; John J. Fitzgerald of New York, 98.

A long list of candidates received scattering votes. Representative Slayden of Texas received 69, the highest number given to an unsuccessful aspirant. The total vote of the caucus was 140 and the number necessary to elect was 71.

The expected fight on Representative Fitzgerald for his attitude on the rules question at the beginning of the present congress, when he, with 23 other democrats left the leadership of Champ Clark and voted with the republicans, materialized early in the meeting, but failed of any definite result.

Resolved by the democratic members of the house of representatives of the first congress in caucus assembled, that we hereby instruct the democratic members of the rules committee selected by this caucus to support any resolution or bill seeking to take from the speaker of the house the standing committees of the committee and that they use all honorable efforts to bring about such a change in the rules of the house as to have a committee on committees selected by the house, whose duty it shall be to appoint all the standing committees thereof."

When the caucus adjourned, Mr. Sims announced he would circulate a call for another caucus to consider the resolution. Only 25 signatures under the rules are required to compel the holding of another caucus. Mr. Sims was not in the best of humor over the manner in which his resolution was treated.

"They will find they are not through with this matter," he said. "I shall take steps to have another caucus called to commit the party and the democratic members of the new rules committee to this proposition."

The minority leaders, Messrs. Champ Clark and Underwood, apparently were satisfied with the result of the caucus.

"Everything was harmonious," said Mr. Clark, "and the contest tonight was a good natured one."

Mr. Underwood expressed himself in similar fashion. All the democratic nominees including Mr. Fitzgerald, were warmly congratulated.

GOES TO AETNA.

Naples, March 24.—Frank A. Perret of Brooklyn, assistant director of the royal observatory on Mount Vesuvius, left here today for Mount Aetna.

VICTIMS OF FIRE SLEEP ON GROUND

CHARLESTON, W. VA., MARCH 24.—With almost every house in the prosperous mountain village of Mount Hope destroyed by fire today, at least 2,000 homeless persons are tonight sleeping on the common conditions which followed the conflagration are much worse than early reports indicated.

Upon the arrival at Mount Hope tonight of the special train bearing the national guard, tents were distributed and an effort is being made to house as many as possible. Many of the families lost all their household effects, and even with the assistance rendered by the troops, the situation is fraught with great suffering.

AMERICAN VESSELS SEIZED

NICARAGUAN SOLDIERS TAKE SHIPS BELONGING TO CITIZENS OF THE U. S.

Washington, March 24.—Telegrams from Bluefields, Nicaragua, show there is still some military activity in that section. A dispatch from the United States consulate at Bluefields states that last Sunday a party of Madriz soldiers, commanded by Enrique Espinosa, a brother of the former Nicaraguan minister to Washington, attacked and captured the town of Prinzapula and bound and made prisoner Signor Irrara, the provisional governor.

This arrest was made in the name of the Madriz faction. The party also seized two sea-going schooners belonging to Americans, but flying the Nicaraguan flag. It is thought these vessels were intended for use in transporting Madriz's troops to Bluefields. The crews of the two vessels were compelled to serve their new commanders at the point of guns.

The United States consul suggests that if the local authorities are not able to afford protection to American property the United States naval commanders be given authority to act in the premises and that they investigate the seizure of these two vessels and compel their return to their lawful owners.

GENERAL BELL RECOVERING.

Washington, March 24.—Major-General Franklin Bell, chief of staff of the army, who was injured yesterday in an automobile accident in which Mrs. Slocum lost her life, was pronounced today to be recovering. A coroner's jury will inquire into the circumstances which led to the collision of the trolley car and automobile.

CATLEMEN TO TESTIFY.

Washington, March 24.—Having heard retailers and packers of meat in an effort to fix the responsibility for the prevailing high prices, the senate committee making an investigation of this subject has arranged to take the testimony of cattle raisers at a hearing next Tuesday. Cattlemen from Texas and New Mexico will be the witnesses.

HARPER IS NAMED.

Washington, D. C., March 24.—(Special.)—The president today sent to the senate the name of Campbell C. Harp as postmaster at Hamilton, W. W. Harper was named postmaster at Anaconda to succeed H. F. Errett.

THRONGS DO HONOR TO THE NOTED AMERICAN

CROWDS SO DENSE ABOUT EGYPTIAN HOTEL ROOSEVELT USES THE GARDEN ENTRANCE.

Cairo, Egypt, March 24.—Colonel Roosevelt's visit excites such interest here, not only among the many Americans who have arrived at Cairo purposely to see the ex-president, but among the natives generally, that he is taking measures to avoid demonstrations. Great crowds gathered about the entrance of Shepherd's hotel, where the Roosevelts are quartered, and twice today Colonel and Mrs. Roosevelt were compelled to leave the building by the garden entrance to keep away from the enthusiastic people.

Half an hour was spent this evening in conversation with the khedive, who showed the keenest interest in Colonel Roosevelt's hunting tour. Politics was not discussed but there was an exchange of views on irrigation and agriculture. The conversation was conducted in English.

In the meantime the khedive received Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Ethel with many marks of distinction. Coffee was served in gold cups encrusted with diamonds. The khedive began the conversation in French and it was carried on in that language. She was particularly interested in the position of women in America.

The khedive returned the ex-president's visit at the American agency where he remained some time. The exchange of visits has given the greatest pleasure to both. In the evening the Roosevelt party went by automobile to the Mena house which is close to the pyramids, to see the sphinx by moonlight. Articles which appeared recently in some of the newspapers representing the young Egypt party, attacking Colonel Roosevelt for his speeches at Khartoum in which he emphasized the benefits of British rule in the Sudan led to apprehension that there might be unpleasant demonstrations here, but Colonel Roosevelt has declined the offer of police protection, and the premier and other officials are convinced there is nothing to fear.

LOSES HIS HAND.

Honolulu, Thursday, March 24.—An accidental gunshot wound has cost Angus McPhee, winner of the world's championship in roping steers at the recent meet in Wyoming, his left hand. McPhee is employed at the Parker ranch on this island and his wound was so serious that amputation was necessary.

DEMOCRATS INDORSE CHURCH FOR MAYOR

Helena, March 24.—(Special.)—Democratic primaries were held here this evening and the Fifth ward delegation to the city convention was instructed in favor of W. R. Church, business manager of the Independent, for the mayoralty nomination; and for James Slattery for the treasurer'ship. In only one ward was there a printed ballot.

The aldermanic candidates: First ward, William Lory; Second ward, to be filled later; Third ward, Ira T. Wright; Fourth, H. G. Murphy; Fifth, Thomas Jorud; Sixth, H. Vimpany; Seventh, Hedley Smith.

DEATH REAPS FAINTS AWAY BEFORE THE JUDGE

THOUSANDS SACRIFICED ON ALTAR OF IGNORANCE AND LACK OF SANITATION. ACCUSED GRAFTING COUNCILMAN FALLS TO FLOOR WHEN ASKED IF GUILTY.

OWEN PLEADS FOR RELIEF SIX MORE CONFESSIONS

Senator Makes Startling Address in Upper House, Urging the Passage of a Bill Creating a National Department of Health to Protect the Lives of the People of the United States. Cockrane Admits Having Received Six Thousands Dollars for His Votes on Certain Propositions—Former President of Common Council Has His Liberty Cut Short by the Court.

Washington, March 24.—That 600,000 lives are sacrificed annually in this country on the altar of ignorance and neglect of sanitary laws, was asserted by Senator Owen in a speech in the senate today in support of his bill creating a department of health, with a cabinet officer at its head. Mr. Owen's address was based on the theory that the various health agencies of the government should be concentrated. He declared with proper attention to the prevention of contagion and to protection against the use of polluted water and impure and adulterated food, human life could be greatly extended.

In addition to the 600,000 cases of fatal illness annually, Mr. Owen asserted an average of 3,000,000 were constantly sick in this country with preventable diseases. Mr. Owen said he had been informed by an expert that 90 per cent of the children of one of the southern states were afflicted with hookworm.

"I don't care who the expert is," remarked Mr. Money of Mississippi, "I don't believe a word of what he says."

Money on Tap. Mr. Owen having asserted hookworm could be cured by two doses of thymol at a cost of 25 cents, Senator Heyburn suggested there was \$1,000,000 "now on tap" for the eradication of the hookworm.

Mr. Gallinger thought that since there was so much money available to check the mysterious hookworm, there would be a corresponding increase in the disease. Mr. Owen charged that there had been suppression of facts about the bubonic plague in San Francisco a few years ago, and he asserted such a course would not have been pursued if the matter had been in charge of a health department instead of a mere health bureau.

"I am afraid the senator is drawing on his imagination for his facts," objected Mr. Gallinger. "I will give the senate the whole record," the Oklahoma senator retorted, "if the senate invites it."

"Do invite it," Mr. Gallinger said. "You shall have all the facts within two days," said Mr. Owen.

Malaria. In conclusion Mr. Owen spoke of the prevalence of malaria in Oklahoma. He declared every school teacher should be armed with a pamphlet of instruction against the ravages of poisonous flies and mosquitoes. Replying to the Oklahoma senator Mr. Gallinger expressed the opinion that the government should go slow in establishing a department of health. He thought the public health and marine hospital service and health department in the various states were doing reasonably well. The contention that the period of life could be materially lengthened be regarded as "a dream, pure and simple."

TRouble IS BREWING BETWEEN COUNTRIES. Washington, March 24.—Trouble is brewing between Chile and Peru. The charge of affairs of Peru left Santiago yesterday and United States Minister Pierpont at Santiago, in a communication to the state department, says considerable excitement throughout the country has been aroused in consequence of the severance of diplomatic relations.

The present difficulty has grown out of the recent expulsion of Peruvian priests from the provinces of Tacama and Arica. Peruvian peace is also threatened from another quarter. Ecuador is said to be excited over the anticipated ruling of the king of Spain in the boundary dispute between these two countries. Ecuador seems to have anticipated that the king's decision will be favorable to Peru and on this account the tension throughout the country is said to be great and increasing.

ARGUMENT IS MADE FOR AN INCOME TAX

New York, March 24.—Senator Borah of Idaho, and Lawson Purdy, president of the department of taxes and assessments of New York city, both argued tonight before the Economic league in favor of a federal income tax that it will impose on the people a sense of responsibility and a growing habit of economy in government expenditures. Senator Borah instances Senator Aldrich's recent statement that \$200,000,000 a year could be saved to the government by business methods.

"If that be true," he continued, "it reveals a political crime in which both political parties are participles crimines. If that be true, it is evident that the disease which has destroyed every republic has fastened itself on us. Who is paying this total? Every dollar is levied on consumption, not one dollar on wealth. So long as that is true, there will be no effort on the part of wealth to stop such a vicious extravagance."

HEAVY FIRE LOSS.

Abilene, Kas., March 24.—A prairie fire that started yesterday afternoon near the railroad tracks, four miles west of here, and burned north was checked by farmers early today, but not until nine farms had been swept clean and much small stock killed. The loss will reach \$50,000.

Salt Lake City, March 24.—Luellen E. Driskell was pronounced guilty of murder in the first degree by a jury in the district court tonight. He has been on trial for the slaying of Special Officer Charles Riley on the night of October 5, 1909. Riley had arrested Driskell and a companion for a holdup. On the way to the police station Driskell, it is alleged, drew a revolver from the waistband of his trousers and shot Riley twice. He was arrested in Ogden a few days afterward and made a confession. This confession he repudiated. On the witness stand he related a story of shocking cruelties, which, he claimed, had been inflicted upon him by the detectives to wring admissions from him. All his statements were denied by the police department. In returning its verdict the jury recommended life imprisonment.