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GOES DIAMOND CRAZY.

Arkansas Farmers Desert Crops in Their Search.

MURFREESBORO, Ark., Sept. 24.—Southwestern Arkansas has gone diamond crazy, the cottoncrops are spoiling for want of picking, farmers in all directions have abandoned their plows and are rushing on to the Little Missouri River, from whence comes the story of the diamond finds. Labor, heretofore far in the excess of the demand, is impossible to get. The harvest fields are being manned by the women while the male members of the family are out combing the banks of the Little Missouri in search of wealth.

There are real diamonds in Pike Pike county and plenty of them. Two and one-half miles southwest of here is the crater of an extinct volcano in which occurs peridotite, the South African diamond rock, and up to date more than 140 stones, running in size from one to six and one-half carats have been found. These stones, according to the United States geologists, are of the finest quality and luster, and are worth just as much as those found along the famous Vaal river.

The volcano is located on the north shore of the Little Missouri River, the cone rising out of the surrounding level plain to an elevation of about 200 feet. It is covered with a dense foliage of pine and oak trees and the peculiar formation would not be noticed by the ordinary passerby.

As far as development has gone it has been shown that the crater is at least one mile in diameter. Ten shafts sunk within this radius have tapped the diamond bearing rock and as many more are being sunk for prospect.

Owing to the fact that the Little Missouri has cut part of its channel through the base of the cone of the volcano, a number of prospectors are working the shoals along the river bed and are getting good returns. Quite a few good diamonds have been found along the river bank, having undoubtedly been washed from the volcano. Several prospectors are now erecting screens, through which they are washing the pebbles. This work, so far, is very primitive, but profitable.

Because all stones so far found were either on the surface or directly under it, the properties in the vicinity of the finds are patrolled by armed guards, and signs posted in conspicuous places read: "Armed guards; don't trespass."

According to the geologists sent here by the government to investigate the diamond field, at some remote period the Gulf of Mexico extended as far north as the volcano in which the diamonds are found. During an eruption, they say, under the water the sudden cooling of the earth, together with the great pressure, formed the diamonds. The stones are found in quantity about twenty feet below the surface, just under a bed of gravel. No drill yet has been sunk deep enough to find out the exact depth of the peridotite.

The story of the original discovery is of more than passing interest.

John W. Huddleston, a poor Nashville farmer, two years ago purchased 243 acres of wht was considered very poor land on the banks of the Little Missouri River for \$200. About six months later, while planting corn, he noticed a shining pebble, and, picking it up, shoved it in his pocket.

He forgot about it until a few weeks later, when he was at Murfreesboro trying to negotiate a loan of money. Recalling the story of his odd find to Judge Pinnix, a local lawyer, the latter asked to see the stone, and upon its being produced he suggested that it be sent to Little Rock for examination.

The result has already been told. Huddleston sold his \$200 farm a few days ago for \$36,000 and last week removed with his family to Arkadelphia, Ark., a college town. Huddleston is an illiterate man, being unable to either read or write, but he says he is going to give his children all the advantages of a college education.

BRIDE WAITS VAINLY.

Groom Was Broke and Failed to Appear—Stepmother Goes Back on Him.

SCRANTON, Pa., Sept. 24.—Miss Margaret McDonald of South Scranton is in a position to sympathize with the young woman celebrated in song for "waiting at the church."

Attired in her bridal robes, with the guests assembled and the priest who was to tie the knot, she waited in suspense at her home Monday night for the appearance of George Danner, her intended husband. But the hour set for the wedding arrived and passed and the bridegroom did not materialize. The young woman, attended by several young ladies who were to have attended her, went to her room, the priest returned to his home, and the guests dispersed. At the Church of the Nativity, where the bridal procession was expected, the lights were put out and the marriage was off.

It developed later than Danner was "broke," and that his stepmother, on who mhe had depended for the money, went back on him at the last moment. Without money he could not pay for the wedding, and, instead of going to the home of Miss McDonald and explaining matters, he left the city.

FIXES LIBERIAN BOUNDARY.

Treaty Delimiting Frontier Practically Concluded.

PARIS, Sept. 24.—A treaty delimiting the frontier of Liberia and the French Ivory coast, has practically been concluded, and is likely to be signed at the end of the week. The frontier, which has never been delimited, was a constant source of dispute, and the negotiations on the subject, which have been under way for some time, came to a head during the present visit of President Barclay of Liberia to Paris. Mr. Barclay thinks France is getting the best of the bargain, but the slight territorial loss Liberia will suffer is offset by the slight territorial loss Liberia will suffer is offset by the advantage of a definite recognition of her boundary.

CANADIAN PACIFIC BLAMED.

Coroner's Jury Orders Two Arrests For Fatal Wreck at Caledon.

TORONTO, Ont., Sept. 24.—The coroner's jury investigating the recent wreck on the Canadian Pacific Railway at Caledon, in which seven people were killed and a number injured, made its report early today and directed the arrest of the engineer and conductor.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company was also blamed for putting inexperienced men in charge of passenger trains.

ROB SWISS BANK.

BERN, Sept. 24.—Two Russians armed with revolvers entered the Bank of Montreaux at Montreaux today, killed the cashier and carried off the contents of the safe. They were pursued by a crowd and were captured, but not before they had badly wounded four of their pursuers.

BIERD LEAVES PANAMA.

PANAMA, Sept. 24.—W. G. Bierd, general manager of the Panama Railroad, has resigned, to take effect October 1. He will probably start for the United States Saturday. His retirement is much regretted by foreigners and natives, he having rendered valuable and efficient services during the last two years.

MAY FINE WESTERN UNION.

MADISON, Wis., Sept. 24.—The Western Union Telegraph Company is reported to be laying plans to test the validity of the ad valorem law, just placed in operation in Wisconsin, as applied to telegraph companies. It is said that the payment of taxes has been delayed so long that the company is now subject to a 15 per cent penalty.

THE WHOLE TRUTH.

Most Editors Too Charitable to Print All—Kansas Editor is Not.

People who are given to abusing the newspaper for what it prints or omits to print, as the case may be, should take a hint from an article published in a Kansas paper, and be thankful that the editor does not always tell the whole truth or go into details concerning certain affairs.

The Kansas editor, in describing an entertainment in his town says:

It was, with one or two exceptions, the rottenest thing of the kind ever seen in Atchison. The singing of Miss Rilde Farlinson was something awful, sounding most of the time like a pig squealing for something to eat. Miss Farlinson is the victim of politeness. Her friends pretend to enjoy her singing in private whereas they are bored. They spurred her on to make herself extremely ridiculous last night, and did her great harm by not giving her a hint as to the truth. The Landerson sisters played a duet on the piano for fifteen minutes by the watch. It was simply awful, but the audience thought it would not be polite not to applaud, and brought on a second attack, which lasted ten minutes. The sisters were probably ruined for good housekeepers by this missapplied kindness of the audience. Falsen Iterson, a youth who should be put to work, sang one of those mandlin popular songs about Sadie going away from home because her father would not keep her supplied with street car tickets. Falsen loafs around with the girls too much, and he will never amount to anything. The violin solo by Miss Ancherly was too bad for description, and the accompaniment was no better.

The recitations by Annie Chanter and Alice Pointen were the same old thing, on the same old subjects. Yet both were applauded and their minds turned from the right channel of housework and dish-washing. It was an unfortunate and painful affair throughout, and no good can come from it.

SOON TO REACH EDMONTON.

Grand Trunk Pacific's President Tells of Work Under Way.

EDMONTON, Ont., Sept. 25.—Chas. N. Hays, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific, is here. When questioned as to the probable entry of a train into Edmonton, Mr. Hays replied:

"I expect to run into Edmonton on our system the next time I visit your city. The Grand Trunk Pacific will reach Edmonton next spring or early in the summer. We are ready now to lay track from Saskatoon eastward to the completed portion and west from Saskatoon continuously and without interruption."

WISCONSIN CENTRAL IS SAFE.

President of Road Says Transfer of the Property is Out of Question.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 24.—W. A. Bradford, president of the Wisconsin Central, in emphatically declaring that there is absolutely no possibility of a change in the control of the property, said:

"The syndicate is a small one—a sort of family affair, and it is going to keep the property. I do not know that any one covets it, but if they do their ambitions will not be realized. There will be no sale and no changes of any kind either in the ownership or management of the Wisconsin Central."

SAYS IT CANNOT PAY.

Road Admits \$700,000 Debt in 75-Year-Old Case

CLEVELAND, Sept. 24.—When the 75-year-old case of James Compton of Washington, D. C., against the Wabash Railroad, involving \$700,000 the plaintiff alleges is due him on claims he brought up long before the civil war was called in the United States court today the defense averred it could not pay, admittin the debt.

Rush Taggart of New York, for the Wabash, informed the court that the road is using up its net earnings in paying 6 per cent interest on two mortgages amounting to \$2,000,000 contracted before the claims were sold to Compton. He said the road could not find the money to pay. Judson Harmon, former attorney-general in Cleveland's cabinet, represented Mr. Compton.

Health in the Canal Zone.

The high wages paid make it a mighty temptation to our young artisans to join the force of skilled workmen needed to construct the Panama Canal. Many are restrained however by the fear of fever and malaria. It is the knowing ones—those who have used Electric Bitters, who go there without this fear, well knowing they are safe from malarious influence with Electric Bitters on hand. Cures blood poison too, biliousness, weakness and all stomach, liver and kidney troubles. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers, druggist, 50c.

VICTIM OF YELLOW JACK.

William Foster of 15th Cavalry Dies in Cienfuegos, Cuba.

HAYANA, Sept. 24.—Private William Foster of the 15th Cavalry, who was taken down with yellow fever on September 9, died today at Cienfuegos. No other soldier has the fever and the authorities do not think there will be any more cases among the troops. There are 11 cases among civilians at Cienfuegos and one at Los Palos.

WANAMAKER IS CONFIDENT.

NEW YORK, Sept. 24.—John Wanamaker arrived from Europe yesterday on board the steamship Oceanic of the White Star Line. Mr. Wanamaker said he had seen some ridiculous statements in the papers as to the unsoundness of the financial situation in America. Some of these statements had come from men of whom he had never heard.

"Who are they?" Mr. Wanamaker asked.

DIAMONDS TO STAY UP.

LONDON, Sept. 24.—The great crisis in the diamond trade has been settled by a pooling agreement between the De Beers and Premier Diamond companies. The details have not been made public, but the selling agency will be maintained and will deal in the products of both mines on a basis to which the Transvaal government, as the chief factor in the Premier Company, has consented. It follows that the prices of diamonds probably will be maintained fully.

FILIPINO ASSEMBLY TO MEET.

MANILA, Sept. 24.—Governor-General Smith has issued a proclamation convening the assembly for October 16.

BUYING OLD FIDDLES.

Many Fine Instruments Have Been Picked Up Cheap.

Great numbers of fine old violins and violoncellos that come into the high class market of London are procured through the medium of advertisements inserted in obscure country papers and especially those of ancient cathedral cities.

Of course few of the fiddles thus obtained are veritable masterpieces, but a great many of them are fine examples of early English and foreign makers, and they are often bought for ridiculously small prices by a group of experts, who have brought the business to a lucrative system. Many a struggling family of long descent, in some out of the way part of the country, happens to see in the one county newspaper of the week that good prices are given for old fiddles, and some long forgotten instrument in a lumber room or put away on a shelf suddenly comes to mind.

Correspondence follows. The dealer sends a deposit in order that some fiddle spoken of may be sent to him and examined, and he usually replies that the instrument sent is dilapidated and but so-so generally, but that he is willing to give 30 shillings or £2 for it. In a great many cases the offer is accepted offhand, and in this way most of the finest fiddles extant of the second class come into the hands of dealers. Only lately a cello that came from a Shropshire farm at the price of £2 sold the same day to a west end dealer for nearly £100.

One of the most shrewd and respected of all these dealers was until a year or two ago a humble member of the orchestra of a London suburban theater. He began to advertise in remote papers to the greatest limits of his scanty wages and is now one of the most extensive and prosperous dealers in the trade.—London Tit-Bits.

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