

AN ARMY OF CANNIBALS.

Missionaries Say They Destroy the Congo Villages.

NATIVES ARE KILLED AND EATEN

Whole Sections Depopulated by Leopold's Army—Hands Cut Off Natives as Soldiers' Souvenirs.

Dr. W. M. Morrison, a Southern Presbyterian missionary to the Congo Free State, speaking to the Presbyterian Ministers' Association at Louisville gave an impressive recital of the alleged barbarities practiced upon the natives of the Congo Free State by those holding the power, and of the obstacles thrown in the way of their conversion by the missionaries. "I lived with the people for seven years. I know what I am talking about," said Dr. Morrison. "Leopold has there a native cannibal army of 20,000 men, equipped with repeating rifles. These men, representing the worst and most savage type of the natives, were first caught then carried far away from their homes and forced into this military service. Then, in this cannibal soldiery is used to compel the natives to bring in enormous tribute of ivory and rubber. It is worth noting that the king of Belgium is today reputed to be the largest dealer in ivory and rubber in the world.

"As a result of this forced labor and military service great and unspeakable cruelties are practiced on the native people. I have seen a number of times at least 5,000 being taken to the forests to escape from the cannibal soldiers of King Leopold. I have seen these soldiers scouring through the forests and after catching a number of men whom the Government wanted as laborers, going away with the captives tied together by ropes around their necks. Raids upon villages are being constantly made. Some of the people are killed and eaten, others are carried away into captivity and sold, others are forced into military service. I can buy all the slaves you want at London at \$10 and \$15 apiece.

"When these raids are made the most awful cruelties are practiced. Innocent women and children are killed or captured, hands are cut off, to be taken back to the white Belgians officers to show that the work has been well done, and great sections are being depopulated. One of these raids was made near one of our mission stations. One of the missionaries went to the scene and counted 31 hands cut off and drying over a fire, to be taken back to the Belgians officers. Forty-five dead bodies were counted lying near by.

"The Belgian Government makes the usual stereotyped denial of these charges. I have seen personally the Governor of the Congo State. He will not do anything. I have been in the palace of the King of Belgium and have seen the most prominent officials of the Congo Government. They will not do anything. The English Government is greatly interested in the situation. At the request of Lord Lansdowne I prepared a statement of such outrages as had come under my own observation.

"Consul Roger Casement, as English and acting American representative in the Congo State, has just made a tour of investigation, and his report, in the hands of our Government at Washington, presents a most deplorable situation of affairs. As a Government we owe something to the 20,000,000 of black people in the Congo State. What are we going to do?"

BANK OFFICIALS SUED.

Stockholders Claim Negligence in Handling Funds.

Suit to recover \$106,000 was filed in Steubenville, O., by the stockholders of the defunct First National Bank of Mt. Pleasant against the officers and directors individually. It is alleged the officers and directors were grossly negligent in the conduct of the business, allowing the cashier, Isaac K. Ratcliffe, to make loans unrestricted, and that they fraudulently dissipated a part of the funds of the bank. The bank has a capital of \$175,000. The last statement, issued November 20, 1922, showed a surplus of \$55,000 and undivided profits of \$5,000. At the expiration of the charter, February 24, 1923, it was found that \$87,500 of the capital and the \$40,000 surplus and undivided profits had disappeared. This was a shrinkage of \$127,500, but the \$106,000 for which a judgment is asked represents the amount which could be definitely located on the books.

Mine Office Is Dynamited.

The scales and office of the Frostburg Mining Company, at Morrison, near Westport, Md., were dynamited by an unknown person. The motive for the work cannot be conjectured by the officials. The affair created great excitement about the place and the damage will amount to over \$1,000.

Thirty Lives Lost.

Twenty hatches marked "L. M.," a number of light spars, much chaff, such as peels of grain in contact with water, two life buoys marked La Morna, Greenock, and a lot of narrowing deck planking and ship's housework have been found within the past few days in Barclay sound, indicating that the Scotch ship La Morna of Greenock, grain laden, from Puget sound to Queenstown, has foundered with her ship's company of 30 souls.

ANGLO-FRENCH TREATY SIGNED.

Includes Egypt, Morocco, Newfoundland, West Africa, Siam and Madagascar.

The Anglo-French colonial treaty was signed in the foreign office in London.

The first instrument deals with Egypt and Morocco, the second with Newfoundland and West Africa, and the third with Siam, the New Hebrides and Madagascar. By the terms of the treaty the present political situation in Morocco and in Egypt remains unchanged and a full agreement is reached regarding Egyptian finances. Great Britain recognizes the right of France to guard the tranquillity of Morocco, while France will not impede the action of Great Britain in Egypt, and Great Britain adheres to the convention of 1888 for the tranquillity of the Suez canal.

It is agreed that public works and undertakings in Egypt and Morocco shall remain in the hands of the respective states. The freedom of trade in Egypt and Morocco is guaranteed for 30 years, and if the convention shall not be denounced before the expiration of that period it to remain in force for four years more.

France obtains three concessions regarding territory in West Africa. Under the terms of the first there is to be a territorial readjustment on the Zambesi giving France access to the portion of the river navigable to ocean-going ships; under the second France secures six islands, and under the third there is to be a readjustment of the frontier line between the river Niger and Lake Tchad, giving France a route through a fertile country.

PHILIPPINES SHIPPING BILL.

Lewis and Clark Centennial Appropriation Goes Through.

The house on Friday passed a large number of bills, including the Philippine shipping bill and the bill appropriating \$475,000 in aid of the Lewis and Clark centennial exposition to be held in Portland, Ore., in 1905. The only amendment made to the Philippine shipping bill was one extending until July 1, 1905, the time when the law shall become operative.

The bill provides that no merchandise or passengers except supplies for the army or navy shall be transported by sea, under penalty of forfeiture, between ports of the United States and the Philippine archipelago, directly or via a foreign port, or for any part of the voyage, in any except vessels of the United States. It does not prohibit, however, the sailing of any foreign vessel between the United States and the Philippines, nor between ports or places in the Philippines. The tonnage taxes now in force on foreign vessels coming into the United States are levied on such vessels coming from the Philippines.

KILL A HUNDRED HERREROS.

Bloody Fight at Relief of Omaruru, West Africa.

The Southwest African correspondent of the Cologne Gazette has sent a telegraphic description of the relief of Omaruru, February 7. Both sides fought with desperate courage. Upon hearing the firing of artillery of the relieving force the beleaguered force made a sortie against the enemy, who held a natural fortification.

ANOTHER WAR RUMOR.

Report That the Russians Were Defeated on Yalu.

A London news agency dispatch says it is rumored that there has been another engagement on the Yalu and that the Russians were defeated with heavy loss. There is no confirmation of the story.

POPULATION ESTIMATES.

Some Figures Showing Increase Since Last Census Reports.

The census bureau has issued a bulletin which gives the estimated population of the United States for 1923, exclusive of Alaska and the insular possessions of the United States, as 79,902,882. This is an increase of 2,905,514 since the census of 1920. The population is estimated for 438 cities having 10,000 or more inhabitants in 1920.

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FIVE PERSONS DROWNED

Met With Rough Water and Boat Was Overturned.

TWO REACHED THE BEACH ALIVE

Victims Were All Members of the Faculty of the Florida Methodist College.

Five persons, members of the faculty of the Florida Methodist college at Sutherland, were drowned near Anclote lighthouse, Fla. The dead are Mrs. Walker, wife of the president of the college; Miss O'Connor, of Atlanta; Miss Slaughter, of Sutherland; Miss McCray, of Sutherland; Mr. Bourland, of Sutherland.

President Walker and Miss Newton reached the beach alive. The bodies of Mrs. Walker and Miss O'Connor have not yet been recovered. The bodies of the other three who lost their lives were washed ashore and recovered. President Walker had taken the party out for a cruise to the lighthouse, but met with rough water and the boat was overturned in the gulf.

POTTERY PLANT BURNED.

East Liverpool Concern Suffers a Loss of About \$120,000.

The plant of the George C. Murphy Pottery company at East Liverpool, O., was totally destroyed by fire. The loss, including buildings and machinery and \$30,000 worth of finished stock, will exceed \$120,000. There was about \$40,000 insurance on the building. During the fire William Allen, a volunteer fireman, was severely hurt under a falling smokestack.

THE VIRGINIA LAUNCHED.

Latest Addition to U. S. Navy the Most Modern Battleship.

In the presence of the governor of Virginia and his staff, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Darling and many other distinguished guests, the magnificent new battleship Virginia was launched at Newport News, the little daughter of the governor, Miss Matilda Gay Montague, christening her and breaking a bottle of sparkling wine over her prow as the big vessel started down the ways. The Virginia is the most modern and highest class battleship ever constructed at the yards of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co.

MRS. OWENS CONVICTED.

Woman Charged With Killing Her Husband.

At Steubenville the jury in the case of Mrs. Jennie Owens, charged with the killing of her husband, brought in a verdict of murder in the first degree and recommended a life term in the penitentiary for life, without hope of pardon unless the accused should be subsequently proven innocent beyond a reasonable doubt.

HAZING KILLS A LAD.

His Mother Dying as Result of Affair at High School.

Fred Flock, aged 16, was hazed at the Rawson school, Findlay, O., and died from his injuries. He was trying to get away from the older boys, who were putting him through a "course of sports," when he was thrown heavily to the ground, the back of his head striking a protruding stake. As he fell another lad fell upon him, pinning him to the ground. In this position still another piled on top of him. Fred was unconscious. Several ribs were broken and he suffered concussion of the brain. His lungs were also injured. His mother is dying of nervous prostration incident to the boy's death.

Russian Forces Had Left and Retreated Beyond the Yalu.

The Russians have been driven out of Korea by the Japanese and 50 Japanese scouts entered Wiju at 11 o'clock on the 4th inst.

JAPS POSSESS WIJU.

Russian Forces Had Left and Retreated Beyond the Yalu.

The Japanese government already has in motion over 275,000 troops, and 60,000 more are under arms in Japan in garrison and at depots ready to march at a moment's notice. These figures do not include the Third reserves, numbering 120,000, who are still awaiting a call to the colors.

Robber's Cave Found.

Several caverns 50 feet under ground and in the heart of Indianapolis, which were used by a gang of robbers for years, were discovered by the police a short time ago, and thousands of dollars' worth of booty was recovered. The robbers were under the leadership of Lon Hoyt, a notorious criminal, and for years the band committed robberies with impunity. The gang was broken up in 1922.

Smoot Witnesses Wanted.

The following witnesses have been summoned to appear before the committee on privileges and elections in the Smoot case April 20: Angus McCannan, Salt Lake; George Readshaw, Nephi; John W. Taylor, John Henry Smith, J. M. Tanner, Salt Lake; L. E. Alcott, Farmington; B. H. Roberts, Salt Lake; Moses Thatcher, Logan; Heber J. Grant, Mathias P. Conley, Lillian Hamlin Cannon, Salt Lake.

Hands Clamped in Death.

The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes, Laura, aged 13; Hazel, aged 11, and Wendel, aged 9 years, residing three miles southwest of Tustin, Mich., were drowned in a large pond back of their home. The pond was covered with a thin coat of ice, on which the children ventured. The ice was not strong enough to support them and they sank together in 13 feet of water. When the bodies were recovered two hours later the children's hands were still tightly clasped.

LANDED A PESTHOUSE.

Boat Pulled Ashore and Goods Removed Before Discovery.

The engineer's office at government dam No. 6, at Merrill, two miles below Beaver, Pa., is quarantined and several men working on the dam have been laid off 10 days on account of their pulling ashore a small pesthouse, which had been set adrift in the Ohio river at Rochester.

The house had been used as a guardhouse and the recent flood washed it down on the river bank. Some irresponsible person is thought to have set it adrift, as the health authorities disclaim all responsibility. Samuel Willis, a foreman, and William Stone, an assistant, with George Workman, who lives nearby, rowed out and captured it.

In it they found blankets and furniture, which they removed. Some of the chairs they sold to Italian workmen, who are now much excited. Workman's brother is a member of Rochester council and as soon as he had learned that the house had been set adrift he sent word to his brother to beware of it. The message arrived after the house was picked up.

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EIGHT MEET DEATH IN FIRES

Overcome by Smoke Trying to Escape from Building.

SEVERAL OTHERS WERE HURT.

Firemen's Lives Crushed Out by Falling Walls—Large Carriage Plant Destroyed.

Five persons are dead and another is dying as the result of a fire that occurred today in the Columbia Hall building, a metal sheathed three-story structure in Wilson place, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

The dead are: Nathan Frey, 60 years old; Isidor Frey, 12 years; Helen Frey, 9 years; Henry Frey, 3 years, and Gusie Dohrn, 10 years, a cousin of Mrs. Rebecca Frey.

The first floor of the building was occupied by the Columbia Piano Company; on the ground floor were apartments occupied by the Frey, Barry and Lavigne families. The flames spread throughout the top floors with great rapidity. The inmates were aroused by the smoke and heat and all endeavored to make their escape, but the members of the Frey family were overcome before any of them could even reach a window.

Mr. and Mrs. Barry and Mr. and Mrs. Lavigne managed to escape by windows on the third floor and were brought down ladders by the firemen. Mrs. Barry is suffering from injuries to head and face, but she is not dangerously hurt. Mrs. Lavigne was almost overcome by smoke, but with the help of her husband she got to a window and revived. Her condition is not dangerous.

All the dead were more or less burned, but their deaths probably resulted directly from suffocation.

The property loss is estimated at about \$30,000.

At York, Pa., three members of Voluntary Fire company No. 1 lost their lives in fighting a fire of unknown origin, which destroyed the plant of the York Carriage company, entailing a loss of about \$200,000, partially covered by insurance. The dead are: Marcellus Stambinger, Horace Strine and Harry Stambinger.

JOHN P. ELKIN NOMINATED.

Pennsylvania Republicans Choose for Supreme Bench.

In the shortest convention in the history of the Republican party in Pennsylvania, John P. Elkin was nominated for justice of the supreme court. Just 70 minutes were consumed in placing him on the ticket with the 24 candidates for presidential electors.

After the reading of the platform Senator Penrose was re-elected chairman of the State committee by acclamation. On motion of George T. Oliver, of Pittsburg, John P. Elkin was nominated by acclamation for judge of the Supreme Court.

The following delegates-at-large to the national convention were then elected: Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker, Francis L. Robbins, of Pittsburg, James Elverson, of Philadelphia, and O. D. Beakley, of Venango. The alternate delegates-at-large are: O. S. Hershman, of Pittsburg; D. H. Thomas, of Lehigh; Jesse Hartman, Blair, and S. B. Dick, Crawford. The electors-at-large are: Robert Brown, Pittsburg, and Levi McCauley, of Chester.

The convention then adjourned, having been in session a little more than an hour.

DUEL CAUSES TWO DEATHS.

Began Firing at Each Other Over Political Disputes.

At the door of the hall in which the Republican delegate convention for the North Fork (W. Va.) district was being held a bloody street duel occurred between J. A. Ballard, a wealthy merchant, and John MacFarland, chief of police of North Fork. This tragedy, which resulted in the death of two prominent men in Southern West Virginia had its origin in the bitter fight which has been going on between the rival adherents of Secretary of State W. M. Dawson and Col. Charles F. Teter, aspirants for the Republican gubernatorial nomination. Ballard was the leader of the Teter men in that section, while MacFarland was at the head of the Dawson forces.

Ballard came from North Carolina, 18 years ago and during his residence in the coal fields amassed a fortune. Chief MacFarland was one of the most popular young men in the county and bore the reputation of being one of the bravest officials in the State. He was an active Republican leader.

A man giving both the names, E. C. Booth and William Edwards, of Pittsburg, was found dead in the Parkersburg (W. Va.) police station. Alcoholism was the cause of death.

Must Eat Canned Dog Meat or None.

After holding a meeting to discuss the expressed intention of those having in charge the Igorrotes from the Philippine islands to furnish the savages with dogs for food during the World's fair, the Humane society, of St. Louis, formally gave notice that prosecution would follow every attempt to furnish dogs as food. The society said if the Igorrotes must have dog meat, it must be imported in cans from their native country.

IRON MARKET IS ACTIVE.

New Business Constantly Coming Forward and Many Idle Plants Are in Operation.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s "Weekly Review of Trade" says: Commercial conditions have improved somewhat during the past week, although there is still much to be desired. Dispatches from the South are not encouraging. At the Eastern market, cotton being plentiful, yet spring trade is still below normal. The best news of the week was the settlement of many labor controversies, or at least resumption of work pending arbitration. Manufacturing returns are still confusing, notable improvement in the iron and steel industry being offset by less favorable reports regarding textile and footwear. Agricultural work progresses rapidly under better than average conditions, cotton being planted unusually early. It is a good sign that the month opened with prices of commodities less inflated. Transporting interests are overconcerned with freight congestion, while railway earnings in March were only 7 per cent smaller than in 1922, and largely surpassed all preceding years. Improvement in the iron and steel industry is no longer a matter of conjecture or sanguine hope, but a certainty. New business is constantly coming forward and gradually idle plants resume white recent moderate gains in quotations are readily maintained, although no further advance occurred during the past week. In many respects the past week has been eventful. Former prices of billets and bars were reaffirmed by the association; the first liberal order for structural material was placed; implement makers all wanted materials at the same time, having finally decided to cease procrastinating; several independent concerns that were selling at concessions restored full list prices, and a most encouraging statement was issued by the leading producer.

ROCKEFELLER GIVES \$500,000.

Contributes to Income of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

John D. Rockefeller has given to the Johns Hopkins hospital the sum of \$500,000, and the amount has been accepted by the board of trustees of that institution. The income of the hospital was seriously affected by the destruction of many houses belonging to it in the recent fire, upon which there was inadequate insurance. The expressed purpose of Mr. Rockefeller's gift is to restore that income to its original proportions, which will enable the hospital to keep up the great volume of charitable treatment which it has maintained in the past.

Agree to Amalgamate.

The consolidation of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Machinists, Blacksmiths and Pattern Makers, an English organization with about 2,000 members in the United States, with the International Association of Machinists has been agreed on, subject to the approval of the superior officers of the former organization. The tentative agreement was reached at a meeting of the general executive board of the International Association of Machinists.

Frank Gibson Fatally Shot.

Admiral Strydom will supersede Admiral Makaroff when he arrives at the far east with the Baltic fleet.

The House Committee on Rivers and Harbors has completed its draft of an appropriation bill carrying approximately \$5,000,000 to continue existing contracts for river and harbor work.

Lizzie Hattshelm, aged 16, died at Appleton, Wis., after a fast of 40 days.

Undertaken, it is said, for the purpose of ending her life, made miserable by continued sickness.

James and Walter Hering, brothers, were shot to death at Athens, Texas, in a fight with officers who were attempting to arrest them.

In a ratio of 5 to 1 citizens of Chicago declare themselves in favor of municipal ownership of their street railways.

Grover Cleveland comes out with an unqualified indorsement of Judge Alton B. Parker as the logical Democratic candidate for the Presidency.

A desperate attempt to escape from the Missouri penitentiary was made by four convicts heavily armed and carrying sticks of dynamite.

The steamer Grand Lake arrived at St. Johns from the ice fields with 20,000 seals. The captain reports that at least 300,000 seals will have been captured before the end of the present month by the fleet now in the Arctic waters.

The Russian police have apologized and have reholisted the United States flag over the correspondents' mess at Newchwang.

New York will have an auxiliary system of salt-water mains and pumping stations at the river front to perfect its fire facilities.

Earl R. Marvin, Pittsburg, has been appointed aide-de-camp on the staff of Brig. Gen. John A. Wiley, commander of the Second brigade, N. G. P.

Bandits held up the mail stage running between Hot and Big Fork, Mont., and took the mail and other valuables.

James Ryan, William Stoughton and John Roe were arrested at Youngstown, O., charged with holding up Inspector Phillips and others on a Sharon street car.

Rev. M. C. Poffenberger, rector of St. Thomas' Protestant Episcopal church, was killed instantly by a train near Deer Park, Md. He was 35 years old and leaves a wife and three children.

MANY CENTENARIANS.

Marked increase in their numbers in recent years.

England has had ten celebrated centenarians whose joint ages reached the total of 1201 years, writes The King. Arranged in order of seniority their names are as follows: Henry Jenkins, 169; Catherine Countess of Desmond, 162; Thomas Parr, 162; Peter Garden, 131; Jane Scrimshaw, 126; John Phillips, 117; Isabel Walker, 112; Thomas Lancher, 111; Patrick Gibson, 111, and John Tait, 110.

Frugality of diet, placidity of temper, freedom from mental worry and excitement and the constant practice of all sorts of outdoor exercises are prescribed with one accord by the more recent longevity specialists as conditions precedent to the attainment of long life. Yet no more marked increase in animals of longevity has ever been noted than that which marks the decade between 1922 and 1923, although it forms part of an era of telegraphs, telephones, motor cars and life under high pressure generally, while many of the most remarkable cases of prolonged existence occur in crowded cities and where one would least expect them. The records for 1923 were remarkable, but the month of January, 1924, is exceptionally important both as regards the number of patriarchs who have died since the year began and the frequent mention of still living centenarians.

Pens and Swords.

Nations founded by the sword, sustained by the sword, pass and are forgotten. But the written words, the words of "men entirely good," outlast the very civilization amid which they were penned. Who can leave out of account, even today, the words of Homer, Virgil, Dante, Shakespeare, Moliere, Cervantes, Goethe? Even today every thinking man must acknowledge their sway, must live in the kingdoms of thought these men have founded. Let us then put among the relics of the great the tools of their government—and let us hold precious the pens and inkstands that have outlasted and overcome the swords of conquerors, the scepters of the kings.—St. Nicholas.

In 1823 the first Japanese newspaper with some news translated from the Dutch, was published. Now Japan has 1,500 daily newspapers and periodicals. Tokio has 20, but there are no evening newspapers among them. One of the Tokyo papers, the Japan Times, printed in English, cut is produced by Japanese exclusively.

The Swedish Mission Society of America is trying to secure a share in the \$1,300,000 of profits that have resulted from a gold mine discovered in Alaska by P. H. Anderson, a missionary sent there by the society. The point is whether a relation board entitled to profits which its missionaries make outside of their calling.

A Kentucky judge decided that men who cannot business on Sunday cannot secure damages against a telegraph company if the latter fails to deliver correctly a telegram on that date.

MARKETS.

PITTSBURG.

Grain, Flour and Feed.	
Wheat—No. 2 red	95 96
Rye	44 44
Corn—No. 2 yellow	51 51
No. 2 yellow, shelled	51 51
Mixed	49 49
Oats—No. 2 white	48 49
No. 3 white	47 47
Flour—No. 1 patent	47 47
Straight wheat	4 50 4 50
Hay—No. 1 timothy	15 25 15 25
Clayton	12 12
Feed—No. 1 white old ton	21 04 2