

The Wenatchee World

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MONDAY, - - - - JULY 24, 1905

IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED.

The men who unselfishly give time and effort, risk life and limb in the service of the community, should have all honor and praise, should have every facility for doing good work and every comfort that can be provided.

On Saturday night, what might have been a much more serious fire was fought by Wenatchee's firemen with combined fury and cool judgement that would have been a credit to the best equipped and officered department in any city in the land. Through their heroic efforts much property was saved that without them would have been lost. The spread of the flames was checked, other buildings were saved. All night these men stood guard and fought while the city slept in safety.

What shall we do for them that stand between us and terrible destruction and death? Shall we not give them every facility for doing their work? Their quarters should be comfortable and well equipped as those of any fire department in any city anywhere. Nothing should be too good for these men who stand ready to die to protect not only their fellow men's lives, but their property as well. Now is the season of great danger, everything is dry and without these brave men our city might easily be destroyed in a night.

If anything can be done to improve the conditions under which these brave men work, it should be done and that quickly; it should be done now. Let those in positions of authority, our leaders, act immediately. Let's all get to work and set the wheels moving that will perfect our fire-fighting organization and make it an even more powerful force for safety than it now is. Let the word be action, immediate action. Don't wait for anyone, talk for it, work for it yourself. BY-and-bye will be eternally too late. Do it now. Get busy.

The late Edward Teale Devens of Santa Rosa, California, in his will insisted upon cremation. He also declared that joy should reign instead of sorrow, and left a provision for a fund for a dinner, drinks, cigars, hotel bills, and railroad fares for designated friends who attend his funeral.

It is the longest pole that knocks the fruit and a merchant's "add" should stick out like a sore thumb.

Wheat Crop Ready for Harvest.

CENTERVILLE, July 22.—The wheat crop now being harvested in this county is larger than that of any previous year. The yield is much better than for a number of years and there is a larger acreage than ever before, several hundred acres in the eastern part of the county being in for the first time.

Fall wheat is now being headed and it is thought that a great deal of it will thresh forty bushels to the acre and some even more. Spring wheat will be ripe in two weeks. About a dozen threshers will be running in a week and then it is probable that there will be a scarcity of farm hands to harvest the grain. Klkatat's wheat producing area is not so large as that of many Eastern Washington counties and a scarcity of farm hands will only lengthen the period of harvesting a few days.

A Story Fresh From Darkest Africa.

The death recently at Zanzibar of an old man of seventy whom the explorer Stanley called the finest gentleman he met among the Arabs of the dark continent has been followed by the publication of the true story of the most striking character to be met in all the literature of African exploration. This was Hamidi bin Muhammad, or Tippoo Tib. The character of the man is best shown by the origin of his nickname. One of Hamidi's earliest exploits was the raiding of a wild tribe with shotguns, a weapon new to the natives. The noise of the guns they imitated as "tip, tip," and the name spread all over the interior of Africa as the cognomen of the powerful Arab trader with whom the travelers from Cameron to Stanley were obliged to make terms before they could proceed.

Stanley describes Tippoo Tib as a tall, black bearded man of "negroid complexion," in the prime of life, straight and quick of movement and a picture of energy and strength. He had a fine, intelligent face, with a nervous twitching of the eyes and gleaming white, perfectly formed teeth. The trader was accompanied by a retinue of young Arabs and a large following of natives, whom he led thousands of miles through Africa. Tippoo Tib amassed a fortune in his adventures, which began at the age of sixteen, and passed the last years of his life writing the story which a German has translated from the original manuscript.

Stanley says that he astounded Tippoo Tib with the repeating rifle quite as much as the trader had astonished the natives with the shotguns. Tippoo Tib also tells a story of Stanley to the effect that the explorer promised to send him from Europe \$7,000 and a gold watch and put him off with \$3,000 and a photograph. Tippoo Tib's narrative also tells how he succeeded Livingstone and helped the pioneer explorer, Cameron, on his way.

Tippoo Tib was an oppressor and slave raider and took advantage of the ignorance of the natives. But it was not his shotgun policy which made him rich and a power in central Africa. His fortunes were advanced by the reputation he held of always keeping his word in matters of business. Starting as a poor boy, in ten years his credit was boundless among the Bombay merchants, and his name was one of extraordinary power among the black tribes.

No Land Assemblies in Russia.

There is no foundation in fact for calling the provincial assemblies in Russia "zemstvos," representatives of the land, according to the Daily Russ of St. Petersburg. This paper says that the idea has gained ground that the zemsky sobor is intended to call together members who would be elected somewhat according to the system of existent land elections. But at the present time there is no such system as land election. The zemstvo of 1890 was no representation of the land, but of the local nobility supplemented with peasants, according to the order of the land officials and "tax exemptees."

The Daily Russ cites the instances of three provincial assemblies to back up its argument and shows that the noblemen in each case have a big majority over all other classes. It says that such a system of elections is but a poor foundation for the zemsky sobor (land assembly), which must have a moral authority in the esteem of the inhabitants of the land. This paper calls for the re-establishment of the old zemstvo of 1864 as "the one only system of true, actual land elections," and which was superseded by the present system, in which the nobility has from five-eighths to three-fifths of the representation.

Inspired by the success of the Simplon tunnel, France has a scheme for multiplying rail communications with Switzerland and Italy and by shorter routes than now exist. Her plan is to tunnel a pass between Dijon and Geneva, then bore under famous Mont Blanc, to connect with the Italian railway system at Aosta. This last feat is a staggering proposition, even in these days of engineering marvels.

A new white paint made from lime has been patented in Germany and is said to be superior to white lead and other similar products in fineness, permanence and cheapness. Other advantages claimed for the new paint is that it dries quickly without driers, hardens like enamel, does not blister in the sun and retains its original smoothness after washing.

Cy Perkins, the millionaire farmer who died recently, showed that a man can get on in this age without the eternal "hustling" so much talked up by theorists. He never drove anything faster than a yoke of oxen and was innocent of travel by steam and electric cars. The simple life made him rich and happy.

Now that the girl who elbowed her way into the presidential party and got herself photographed with the "big guns" has shed penitential tears—over her disappointment—the government should gallantly call the incident closed.

Venice. Throughout her career Venice inspired in her sons such devotion as passes the patriotism of most peoples. They revered her as queen, they loved her as mother. Although an exclusive oligarchy ruled the state, yet every Venetian felt that Venice belonged to him. St. Mark was the patron equally of doge and dustman. The legend which all believed, the pageants in which even the humblest had his place, sprang out of the heart of the whole people and symbolized the unity which bound all together. And life in Venice, mere physical life, was pleasant to a larger proportion of the inhabitants and during more generations than it has been in any other city. No wonder, therefore, that when Tintoret, the greatest of her painters—in so many respects the greatest of all painters—was commissioned to decorate the vast wall of the hall of the great council, wishing to express the feeling of every Venetian toward his incomparable city, he chose for his subject paradise.—Thayer's "History of Venice."

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" Chelan Falls daily .. 11:00 a.m.
" Paterons daily 4:00 p.m.
Arrive Brewster daily 5:00 p.m.

DOWN RIVER

Leave Brewster daily 4:00 a.m.
" Paterons daily 4:20 a.m.
" Chelan Falls daily .. 8:00 a.m.
" Entiat daily 9:30 a.m.
" Orondo daily 10:00 a.m.
Arrive Wenatchee daily .. 12:00 m.

Steamer leaves Wenatchee for BRIDGEPORT Tuesday and Friday mornings. Returning leaves Bridgeport same night.

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