

FLAMES DESTROY OLD CODY HOME

Boyhood Residence of Buffalo Bill Rich in Historic Interest

Leavenworth, Kan., Dec. 25.—A brief press dispatch which told of the burning of the old deserted Cody Hotel on the "Old Military Road" between this city and Atchison, revives the history of one of the most unique communities in the country.

The building was nearly sixty years ago run as a hotel by Isaac Cody, father of Col. W. F. Cody, or "Buffalo Bill." Here Col. Cody lived in his boyhood, and to this spot he was to return early next spring for an outing and visit with the old men and women he knew in his boyhood.

The Cody hotel stood on the prairie a few miles from Kickapoo City, the oldest town in Kansas. There probably is not another tract of land of equal area in Kansas that is as important historically as Kickapoo township, which borders on Atchison county, in the northeastern corner of Leavenworth county.

Ruins of Old Fort.

Lewis and Clark and other travelers and explorers who came up the Missouri river more than a century ago state that in the vicinity of the mouth of Salt creek were the ruins of an old French fort, and the site of one of the principal villages of the Kaw Indians.

Kickapoo Island in the Missouri river, was discovered by the early French and was called by the Indians Wan-car-da-war-card-a, or the Bear Medicine Island, but for what reason is not known.

Lewis and Clark stopped at this island in 1804, as did also Maj. Long in 1819. In 1822 the Kickapoo Indians settled at the present site of Kickapoo, and Rev. J. C. Berryman, a Methodist, established a mission among them and lived there for several years.

In 1826 the Catholics established a mission there under the direction of Fathers Hoecken and Van Quickenborn. Keennekak, the Kickapoo prophet, one of the most noted Indians of his time, lived at Kickapoo, and is buried there.

Chief His Faithful Friend.

Col. Cody during his boyhood days paid many visits to the big chief, who was his faithful friend.

Charles Augustus Murray, the noted English traveler, visited Kickapoo during the 'thirties, and in 1844 Francis Parkman, the American traveler and author, sojourned there and mentions it in his "California and Oregon Trail." In 1844, Maj. Robert Wilson established a trading post in Kickapoo township. He occupied it until 1852, when he sold it to Maj. M. P. Rively.

At Rively's store in 1854 the first squatters' meeting in Kansas territory was held. In the autumn of 1853, in anticipation of Kansas being made a territory, a convention was held at Kickapoo for the purpose of nominating a delegate to congress.

Kickapoo at one time was a contestant for the state capital. During the border war days it was the most notorious rendezvous of the border ruffians, and was the headquarters of the famous Kickapoo Rangers. One of the first newspapers of Kansas, the Pioneer, was published at Kickapoo in 1854.

His Last Word.

Here is one case where the husband had the last word and possibly scored a point. It was during a little spat his wife had been talking for ten minutes without a letup and the end came only when she asserted vehemently: "There, I hope I've made myself plain!" "Made yourself plain, my dear?" he replied. "Why those your heart, I didn't know you had anything to do with it. I thought you were born that way."

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After twelve years of public service as congressman and senator from Washington, Wesley L. Jones, one of that state's representatives in the national upper house, can say he never knew a public man who sold his vote or his influence. In an address at Chicago he said: "The man who says the house and the senate are not honest is in need himself of close watching. In no equal number of men in any profession or occupation can greater ability, integrity, and devotion to the public welfare be found than in the men who fill the public offices in Washington."

CENSUS BUREAU FIGURES ON INFANT MORTALITY

Washington, D. C., Dec. 25.—Following recent special announcements of vital statistics drawn from Census Bulletin 112, which contains the preliminary results for the year 1910, an advance summary presenting statistics on the mortality of infants in that year was issued today by Director Durand, of the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce and Labor. It was prepared under the supervision of Dr. Cressy L. Milbur, chief statistician for vital statistics, in the Census Bureau.

The deaths compiled in the advance bulletin and the annual registration report do not include all the deaths that occur in the United States, but only those returned from what is known as the "death registration area." This embraces certain states having effective registration laws and certain cities in nonregistration states in which deaths are collected under local ordinances. From this area the Census Bureau received transcripts of 805,412 deaths in 1910, of which number 154,373, or 19.2 per cent, were infants under 1 year of age. In 1909 the total number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 140,957, representing 19.1 per cent of the total 732,558 in that year.

The Second Year of Life.

The number of deaths during the second year of life (33,050, or 4.1 per cent) was only about one-fifth as great as the number during the first year, although it exceeded the number shown for any 5-year period between the age of 5 and that of 35. In 1909 the number of such deaths was 30,279, or 4.1 per cent of the total. It is evident that the infant mortality during the first two years of infant life, and especially during the first year, is a very important factor of the general death rate, and that the ascertainment of the proportion of deaths during the first or second year of life may be of great value in devising practical sanitary measures, even though such a comparison does not measure precisely the true infantile mortality.

It is customary among sanitarians and statisticians to measure the rate of infantile mortality by comparing the number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age during a given year with the number of births, still births being excluded from both births and deaths. But such ratios are not available for the United States for the entire registration area, or even with satisfactory completeness for a single state or large city. Births are registered nowhere as fully as they should be, and consequently, the computed rate of infantile mortality would be somewhat too high. Hence, for the registration area as a whole, and practically all the registration states and cities, there is no general comparison available except the very crude one of deaths of infants under 1 year of age or of children under 5 to the total number of deaths recorded.

Percentage of Deaths of Infants and Children.

Very marked differences are noted in the percentages of infant and child deaths to total deaths for various areas. The ratio of deaths of infants

ranges among the registration states from only 11 per cent for California to 24 per cent for Pennsylvania. This does not indicate necessarily that the infantile mortality in Pennsylvania is more than twice as great as in California, since in the latter state, which has grown so largely by migration from other states, there is an unusually large proportion of adults and a correspondingly low proportion of children in the total population. Exceptionally high ratios may be due in some instances to the existence of infant homes or institutions to which children are taken from the city. For example, the high proportion shown for Lackawanna, N. Y. (79 per cent under 5 years and 62 per cent under 1 year of age), is due to the deaths of infants from the city of Buffalo.

In the entire death registration area 19 out of every 100 deaths of all ages in 1910 were among infants under 1 year and 27 among children under 5 years. Pennsylvania recorded the highest percentage both in deaths of infants under 1 year and of children under 5 years, namely, 24 per cent for the former and 34 per cent for the latter, and California, the lowest, 11 per cent, and 16 per cent, respectively. In Colorado the percentages were 16 and 22; Connecticut, 20 and 27; Indiana, 16 and 24; Maine, 17 and 22; Maryland, 20 and 28; Massachusetts, 21 and 28; Michigan, 20 and 27; Minnesota, 19 and 26; Montana, 18 and 25; New Hampshire, 18 and 23; New Jersey, 21 and 29; New York, 19 and 27; North Carolina (including only municipalities having a population of 1,000 or over in 1900) 20 and 29; Ohio, 17 and 24; Pennsylvania, 24 and 34; Rhode Island, 23 and 32; Utah, 22 and 30; Vermont, 14 and 18; Washington, 16 and 22; and Wisconsin, 20 and 27.

Of all cities in registration states, as well as registration cities in non-registration states the lowest percentages of deaths of infants under 1 year, 4 per cent, and deaths of infants under 5 years, 6 per cent, were shown for Santa Cruz, Cal. Lackawanna, N. Y., reported the highest percentage of deaths, 72, among infants under 1 year and also the highest, 79, among children under 5 years of age.

Twin Gods of War and Melody.

How do statesmen get themselves into the frame of mind to declare war? According to a popular German story the method in Bismarck's case in 1866 was one that would hardly be suspected. His subordinate Kendorff was an expert pianist and Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff put it, "used, it is said, to fulfill toward him the function which David fulfilled toward Saul." On one evening Bismarck was unusually moody and Kendorff surpassed himself at the piano. "Thank you, my dear Kendorff," said Bismarck finally, "you have soothed me and soothed me so much good my mind is made up, we shall declare war against Austria."

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MORE FREEDOM FOR RUSSIANS

Recent Passage of Tolerant Religious Measure Promises Relief

By Associated Press. St. Petersburg, Dec. 25.—A more progressive attitude has been exhibited by the Council of Empire at its present session by the passage of the bill for religious freedom, which it had kept in the committee stage for over three years.

Though the measure issues from the Council of Empire in a shape greatly differing from the version passed by the Duma and with amendments limiting somewhat the operation of the principle of equality of religions, it is generally recognized that that principle has been satisfactorily sustained by the upper chamber. The bill embodies in fit legislative form this principle of equality of religions, or of liberty of conscience, as proclaimed by imperial manifesto on April 30, 1905, which was the forerunner of the October manifesto.

The object of the manifesto was to remove the administrative ban upon converts from Orthodoxy—the state religion of Russia—to other Christian or non-Christian sects. Thirty or forty thousand non-Russians in the provinces of Kazan, Simbirsk and Penza returned from Christianity to Mohammedanism and other beliefs in virtue of the right granted by the manifesto. Nearly half a million ex-Catholics and ex-Unites (United Greeks) who had joined the state church under compulsion, at various periods of violent Russification, returned to the fold of the Catholic church in virtue of the same right, and liberty of passing from one denomination to another was taken advantage of by all who had felt oppressed in their religious convictions.

The bill deals only with the passage from one Christian confession to another, or from a non-Christian confession to a Christian one. It ignores the possibility of back-sliding from Christianity, tacitly leaving in force, however, the paragraph of the manifesto giving such unwilling Christians a chance to escape from it. As the paragraphs of the Criminal Code imposing a penalty for defections from Orthodoxy were repealed in 1906, the situation leaves any Russian subject free to follow his religious ideas, though the state takes cognizance only of declarations of adherence to any one of the constituted Christian congregations.

These include practically any form of Orthodox, Catholic or Protestant non-conformity, the only requirement being that the believers shall compose a congregation regularly organized and duly registered by the provincial authorities, and thus empowered to keep metrical books (registers of births, marriages and deaths). Amendments providing that the state shall register conversions from Christianity to one of the non-Christian religions were rejected by the Council. The view which obtained sup-

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port was the one holding that Russia is a Christian country which can tolerate defections from the ranks of Christianity, but can not acknowledge them.

The bill recognizes the unrestricted right of religious adherence only for persons of age. Forty days must elapse after the formal declaration of a change of adherence from one church to another before it can take effect, but this term may be disregarded in the case of persons stricken with serious illness. Article five of the measure expressly declares that a person passing from one religion, confession or creed to another does not suffer on that account any restriction or limitation of his or her personal or civil and political rights before the law. A reactionary amendment tending to deprive deserters from state office, acquired or inherited rank, and of exercising the right of jury, as well as active and passive electoral right, was rejected by an overwhelming majority of the Council.

The most important provisions of the bill deal with the religious adherence of persons under age. Children under fourteen remain in the church where they were baptized, unless both parents or the single living parent pass from one sect to another, in that case they may follow their parents or parent in the new sect, if the elders desire it. Children over fourteen remain in their former faith, but may join their parents' or single living parent's church with their consent. In case only one of the parents changes their faith, children under twenty-one remain in the faith professed by the other parent.

Three important amendments proposed by F. N. Durnovo, ex-minister of the Interior, and adopted by the Council, provide first that children over fourteen whose parents belong to a non-Christian or heathen sect or creed may be converted to Christianity before they are of age; second, the children of such parents may be converted to Orthodox Christianity even if they are younger than fourteen, with the consent of the parents; and third, that the consent of the parents may be dispensed with, for important reasons, with the

permission of the Holy Synod in each case.

The last amendment was adopted by the close vote of 73 to 71. These three amendments enables young Jews, Mohammedans and others to embrace Christianity without their parents' consent. Between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one this right includes any Christian denomination. Under fourteen it is confined solely to the Orthodox state church, either with or without the consent of the parents.

Italics.

Italics were first used about A. D. 1500 by Manutius, a Venetian printer, who dedicated them to the Italian states. Hence the name. The first book set up in italics was an edition of Vergil printed at Venice by Aldus in 1501. A copy of this rare book is preserved in the British museum.

Low Temperature.

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