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WASHINGTON LETTER.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)
Secretary and other treasurer officials have been surprised by the receipt from internal revenue for the first half of this month. It was naturally expected that the reduction which went into effect the first of the month would make the receipts considerably smaller than for the corresponding period last year, but instead of that, they have been a little larger every day and for the half month in round figures, \$1,000,000 greater than for the first half of July last year. Some think that this may be accounted for by the fact that changes were made in a number of classes of revenue stamps, and that large users allowed their supply to entirely run out by the first of the month, and have, consequently purchased large quantities since then. Whatever the cause, the receipts have been larger when they were expected to be smaller.

Secretary Hitchcock takes no stock in the numerous stories of the intended crooked use of the names of soldiers and sailors by land speculators in entering claims for homesteads in the Oklahoma Indian Reservation. He is confident that the regulations will make it impossible for such crookedness to be carried on to a sufficient extent to make it pay, and his advice from Oklahoma indicates that the stories are largely imaginary.

Representative Hepburn, who is in Washington on business, says that Senator Allison was in dead earnest when he started that presidential boom for Governor Shaw, of Iowa; that the republicans of Iowa are solidly behind Governor Shaw and will present his name to the National convention, although they fully recognize the handicap that the big and certain republican majority always given by the state will be to him, owing to the natural tendency of conventions to give greater consideration to close and doubtful states in choosing a candidate.

It was highly complimentary to Consul General Stowe, who recently tendered his resignation because of his inability to live at Cape Town, South Africa, on the salary of the office, \$3,000—for the large merchants of that city to unite in a petition to the Department of State, asking that Mr. Stowe's resignation be not accepted, and pledging themselves to pay him enough, in addition to his official salary, to enable him to live as he should, but Secretary Hay promptly informed the signers of the petition that this government could not allow a consular officer to be paid from private sources. Congress fixes the consular salaries. It may be remarked in this connection that the German Consul General at Cape Town, receives \$10,000 a year more salary than Mr. Stowe, for precisely the same class of work.

Representative Cannon, of Ill., who is hustling in Washington for his constituents, says he hasn't made up his mind whether to become the fourth candidate for the senate in his state—Senator Mason Comptroller Dawes and Mr. Madden, are already in the field. Asked what he thought of the presidential outlook, Mr. Cannon said: "It is too early to talk with any certainty. The only thing that seems to be certain is that it will be an old fashioned sort of convention, with the result uncertain until after the delegates have assembled and some ballots have been taken. No man, at present, appears to be a popular idol, and I do not think anything is likely to occur which will give any one person a commanding position in the race. There are any number of men willing to say 'Here I am, Oh, Lord, take me,' but which of them will be chosen I shall not undertake to predict." Mr. Cannon disposed of the cock and bull story alleging the existence of a conspiracy among republican members of

GOVERNOR DOCKERY SETS ASIDE JULY 21 AS DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER IN MISSOURI.

Jefferson City, July 15.—Pursuant to the wishes of Christian people who have requested it, Governor Dockery to-day issued his proclamation setting aside Sunday, July 21, as a day for fasting and prayer that the drought and the consequent suffering may be dispelled. Following is the proclamation:
"Whereas, The prevailing drought is widespread and disaster threatens our commonwealth; and
"Whereas, Many earnest Christian people have petitioned that a day of fasting and prayer be appointed;
"Wherefore be it known, That Sunday, July 21, be and the same is hereby set apart as a day of fasting and prayer that the threatened disasters may be averted, and to this end the people are requested to assemble at their usual places of worship to invoke the blessings of Almighty God.
"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the State of Missouri.
"Done at the City of Jefferson this fifteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and one.

A. M. DOCKERY
"By the Governor:
"SAM B. COOK, Secretary of State."

the House, to prevent the re-election of Speaker Henderson, by saying, "All such talk is absolute rot."

The appointment of A. B. Kittredge by the Governor of South Dakota to fill the vacancy made by the death of Senator Kyle, has been well received in Washington. Although Mr. Kittredge is only 40 years old, he has been regarded for some years as the leader of the republican party in South Dakota, and is known to have been largely instrumental in restoring his state to the republican column.

Consul General Mason at Berlin is reported to the Department of State, called attention to the tricks of German custom officials to injure American trade in Germany, especially that in manufactured articles—a snap hook, which has been imported for years under a duty of \$2.38 per 100 kilograms, which was reclassified and put at \$5.71, more than double; and ice cream freezers. He advises American manufacturers to ascertain by actual shipment how articles are to be classed before contracting to deliver large quantities in Germany.

John C. Freely, of Scranton, Pa., who has just returned from a semi-business tour of Great Britain, said while in Washington: "The sale of American agricultural implements is increasing every day in Europe. The people who do the buying over there are as sensible as any other people on earth. They don't buy our plows and hay rakes and steel rails just because they are American, but because they are really the best in the world and far cheaper in the long run than the best articles made elsewhere."

Kissing by Telephone.

When the woman at the soda water fountain turned round to pay her bill she saw the fat clerk braced back against the perfumery stand, fanning himself lustily.

"Did you hear that?" he asked.
"Hear what?" said the woman.
"What?" he repeated, incredulously. "It doesn't seem possible that anybody could become so absorbed in a glass of ice cream soda as to miss that I am talking of the osculatory performance of the woman who just went away from the 'phone."

"Honestly, that custom is a new one on me. I've been working in drug stores, one place and another a good many years, and have heard several millions of words talk through the 'phone, but this is the first time I ever heard one of them kiss over the wire."
"Sure, didn't you hear it?" Why the smack sounded like a pop gun. I'll bet the fellow at the other end of the line caught it, all right. He couldn't miss it, even if he was away out in San Francisco.

"I wonder if this thing of ending a telephone conversation is something new or is it an old fad that I am just catching on to because I am so mortal green? I'm used to hearing pet names slung

over the wire by the dictionary full, but this is my first kiss, figuratively speaking. It's funny. Long distance kisses may be old style, but I tell you they're a novelty here."

The ignorance of women in some things is nothing short of awe-inspiring. At Beloit a man went swimming in the river and took his wife along. As he disappeared himself in the water she sat on the bank and watched him. Down in the river at the point where the man was swimming was a flume leading to a dam and under this flume the man dived repeatedly. At last he dived and did not come up. His wife sat and watched as the minutes went by until half an hour had elapsed. Then a fisherman came along and she casually asked him how long a man could stay under the water. The fisherman responded, "No more than three minutes," and at once the woman cried out that her husband must have drowned and ran for help. In a few minutes the husband was taken out, but he was dead.

The late Dr. Tanner was not a literary man, but was capable of fights when he took up his pen. Once, when he had asked in the house whether it was true that the duke of Cambridge had resigned his position as commander in chief, a Maj. Jones, of Pezance, was so outraged that he challenged Dr. Tanner to a duel, and the following telegraphic correspondence took place:
"In reply to your despicable question about the duke of Cambridge, I designate you a coward. Delighted to give you satisfaction across the water. Pistols."
To which Dr. Tanner at once replied:
"Wire received. Will meet you tomorrow in Constantinople, under the Tower of Calata, midnight. Being challenged, prefer torpedoes. Bring another ass, Tanner."—Academy.

A party was given at the home of Mr. H. P. Femmer by David Femmer Tuesday evening July 9, 1901. Quite a number were in attendance, there being present about one hundred and twenty-five. There were people from numerous parts of the county; from Danville, Bellflower, Prohibition, Montgomery and Two-Mile Branch. All report a pleasant time. Refreshments were served at twelve. David is thinking of taking a trip through the states and he says he knows he will take many happy thoughts, with him where ever he goes of all the best friends that he met at the party on the 9th.

A GUEST.
While one of the clerks at Thomsons Book and News Co was filling a small gasoline can in the warehouse last Sunday morning about 8 o'clock, some oil was spilled on the floor, and in attempting to burn the oil from the floor one of the cans exploded burning the wall and ceiling considerably. Only by prompt action by those present was a serious fire averted.

Mrs. Ben Blades.

The many friends here of Mr. Blades, Ben as we all know him, will be grieved to learn of the sad affliction that has befallen him in the loss of his companion for the last eighteen years. Mrs. Blades whose maiden name was Miss Mary Kelly, was born at Philadelphia, August 14, 1876. She moved with her parents to St. Louis when she was but 4 years of age and remained there until she came to Montgomery in 1881. In February 1882 she was united in marriage to her now heartbroken husband.

Mr and Mrs. Blades remained here until 1894 when they moved to Moberly where they lived at the time of Mrs. Blades death June 12, 1901. The heartfelt sympathy of the friends here goes out to Mr. Blades and his two motherless daughters. We can only point them to the Supreme Architect of the Universe for consolation, with the assurance that he doeth all things well, and what now is an inseparable, irrepasable loss may only be a crucial fire to separate the dross from the puer metal.

The God who has withered the tree in its noonday existence has not blighted the fruit and in the noble development of those left here on earth we will see her good example perpetuated on the greenward of memory.

The remains were laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery in this city at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

Another deaf man was tossed to glory by a rock island train last week. Isn't it curious that as soon as a man gets deaf he commences to walk on the railroad track? One deaf man in Kansas with railroad sense enough to keep off the right of way is G. C. Clemens, Clemens has to be blindfolded before he can even be led aboard a train.

A Wichita man is sure he will draw No 8 in the Oklahoma land lottery. When he sat down to his breakfast the other morning it was just 8 o'clock; he had eight pieces of coin in his pockets; there were eight chairs around the table, and in the dish before him were eight boiled potatoes. Bathow the soul revolts at good luck for a man who will eat boiled potatoes for breakfast.

It is believed in Ottawa that the present hot spell will be followed by a destructive earthquake. Well, let the tail go with the hide-nobody gives a darn—K. C. Journal.

County Clerk, Pitman Hensley, presented this office with a catalogue of Missouri State Fair, September 9-13. He requests those desiring a catalogue of the same call at his office and get one as he has a supply on hand.

Positively Selling at cost—Going out of Business.

On account of interests requiring my personal attention in Colorado I will sell at cost all my Millinery goods and notions except, to close them out in the next 30 days. Come and get bargains will sell the entire stock to any body desiring to go into business—Mrs Linnie L. Smith—Opera house Block

The two lectures, given at the Methodist church in the morning and at the Baptist church in the evening last Sunday under the auspices of the Anti Saloon League by Rev Mr Hughey, of St Louis, was well attended Rev Hughey presented the purpose of the Anti Saloon League in an interesting manner.

Dunham-Fleet.

James Dunham and Miss Little Fleet were married at the residence of Mart Kibler 6 and one half miles east of Montgomery Wednesday July 17, 1901. At 8 p. m. Elder S. J. Copher officiating. The wedding was a quiet affair only immediate relatives being present after supper the bride and groom drove to the farm of Mr Dunham a distance of about three miles where they were given a royal reception by their many friends.

Stock Sales.

Wm. Wald bought and shipped hogs the first of the week from the following parties. Price from \$5.40 to \$5.96:
22 from Jas Spears, average 180
6 " J W Elliott, " 210
15 " T Riddle, " 170
1 " Lem Show, " 345
2 " Harry Moore, " 300
3 " Sam Hinton, " 240
29 " Chas Walz, " 210
9 " C Grace, " 215
3 " B See, " 165
12 " Geo McClure, " 255
62 " Dan Hensley " 200

Palmer & Covington shipped from Sunday, July 7th to Sunday July 14th, 22 car load of stock from this place. This week they have shipped 10 car load.

CATTLE.
10 from Joe Crane, average 796
6 " Dick White, " 900
10 " H A Winter, " 1,000
17 " Foster Mudd, " 1,100
42 " Solen Brandt " 1,328

HOGS.
20 " Henry Hupe, " 110
14 " Jim Kettle, " 127
5 " John Martin, " 155
8 " D Moore, " 190
4 " Fred Hupe, " 150
32 " Pittenger Bros, " 157
14 " Chas Porter, " 200
5 " D I Talbott, " 200
39 " Jim Nelson, " 141
38 " Rash Clare, " 152
17 " John See, " 154
13 " Sam Berger, " 190
13 " Geo Bosley, " 179
35 " C J Kolling, " 162
8 " H A Winter, " 229
18 " Tom Scott, " 223
14 " Ed Summers, " 193
16 " Henry Maughs " 198
5 " Geo Windsor " 180
5 " Albert Huffman " 290
16 " Jim Alexander " 168
15 " Huston Weeks " 207
17 " E B Summers " 95
15 " L Wilson " 173

As Governor Dockery, because of the wide spread drought, has appointed Sunday July 21st, as a day of fasting and of special prayer for rain, there will be a special service held at the Methodist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.
"All who can be present are requested to attend."
A. C. JOHNSON, Pastor

Dr. Hartwell of St. Louis was calling on friends here Sunday.

Born, to the wife of Deputy Sheriff Forest Britt Monday, July 15, a girl.

Mr R. A. Sharp left Wednesday morning for Marion Ind where he will visit Lon who is now in the lumber business at that place.

Mr. Barley, of Troy, has purchased the lots just east of W. C. Hughes' where he expects to build and move here and occupy in the future.

The Methodist Sunday school gave a picnic yesterday (Thursday) at Grennan's pasture. The picnic was well attended and a fine time was reported by all those attending.

W. Y. and B. M. Sisk shipped 65 head of stock-cattle from their High Hill farm to Chicago last Monday they were compelled to sell their cattle on account of grass drying up and the scarcity of water.

Those who left Tuesday for Oklahoma to take chances on claims are as follows: A. M. Lafferty, Jno Gartin, B. F. Slavens, Orve Robinson, Ase Haelton, Jno Johnson, Bert Aendershot, Tom McKeely, and Elmer Wagner.

The Governor has issued a proclamation calling upon the people to observe Sunday July 21, as a day of fasting and prayer that the drought now prevailing may be broken up. I suppose this will day be observed by all our people.

Marshall Washington Jr. shipped 1 car load of cattle 1 car load of sheep and 2 car load of hogs from Wellsville Monday night.

Lost, Between Montgomery and New Florence one Acetylene Gas lamp. Finder return to G. E. Muns and Co., Montgomery no. reward.

GROWING DWARF TREES.

Secret of the Japanese seems to consist in Starving the Plants.
Dwarf Japanese trees have recently become the rage in New York and Chicago. One fine tree with an authentic record of 17 years was sold for \$250. The tree for each year of its life had been under recently secured a lot of 27 trees among which were 10 of 10 years old and twelve 15 years old and a pair 25 years old and of the same height. The secret of Japanese tree training is said to lie in the skillful pruning of roots and branches. The roots of dwarf trees are cramped in small pots, on the same principle that the feet of Chinese women are stunted. In addition the trees are periodically taken out of the pots to have their roots trimmed. The gardener's skill is displayed in trimming just enough to prevent growth, yet not enough to impair the health of a tree. It is said that in the course of a hundred years or so these piny trees become so accustomed to having their roots cramped that they really enjoy it, and when the time approaches for the gradual pruning they wave their little limbs in eager appeals to the gardener to take them out and clip their joints. This part of the story, however, is not verified for it is rarely given for what it is worth. Hugo Mulertt, curator of Parker college institute, has mastered the Japanese art of dwarfing trees so thoroughly that he could grow a whole forest in a hall bedroom and yet not crowd the furniture. While the Japanese confine their efforts largely to evergreens, Mr. Mulertt has made a specialty of dwarfing deciduous trees. He has made fifty specimens, principally maples, but also including larches and hemlocks, all 12 years old and from six inches to two feet high. Mr. Mulertt also grows dwarf fish (like the Chinese). The method pursued in the case of both trees and fish are the same and extremely simple. It is nothing more nor less than starvation. At least, that is the way Mr. Mulertt expresses it. In other words, he gives both trees and fish just enough nourishment to keep them alive, but not enough to permit any growth.—Brooklyn Eagle.

AMBASSADOR'S PRIVILEGES.

His Intercourse with the Sovereign in Prison.

A curious privilege of an ambassador is that he, and he alone, when dismissed, may turn his back to the sovereign to whose court he is accredited. The mode of procedure is as follows: When the ambassador's audience is over, he waits to be dismissed by the sovereign. When dismissed, the ambassador bows, retires three paces, bows again, retires another three paces, bows a third time, turns on his heels and walks to the folding doors. But it is felt that more polite methods should obtain when the reigning sovereign is a woman. To turn his back to the sovereign is to walk backwards is to resign a privilege; the ambassador retreats sideways, like a crab; he keeps one eye on the sovereign, and with the other tries to see the door. He thus shows politeness to the sovereign and at the same time retains one of his privileges. As the ambassador is usually an aged man, often short-sighted, he sometimes fails to reach the door, and comes into collision with the wall. Another privilege of ambassadors is the right of being ushered into the royal presence through folding doors, both of which must be hung wide open. No one except an ambassador can claim this privilege; the most any non-ambassadorial person can expect is that one of the leaves shall be opened to him. The reason for this privilege is not known. Another privilege, capable of causing great inconvenience, is the ambassador's right of admission to the sovereign at any hour of day or night. Thus the minister representing some little bankrupt state could go down to Windsor and demand an audience at 4 o'clock in the morning. The audience would have to be granted, though it could be delayed by the exercise of ingenuity.—Chambers' Journal.

Cannot Identify Himself.

Among the patients in a hospital at White Plains, N. Y., is a man who was found insensible lying in the road July 6, immediately after a heavy thunderstorm. He has completely recovered his physical strength, but has no idea who he is and remembers absolutely nothing previous to the time when he recovered consciousness. The stranger is positive that his parents were named Thomas and Margaret respectively and he has vague remembrance of having been in Chicago and other cities, but can give no more definite idea as to his identity.