

THE COLUMBIAN.

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FOREST FIRES.

The Mystery of How They Originate—National Government Is Making an Investigation of the Cause.

What starts these forest fires? This question has been asked over and over again this summer by readers of the accounts of the destructive fires which have been raging in all parts of the country.

Campers and locomotives, is the usual answer. Many of the other things which start blazes in the forest are forgotten. It is true that perhaps one-half to three-fourths of the forest fires do begin as a result of the carelessness of some camper, or from sparks flying from locomotives, but there are a number of things which set the woods afire.

A complete report of forest fires on the private forests of the country and their causes is not kept by anyone. Uncle Sam, however, is most careful to account for the damage done by the blazes on his timberland under forest administration, aggregating about 168,000,000 acres, and each year the total area burned over, the timberland burned over, the amount of timber destroyed and its value, the cost of fighting fires and the causes of fires are carefully checked up.

set by herders and hunters, 30. For more than 400 of the fires the cause is not known. This is not strange when it is remembered that a fire may smolder for days, if the air is too thick to permit the smoke to be seen at a distance before it breaks out when fanned by a wind so as to reveal its presence to the watchful forest officer.

While campers caused more fires than locomotives last year, there are many seasons when the railroads hold undisputed claim to first place. Forest fires started by both are mostly unnecessary. If campers would exercise care in starting camp fires and be sure that they are extinguished before they are left, and if the railroad companies would use the most modern and efficient spark arresters, it is reasonable to think that the annual forest fire loss could be reduced more than one-half. Lightning ranks third among the causes of fires, and of course, man has no greater responsibility in this case than to put the fire out as soon as possible after discovery. Careless brush burning by homesteaders and persons clearing land is said to be the cause of many of the fires which have started this year, particularly those which have swept over the Lake States.

The ranger force on many of the National Forests have been kept busy fighting fires which, if left to run unchecked, would have done incalculable damage. By quickening communication between important points through the construction of telephone lines, and building roads and trails, the National Forests have been made more accessible during the past two years and fire fighting has been greatly facilitated.

The Woman's Home Companion for November.

The November Jubilee issue of the Woman's Home Companion has a special interest, because it is the Seven Hundredth Number of the oldest living Woman's Magazine. This issue of 88 pages, illustrated by famous artists, contrasted with the little flimsy 8-page issue of the same magazine which appeared in 1875, is a vivid reminder of the great strides made in periodical publishing. That old issue, popular in its day, is a modest ancestor

to the big, influential magazine of today.

This November issue, on which the publishers have spent special effort, because of its anniversary feature, contains, in addition to its regular departments for women, two articles of importance to home dwellers and home renters. These articles, with facts and figures' show the advantage of owning a home.

Jack London, who is going around the world for Woman's Home Companion in his little boat the Snark, has in this November issue an account of travel adventures, rich with the spice of the South Seas.

A new novel by Florence Morse Kingsley, entitled "The Glass House," begins in this issue. There are also stories by Alice Brown, Juliet Wilbor Tompkins, Mary Heaton Vorse, and Mary Raymond Shipman Andrews.

A special article on Eyes by Dr. Woods Hutchinson is in that physician's usual crisp style.

In addition to the usual household departments, and the enlarged fashion department, there are many novel suggestions for Christmas gifts, and some particularly timely advice regarding the buying of furs.

How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The election table as published this week is not complete or accurate, as there was not time to verify and correct it before going to press. It will be published in full next week.

FOR PRETTY HANDS

HOUSEWORK NO DETRIMENT IF PRECAUTIONS ARE FOLLOWED.

Skin and Nails Should Be Carefully Washed and Oiled Each Day—Laundry and Common Household Soaps Cause Most of the Trouble.

Half the secret of pretty hands for a woman who does her own housework is to carefully wash from them all traces of laundry and other common household soaps. It is the neglect of this precaution which often makes the skin red and coarse and the nails dry and brittle.

The reason for this effect is so simple that any woman can understand it when she knows that laundry and all soaps used for housecleaning are strong in alkalies, that is, potash, lye, &c., for they would be powerless as cleansers of strong fabrics or wood if they lacked these elements; and as alkalies are extremely drying to the skin, in some case even causing it to crack and become sore, the injury they do is difficult to estimate.

In every kitchen where a woman does her own housework, or on every wash stand there should be either a jar of cold cream, vaseline, or a bottle of sweet almond oil, and just as soon as the house or laundry work is done the hands must be carefully washed and dried. Then a generous quantity of an oily lotion is put into the palms and the fingers and backs of the hands are soaked in it, rubbing vigorously for several minutes, and taking care that no part of skin which has been subjected to the strong soap is neglected.

It is not necessary to wipe off this cream, &c., but instead the hands may be washed. The water for them should be warm but not hot, and a simple toilet soap used. With a nail brush skin and finger tips may be well cleaned and then the hands wiped, and, as a rule, are undamaged by the work they have done. This is because the grease removes the strong soap, and the bland toilet soap takes away the grease. It is always well after the final wiping to use a lotion, such as one-third glycerine and two thirds rose water, the mixture being well rubbed over and then wiped off.

If at night cold cream is rubbed into the base of the nails there is no reason why the hands of a woman who does endless housework should not look clean and well cared for.

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Vote as Polled at the Election, November 3, 1908.

Table with columns for Districts, Presidential Electors, Judge of Superior Court, Representative in Congress, Representative in General Assembly, Prothonotary and Clerk of Courts, Register and Recorder, County Treasurer, County Auditor, District Attorney, County Commissioners, and Mine Inspector. Rows list various districts like Beaver, Benton Borough, Berwick, etc., with corresponding vote counts.