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Culbertson, Montana

FOREST FIRES

Loss of Many Lives and Millions of Dollars Worth of Property Reported

A Dense Pall of Smoke Hung over the Country for Several Days During the Past Week

The dense pall of smoke that has obscured the sun in the vicinity of Culbertson for the past week is some indication of the fierce forest fires that are raging in the mountains of Montana, Idaho and Washington. The following dispatches clipped from the Great Falls Tribune tells the tale:

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 21.—Fifty dead in and around Wallace, Idaho; property loss, \$1,700,000. Fire has not enlarged area burned Saturday night.

Mullan probably safe, but fires threaten. Elk City reported still unburned. Four or more dead in fires near Newport, Wash.

One hundred and eighty men in the forestry service are missing in the St. Joe country.

Taft, Mont., had been burned; Saltsee is surrounded by fires; Deborgia and St. Regis are seriously threatened; Haugan, Mont., is reported destroyed.

Solid line of fire from Thompson Falls, Mont., for fifty miles to Idaho line, with portions of Belknap, White Pine, Noxon and Heron burning.

Confagration rages in Gallatin forest, Mont.

Thompson Falls is in peril.

Anatone, Asotin county, Wash., is threatened with destruction.

Ymir, B. C., is in danger from fires which are burning in the brush. Other fires are gaining headway in that region and the situation is alarming.

Avery, Idaho, destroyed and people are flocking to Tekoa, Wash.

OVER VAST AREA

Missoula, Aug. 21.—Mercilessly and relentlessly the forest fires in western Montana and Idaho are sweeping over a vast area, driving hundreds of fugitives before them, destroying small settlements and wiping out of existence millions of dollars worth of property. The situation tonight is more serious than it was in the early morning, except as to Wallace, Idaho, where it is believed that nearly half of the city will be saved. Communication with Wallace to the west has been possible at intervals today, but eastward it is entirely cut off and it is known that the entire east half of the town above Seventh street has been burned. West of that a hard fight is being made and with an improvement in the water supply there is a chance that the flames may be driven back. For a few minutes this afternoon the Missoula reporter at Wallace had a wire. He summarized the situation as follows:

"Thirteen lives lost; property loss, \$1,000,000; fire still threatening."

Elsewhere in the fire zone, the situation has gone from bad to worse today. The most serious incident is reported late this afternoon from the St. Joseph country, where 180 men engaged in the forestry service are missing, and it is feared they have been burned to death. When the fire approached the camp, where there were 200 men, two fire fighters took a horse and, riding the animal to death, reached another camp and organized a rescue party which penetrated the fire district at Bird Creek. Twenty of the men were found in the water where they had gone for safety, and they were unharmed. Of the remaining 180 no word has been received. The forestry service has organized a relief train, well equipped with pack animals, carrying provisions and hospital supplies, and will endeavor to get through the fire.

About 1,000 refugees have been brought into Missoula today. There is much distress among them. Their wants are being supplied by Missoula people, and they have been given temporary homes. The first of the trains which came in over the Northern Pacific's Coeur d'Alene branch brought the patients who had been in the Sisters' hospital at Wallace, and as many refugees as could find places on the small train. There were 250 on the train, and a second train at noon brought as many more. These people came from the small towns along the line between here and Wallace. Many of them had been roused from their sleep by the people on the train, whose summons had been their first intimation that the fire was near; there had been no sign of it when the people went to bed Saturday night. In most instances these folks escaped only with scanty clothing. A woman who had fled from her home at midnight gave birth to a child in a box car just after the arrival of the first train in Missoula.

Local hospitals are caring for the sick. Missoula homes have been opened freely, and the homeless are in comfortable shape for the present. Another train with 500 people on board is expected tonight over the Milwaukee road.

A dense pall of smoke hangs all over western Montana. In Missoula it was as dark as midnight at 5 o'clock, the dense smoke being given a lurid hue, which had all the semblance of the glow of fire, but

which was probably due to the sun.

The town of Taft, near the Idaho line, was entirely destroyed by daylight this morning. Saltsee, just below Taft, has been abandoned by its inhabitants, and is known to be surrounded by fire. Deborgia is seriously threatened, and one man is missing. At St. Regis the fire has crossed the river and threatens outlying buildings, although no fears are entertained for the town.

Haughan is reported to be destroyed. The last word from there was that the fire was dangerous, and the telephone operator was preparing to flee.

The area covered is, roughly estimated, 100 miles square, most of it in the mountains and sparsely settled. It is difficult to obtain information from any of the points, and it is impossible to reach some of the isolated places at all. There is a probability that there has been serious loss of life, as there are prospectors, camping parties and lumbermen all through the mountains, and the fire may have come upon them while they slept last night, or they may have awakened this morning to find themselves cut off.

Camas Prairie, a farming valley in the Blackfoot country, surrounded entirely by hills, is the scene of a serious conflagration tonight. A courier arrived here tonight from there with an appeal for aid. From Bonner, 50 men were sent to help the farmers and 50 more are going from Missoula. The fire came out of the timber, and is sweeping the valley. Grain and hay are being destroyed.

Three more rescue trains reached Missoula tonight from the west. The Milwaukee ran in two of them and the Northern Pacific another. There were 500 people on the train, but none of them were in the distress that marked the earlier arrivals.

The last Northern Pacific train brought information that the town of Saltsee, reported earlier to be threatened, had caught fire before this train left St. Regis.

From all directions come reports of death in the flames, but they are not authenticated, and it is not believed that there has been many fatalities. Two unknown men were overcome by smoke today in the forest near Iron Mountain.

The latest word from Wallace confirms the earlier report that half the city is safe; the fires are yet raging in the hills, but the situation in the city is believed to be more satisfactory than at any time in two days.

A telephone message from St. Regis, received in Missoula at 10 o'clock tonight, says that the fire swept down Mullan gulch tonight and cut off the towns of Deborgia and Henderson. The Mann Lumber Company ran its logging train down from Henderson, bringing men and their families, after all valuables had been buried. These towns will doubtlessly burn.

The old town of St. Regis is at 10 o'clock threatened, the fire is in a canyon and is only a mile from town, approaching rapidly. The last equipment of the Northern Pacific in that section is being used to bring away the women and children from St. Regis. Most of the men of that town were at Deborgia, seven miles above, fighting a fire there, and many of them must have been cut off. Two were killed in the fire in Wallace, a mail carrier named Boyd and an unknown man. There have been 20 deaths in the fires in the hills around Wallace, according to the forestry service bulletins, but no names are given.

The fires which have swept around the city of Wallace are now working their way up Canyon creek toward Burke, easterly toward Mullan, but are not near enough to these towns to cause alarm.

The Northern Pacific and Milwaukee have suffered the loss of important bridges. Missoula is tonight the western terminus of both lines. Fires are serious in all parts of northern Idaho and in northwestern Montana, and the damage to railway property is chiefly to small trestles. Overland traffic on both lines is indefinitely suspended.

The relief train which left Missoula this morning to assist Mullan, is held by fire at Saltsee, being unable to go farther west, and is prevented from returning by the destruction of a small bridge this side. The train is well equipped and no alarm is felt for its occupants.

Since the above article was put in type reports from the mountains are to the effect that conditions are greatly improved by rain and snow which fell in the past three days.—Editor.

They Have a Definite Purpose

Foley Kidney pills give quick relief in cases of kidney and bladder ailments. Mrs. Rose Glaser, Terra Haute, Ind., tells the result in her case. "After suffering for many years from a serious case of kidney trouble and spending much money for so-called cures, I found Foley Kidney Pills the only medicine that gave me a permanent cure. I am again able to be up and attend to my work. I shall never hesitate to recommend them. Valley Drug Co."

Keller Lake Items

Aug. 23, 1910.

Mr. Miskey finished threshing his wheat crop Saturday.

Mrs. Watwert and Mrs. Larsen Sundayed at the Cooksen home.

Mr. Chas. Clark went to Bainville Saturday to do some trading. The Jacobson brothers are putting up hay on their father's claim.

Cornelius Beverly Sundayed at Mr. Cooksen's on the North Side.

The new mail carriers, Mr. Fowell and Mr. Steeple, get in on time with mail.

Miss Alice Hansen and sister Lilly called at the Keller ranch Friday afternoon.

Misses Lorin Bain, Mary Mow and Nellie Steeple took a horseback ride to Froid Saturday.

Miss Clark, who is teaching the school at No. 6, is having a program by her pupils Thursday of this week.

M. E. Barley and wife went to Bainville for shingles and nails for the new school house which is being built. They called on Mrs. Chas. Johnson on the way.

Life On Panama Canal

has had one frightful drawback—malaria trouble—that has brought suffering and death to thousands. The germs cause chills, fever and ague, biliousness, jaundice, lassitude, weakness and general debility. But Electric Bitters never fail to destroy them and cure malaria troubles. "Three bottles completely cured me of a very severe attack of malaria," writes Wm. A. Fretwell, of Lucama, N.C., "and I've had good health ever since." Cure stomach, liver and kidney troubles, and prevent typhoid. 50c. Guaranteed by Valley Drug Co.

Lakeside Items

Aug. 23, 1910.

R. O. Lunke went to Glasgow Tuesday morning.

We are glad to see the smoke blowing away and will welcome the return of old Sol once more.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mathlesley of the Sweetman ranch spent Saturday night with friends near Java.

Many from Lakeside attended the dedication service at the new Catholic church at Bainville last Sunday.

The sound of the steam thrasher is again heard in the land. We have not yet heard anything of the yield per acre.

The government surveyors are with us looking over the hills, supposedly for coal. They are camping at the Lakeside ranch.

Our elevator is growing skyward and it will not be long before the farmers in our valley can market their grain at Lakeside.

Miss Flynn left last Tuesday for Spokane, Wash. Mrs. Sweetman and son Merrill went to Culbertson and spent the day with her. Miss Flynn departed on No. 2.

Mrs. Margaret Mandlin, mother of R. H. and L. D. Sweetman, will leave on Wednesday for her home in Coffeyville, Kansas. She will visit friends near Kansas City, Iowa, while enroute to her home. Mrs. L. D. Sweetman will accompany her to Culbertson, where she will take No. 2 for the south.

DIRECTORS TO MEET

Two Exposition Cities to Unite
Against Common Foe in
New Orleans.

San Diego has formally enlisted in the ranks of the San Francisco 1915 supporters, and has pledged her entire influence to secure Federal recognition of San Francisco as the official site for the Panama Exposition in 1915. Headed by D. C. Collier, Director General of the San Diego Fair, a delegation from San Diego visited San Francisco, where they were the guests of the directors of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, at a luncheon at the Fairmount Hotel. The San Diego delegation came north with the good news that their city had just bonded itself for \$1,000,000 to improve the 1400-acre City Park, and to erect permanent buildings which will be for the use of the San Diego Exposition. R. B. Hale, acting president of the Panama-Pacific Exposition, presided, and Senator Stone of Missouri, and Messrs. Frank L. Brown, Chas. C. Moore, D. C. Collier, J. D. Spreckles, Wm. Kettner and J. W. Sefton, Jr., were the speakers. Governor Gillett, Mayor McCarthy, Gavin McNab and many prominent San Franciscans were among those present. D. C. Collier, speaking for San Diego, said, "We are here to learn how we may best assist San Francisco's efforts to attain a victory at Washington this winter."

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

C. JOHNSTON, M. D.
Physician and
Surgeon

Office in the New Courthouse
Block.

Culbertson, Montana

HARRY H. DALE
Attorney At Law

Office in First National
Bank Building.

Culbertson, Montana

John Hurly
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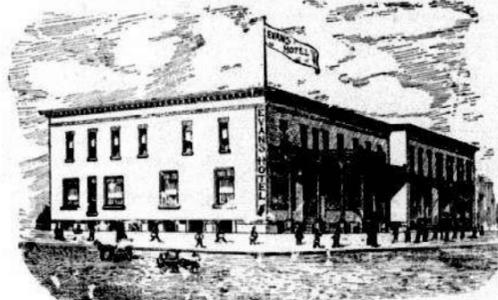
Parlors in Jarvis Building
Over the Family Theater

Culbertson, - Montana

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