

\$457,740 DAMAGE IN FOREST FIRES

Nearly Quarter Million Acres Burned to November 26.

10,496 ACRES STATE LANDS

State Conscience Fund Enriched By \$299 In 1914—Postmistress' Bedroom Proof Against Robbers. Plague Quarantine.

Harrisburg.—Almost a quarter million acres of woodland in Pennsylvania were swept by forest fires between January 1 and November 26, according to a compilation by the State Department of Forestry. The estimated damage was \$457,740.80 and it cost in round numbers something like \$16,000 to extinguish the fires. Additional reports are expected to swell the acreage and the loss.

Of the acreage burned over, 10,496 were State land, the greatest damage being in Pike county, where the greatest damage was also done to privately owned land. Carbon county was next. Between January 1, and July the acreage burned was 72,327, of which 4,767 was on State land and the loss was \$131,949, while in the second half of the year there were 169,159 acres burned, of which 5,929 acres were on State land and the loss was \$325,791.80, the cost to extinguish being \$14,658.75. The damage in the second half was far greater.

The acreage and loss by counties is as follows:

County—Private.	Acres.	State.	Loss.
Bedford	3,258	.....	\$6,636.80
Blair	5,471	.....	10,710.00
Berks	4,165	.....	21,473.00
Bradford	88	.....	1,249.00
Cambria	12,227	.....	8,819.00
Carbon	557	.....	2,367.00
Centre	13,352	311	19,924.00
Clarion	19	.....	19.00
Clearfield	1,342	200	7,386.00
Clinton	2,589	762	6,461.00
Cumberland	7,410	309	57,350.00
Dauphin	5,630	.....	10,995.00
Elm	160	.....	670.00
Fayette	7,314	.....	29,905.00
Franklin	3,563	624	16,315.00
Fulton	4,861	19	3,110.00
Huntingdon	8,766	409	16,775.00
Indiana	453	.....	2,295.00
Jefferson	66	.....	300.00
Junata	685	.....	585.00
Lackawanna	609	6	384.50
Lebanon	412	.....	516.00
Luzerne	5,345	.....	7,287.50
Lycoming	3,991	250	8,225.00
McKean	35	.....	196.00
Mifflin	2,276	.....	3,995.00
Monroe	4,911	.....	6,830.00
Northampton	135	.....	570.00
Northumberland	4,000	.....	6,000.00
Perry	1,774	109	2,425.00
Pike	31,666	2,800	37,000.00
Potter	2	15	102.00
Schuylkill	640	.....	700.00
Snyder	75	175	200.00
Somerset	5,804	33	10,608.00
Sullivan	95	.....	95.00
Tioga	12	56	150.00
Union	28	80	75.00
Wayne	619	.....	1,538.00
Westmoreland	3,849	13	12,694.00
York	2,423	.....	3,453.00

State College Course.

More than 200 farmers and their wives who can't find time to spend four years in college are at State College to remain for twelve weeks as students in the winter courses in agriculture. They are known as short-course students, and will receive instruction in practical agriculture and creamery work. Many of the farmers enrolled this year are returning for the third time. One of the new features is the course in home economics, conducted by Miss Pearl MacDonald. Subjects of special interest to the farmers' wives will be discussed. Much interest has been shown in the course in home nursing and emergencies. Miss MacDonald will help her classes, some containing students more than fifty years old, to solve the increasingly difficult problems of household administration.

State Conscience Fund.

Pennsylvania's conscience hurt \$231.00 less during the fiscal year of 1914 than during the year before. The receipts of the Auditor General's department for the year show that amount came in through the conscience fund, which is the fund into which undesignated and anonymous items are consigned. Last year \$531.10 was paid in through the conscience fund.

New Plague Quarantine.

Officials of the State Live Stock Sanitary Board stated that there might be a reduction of the number of counties in quarantine for foot and mouth disease in the next fortnight. The new quarantine affecting forty-one counties became effective Wednesday. Word was received that Virginia had established a quarantine for the disease.

During the night the postoffice at Morgantown, located in the office of Dr. J. A. Zook, was broken into by thieves and two watches and several small articles belonging to the doctor were stolen. Mrs. Margaret J. Deichler, postmistress, saved the cash and stamps by keeping them locked in her bedroom.

CLAIM STATE LAW VIOLATES TREATY

Italy Joins Great Britain in Protest to United States.

ARIZONA IS THE OFFENDER

Ambassador Cellere, Of Italy, Closely Follows the British Ambassador. In Officially Notifying the Government.

Washington, D. C.—Italy joined Great Britain in her protest against the Arizona State law which the nations claim violates treaties in the respect that it discriminates against their subjects in the United States.

The protest of the Italian government was filed by Count Macchi Cellere, its ambassador. Soon thereafter Secretary Bryan went to the White House and had a long conference with President Wilson. On the return of Secretary Bryan to the State Department he found awaiting him Baron Chinda, the Japanese Ambassador.

Secretary Bryan refused to discuss either the conference at the White House or his conference with the Japanese Ambassador. All of the State Department officials are now maintaining a similar silence on this important issue. The Japanese Ambassador on leaving the State Department would say only that there were "subjects of Japan in America," but would not admit that any new protest against that State's discriminatory law had been made by Japan.

May Cause Trouble.

Most of the officials believe that the present situation created by Japan, her ally, Great Britain, and Italy has in it all of the elements of a grave trouble if the protests are pressed to the point of getting an early answer from the United States. What the nations are endeavoring to get from the United States is a declaration as to how far the Federal government is responsible for the acts of Arizona.

The attitude of Italy was explained to be similar to that which she maintained in the celebrated Italian lynching cases. That became so acute at one time that State Department officials regarded it as almost imperative that a statute should be passed whereby the Federal government should assume responsibility which it could not then or now do without interfering with the rights of the State. Italy at that time, through Baron Fava, then minister to the United States, took the ground that, as she could not deal directly with a State of the Union, she would hold the Federal Government responsible in the lynching cases.

It is hinted very broadly that England, Japan and Italy are now taking that same ground and that the United States is expected to make final answer. What the response will be cannot even be foreshadowed today. The issue is the same as that involved in the protest of Japan to the United States in the California alien land law matter.

MIXUP IN KEPLER'S MIDST.

General Electric Employee, Of Schenectady Astounds Doctor.

Schenectady, N. Y.—Frank Kepler, an employee of the General Electric Company, went to a doctor to have a couple of fractured ribs treated, and this is what he learned:

That his heart is on the right side instead of the left, that his liver is on the left side instead of his right, and that all the rest of his vital organs are mixed up as though someone had stirred him up with a porridge spoon. The doctor got so interested in his endeavors to ascertain the extent of Mr. Kepler's disorganization through the X-rays that he almost forgot to treat his ribs. Such cases are very rare.

Kepler is 36 years old and always has had good health despite his curious internal arrangements.

ITALY IS NOW READY.

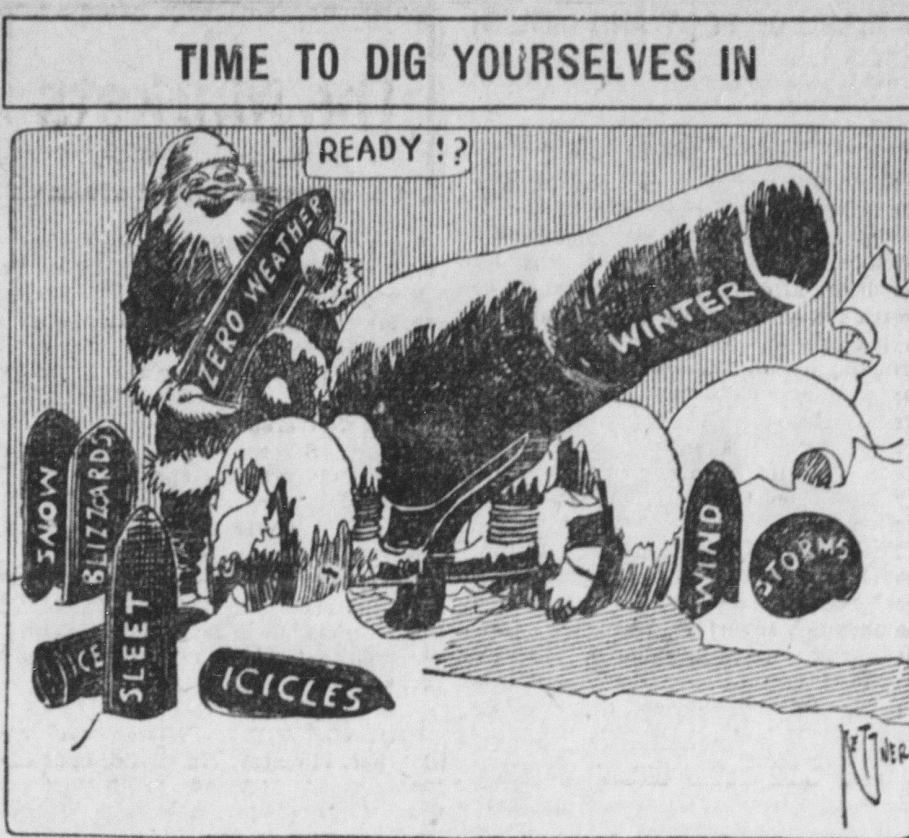
One Word More Would Probably Have Meant War.

Rome.—Many members of Parliament consider that the statement of Premier Salandra in Parliament, in which he advised that Italy maintain her attitude of watchful and armed neutrality, and made a reference to what he termed the just aspirations of Italy, together with a demonstration by the members, means that Italy is now ready. Deputy Labriola, a prominent member, summarized his opinion of the sitting by saying that "one word more from Salandra would have meant a declaration of war."

WOMAN FIGHTS BANK ROBBERS.

Knocked Down With Iron Pipe, But Saves Large Sum.

Cincinnati.—Resistance by the woman bookkeeper of the Winton Place Savings Bank, a State institution, probably saved the bank from being robbed of a large sum of money here. Gertrude Balz, the bookkeeper, was alone in the office of the bank when two men entered, and without a word one of them knocked her down with an iron pipe. She rose and attacked the men, who, becoming frightened, grabbed some money lying on a desk and escaped.



BRINGS TRADE TO UNITED STATES

How the European War is Giving Boost to Business.

MANY LARGE ORDERS GIVEN

E. E. Pratt, Chief Of Foreign Commerce Bureau, Estimates Volume Of Business Coming Here Due To the War.

Washington, D. C.—That one year of the war in Europe will add \$500,000,000 to the foreign commerce of the United States is the estimate of Edward E. Pratt, chief of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Mr. Pratt has just completed a study of the reports of the American consuls and commercial representatives abroad, and of agents and of his bureau in this country and of the new orders for American manufactures and products reported in commercial periodicals.

If the ratio of increase recorded since August, when the war began, is maintained until next August he estimates that new orders placed on the books of American firms will total half a billion dollars.

As specific data upon which to base his estimates Mr. Pratt has the report of J. Massel, special commercial agent, now en route to South America to study the machine tool market there and prepare a review of the needs of South American countries, which will be made available to American manufacturers. In preparation for his trip he visited virtually every large manufacturing plant in the United States and estimated that the machine tool manufacturing companies alone have from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 in new orders from European countries now on their books. One big plant, he said, has enough work ahead of it to keep it in full operation 24 hours a day for the next two years. Several concerns already are preparing to increase their facilities to meet the larger demands arising from the war.

The first country among the belligerents to seek the American machine tool supply was Russia. Almost immediately after war was declared orders from Russian houses were received for lathes and machines of all kinds of a similar nature. That demand has been growing steadily, presumably because of the fact that the war had excluded Russia from her usual source of supply in Germany. England and France now have joined in seeking American tools and it is indicated that the present supply cannot meet the demands. Of course, problems of delivery still have to be met; but the business is of the most valuable type, since orders are as a rule accompanied by cash.

In reaching his estimate on the estimated grand total Mr. Pratt took into consideration the enormous increase in European-bound food supplies noted in September and October. Details of the November foreign commerce are not available as yet beyond the estimate that a trade balance in favor of the United States of approximately \$70,000,000 will be shown. Department officials are aware, however, that the increase in food shipments has continued and that manufactured articles are beginning to move across the Atlantic in considerable volume.

P. C. KNOX THAW ATTORNEY.

Files Brief Against Extradition To New York.

Washington, D. C.—Philoander C. Knox, former Secretary of State, appeared in the Supreme Court as an attorney for Harry K. Thaw by filing a brief in behalf of the defendant, in opposition to the State of New York's proposal to extradite Thaw from New Hampshire. Mr. Knox contends that Thaw has been adjudged insane by the New York courts and not responsible for the killing of Stanford White; and that it is a fundamental principle of law that extradition proceedings may not be used for any other purpose than to return a fugitive criminal to trial.

UNCLE SAM WILL PROFIT BY WAR

Half Billion Dollars in Trade in a Year.

MACHINE TOOL MAKERS BUSY

Italians Now Also Coming To America For Horses—All the Warring Nations Must Look To This Country For Mounts.

New York.—The Russian government has purchased here 50,000 55-gallon air-tight steel tanks at a cost of approximately \$250,000, to be used in constructing pontoon bridges in their military operations, according to a statement issued this afternoon by the manufacturers.

The first shipment is to go forward Saturday, it was said. The entire lot, under the terms of the contract, now is shipped not later than January 15.

Three Italian cavalry officers arrived on the Italian liner Regina D'Italia. They said they came to purchase 12,000 cavalry horses, and added that within the past week the United States had been called upon to furnish 50,000 horses for military purposes to the warring nations.

"We formerly bought our horses in Ireland," said one of the officers. "It is impossible to get them there now, as Great Britain has taken every available horse. I believe it will not be long before they will be buying from the United States."

"The United States is practically the only country which can be relied upon to supply horses. A vast quantity of other supplies must come from here as well."

Kansas City, Mo.—A consignment of 2,000 heavy flannel shirts and 7,000 bandages, all made by Kansas City society women, was shipped from here for the war sufferers in Europe. A Kansas City wholesale dry goods firm packed the goods and railroads are carrying its freight free to New York.

Chicago.—Purchasing agents of England and Russia closed contracts here for automobile trucks and tools amounting to \$2,500,000. It was announced today. Three hundred trucks, 200 three-ton and one hundred five-ton, were ordered for each country. Buyers representing the British government received a cablegram ordering several thousand shovels, buckets, picks and other trench-digging tools.

THIEVES SHOOT DETECTIVE.

Wound Chief Scherer, Of the C. & O. Secret Service.

Richmond, Va.—Luther L. Scherer, chief of Chesapeake and Ohio secret service, was shot near Clifton Forge. Scherer, with several men, was trying to round up a gang of thieves which have been terrorizing the road for months. Walking from Covington to Clifton Forge, the detectives were overtaken by a train. The thieves had great wind of the men having started to walk to Clifton Forge. Concealed on the train they saw the officers alongside the track and opened fire. Scherer was the only man struck. He was rushed to the hospital at Clifton Forge and placed under care of Surgeon Wyser.

TOO MANY OFFICERS.

And Not Enough Men In Militia, Commander Says.

Washington, D. C.—Too many officers and not enough men—that's what is the matter with the United States Naval Militia, Commander F. B. Bassett, Jr., head of this division of the Navy, stated in his annual report, just made public. Bassett would weed out some of the officers or cut off their titles to improve the militia.

SAYS OUR NAVY IS IN FINE SHAPE

Secretary of Navy Daniels Replies to Criticisms.

QUESTION OF PREPAREDNESS

The Secretary Of the Navy Makes Specific Replies To Questions Raised By Senator Lodge and Representative Gardner.

Washington, D. C.—The administration has abandoned its policy of silence with regard to the assertions of our national unpreparedness made by Senator Lodge and Representative Gardner. Secretary of the Navy Daniels issued two statements, one in answer to the interview given by Senator Lodge and the other in reply to statements made by Representative Gardner in his speech in New York. In these statements Secretary Daniels makes specific answers to the questions raised by Senator Lodge and Mr. Gardner.

In his statement answering Senator Lodge, Mr. Daniels says:

"Senator Lodge was quoted as saying, 'I know myself that we are short of scout cruisers, having only three.' Senator Lodge has been a member of the Naval Affairs Committee of the Senate for many years and if he knows, as he says, what we have, why does he want an inquiry? Congress determines what the Navy shall have. If Congress will appropriate for more ships, the Navy certainly will build them. I think he ought to read the bureau reports which are always open to the public, the reports for the present year having been available—most of them—for the past week."

Have Many Submarines.

"Senator Lodge also states as: 'We are insufficiently supplied with aeroplanes and hydroplanes which are so essential to modern warfare.' In my report last year and in my forthcoming report, which will be released for publication on December 12th, I have ardently advocated the fullest development of this branch of our service."

"In regard to submarines, Senator Lodge states that there are not enough in proportion to our fleet; but the fact is we have a larger number of submarines in proportion to our fleet than any nation excepting France. Senator Lodge is mistaken in his belief that many of them would be practically useless. Of course, those ordered years ago do not fully come up to those constructed according to present-day plans. I am having one of the latest authorized submarines constructed in the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy Yard, and the department is providing for the newest ships the best batteries that can be had. I have been particularly interested in the submarines, and last year, upon my recommendation, Congress appropriated for a larger number of submarines than they had ever appropriated for in a single year, and authorized a distinct departure and advance by providing that one of these ships shall be of the sea-going type—the first that any nation of the world will possess."

GUTIERREZ IN CAPITAL.

Villa Also In Mexico City—Sends Chiefs To Zapata.

Washington, D. C.—Provisional President Gutierrez and General Villa are in Mexico City and several of their military chiefs have gone to Cuernavaca to discuss with General Zapata and his officers the distribution of forces in the capital and vicinity. This was reported in official dispatches to the State Department, which stated that conditions in Mexico City were quiet.

"Zapatistas, very meagerly clad, some being barefooted, patrol the city," said an announcement from the State Department summarizing the latest official message. "The army of the north is encamped in the suburbs. No further molestation of foreigners has occurred and fair order is being maintained. Thus far there has been no friction."

LAST PHILADELPHIA HANGING.

Abel Sent To Death For Murder In Moyamensing.

Philadelphia.—Famous old Moyamensing prison in this city, in which scores of murderers went to their doom, was the scene Thursday of the last hanging that will take place in Philadelphia, as, under a new law, electrocution was substituted as the death penalty. William Abel, 35 years old, who was sentenced before the time fixed for the law to go into effect, was the last to be hanged. He shot and killed twelve-year-old Thomas Kane, who resisted an attack. Hereafter all convicted murderers will be sent to a new penitentiary at Bellefonte, Pa., where electrocution will take place.

THIRD NEGRO LYNCHED.

Mobs In Louisiana Aroused By Murder Of Postmaster.

Shreveport, La.—Kane McKnight, a negro, was lynched at Sylvester, La., the third negro to be hanged by the mobs aroused by the murder of Postmaster Charles M. Hicks, of Sylvester.

THE NEWS TOLD IN PARAGRAPHS

Latest Happenings Gleaned From All Over the State.

LIVE NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Fire Destroys Big Herd Of High-Bred Animals—Berks County Society Wins Civil War Claims—Boy Fractures Skull.

Judge J. Q. Vanawearingen, in a decision handed down at Uniontown, declared that the section of State mining law requiring the maintenance of bore holes for the protection of miners against explosions, is lawful and must be observed. P. J. Walsh, inspector of the Ninth Bituminous District, instituted suit against a mine foreman of the W. J. Rainey Company for not maintaining bore holes. The defendant claimed the holes were of no practical value in preventing explosions. J. E. B. Cunningham, Deputy Attorney general, aided in the prosecution.

The mysterious death of John Miller, a Hazleton whiskey agent, whose body was found on the mountains near Ashland three years ago, was solved when George Smith, of Girardville, who is dying in the State Hospital at Fountain Springs, declared that Miller, while a guest at Girardville, was murdered by William Ahrens, proprietor of the hotel at which he stayed. Ahrens has since died. Smith in his dying statement declared that Miller's body was carried to the hillsides to divert suspicion after the murder.

Officials of the Agricultural and Horticultural Association of Berks county were notified that the United States Court of Claims has awarded the society the sum of \$532.10 for the use of and damage to the fair grounds and buildings by the United States military forces during the Civil War. The U. S. Army occupied the grounds from 1861 to 1863.

Seventy-five head of stock, valued at nearly four thousand dollars, were killed on the farm of Senator J. Donald Cameron, at Donegal, the slaughtering having been done by three inspectors. One of the latter came near losing his life when a bullet intended for a steer struck a bone and glancing off grazed the inspector's head.

Trying to stop a moving belt at the Flory flour mill, Nazareth, as a test of his strength, almost proved fatal to Paul Yotter. The young man, boasting of his strength to companions, grabbed hold of a belt attached to a line shaft and the next minute was flying through the air. He managed to land clear of a post, but in the fall broke an arm.

Declaring that while he was at work his wife placed their baby in care of a neighbor, packed her clothing and went away, Daniel Muckel, of Mohnton, started divorce proceedings in court at Reading, against Cora Muckel, of Wyomissing, a suburb of Reading. The alleged desertion took place December 1, 1909.

Despondent because his communication with relatives in the Prussian war zone had been cut off, Michael Heller, of Pottsville, aged seventy-two years, a retired cooper, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head, while his daughter, Mrs. Charles Klusch, and her husband, a local druggist, were about to sit down to dinner.

John Novick, a young miner at Kulpmont, was found near his home with his head crushed by a blunt instrument. A butcher shop close to Novick's house had been entered by burglars shortly before Novick was found, and it is thought they attacked him as they left.

While driving his automobile along the highway near St. Clair, Jefferson Crow, a prominent contractor, struck and killed Charles Pavela, who became bewildered and stepped in the way of the machine. Witnesses of the accident exonerate Crow from blame.

William A. Isenberg, aged seventy-six, and his sister, Miss Saloma Isenberg, aged eighty, were suffocated by coal gas at their home at Port Royal. Three other members of the family had narrow escapes.

A herd of twenty-two cattle and twenty hogs belonging to John S. Swoyer, of Swoyer's Crossing, near Reading, were killed by the State inspectors on account of the hoof and mouth disease.

Herbert Herbine, seven-year-old son of Edwin Herbine, is in a dying condition in St. Joseph's Hospital, Reading, from a fractured skull, suffered in a fall from the second-story porch of his home.

Leaving a note that he was impelled to kill himself from remorse over having deserted his wife, Charles Lawrence, aged forty, was found dead from poison in the Penn Hotel, Allentown.

William McIntyre, Jr., of Twedale, Chester county, committed suicide by throwing himself under the engine of a train on the Lancaster, Oxford & Southern Railroad.