

THE ALMANACE GLEANER

VOL. LII.

GRAHAM, N. C., THURSDAY JULY 21, 1927.

NO. 25.

DOINGS OF THE WEEK

NEWS REVIEW OF CURRENT EVENTS

Earthquake in Palestine and Transjordan Is Fatal to Hundreds.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

HUNDREDS of men, women and children—perhaps as many as a thousand—were killed in Palestine and Transjordan by the severest earthquake that region has experienced in a hundred years. Thousands were injured and other thousands were rendered homeless. In Jerusalem many famous buildings were seriously damaged, including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Hebrew university, the Dome of the Rock, the Basilica, the Russian church, the Bagdadese synagogue and the government house on the Mount of Olives; but the casualties in the "City of Peace" were few. Elsewhere, especially east and south of the Dead sea, the destruction in towns and villages was almost complete and hundreds of mangled bodies were taken from the ruins of houses. Half of the town of Nablus was utterly wrecked and many inhabitants were killed. It was reported that 300 were dead at Maan, 36 at Amman, 72 at Ramleh and 80 at Ludd. In Jericho there was but one victim, but the Winter Palace hotel collapsed and other buildings were damaged. British military aviators from Transjordan helped in the rescue of many survivors, and relief work was got under way promptly. Pope Pius, deeply grieved by the catastrophe, sent instructions to the patriarchate at Jerusalem concerning relief measures. The earthquake was felt in Egypt and caused great alarm but not much damage. On the same day there were severe tremors in Victoria, Australia.

Floods following a cloudburst in the valleys of the Gotteluba and Muglitz rivers, tributaries of the Elbe in Saxony, killed about 200 persons and devastated the valleys, burying the ruins of villages deep in mud. Troops and hundreds of relief workers were rushed to the rescue, the Red Cross leading the expedition and being followed by the communists, the Fascists, the "Steel Helmets" and the rebellious "Reichsbanner" forces, all united for once in the task of extricating and feeding the hapless survivors. The same violent storm that struck Saxony raged along the Alps and Apennines in northern and central Italy, doing vast damage.

KEVIN CHRISTOPHER O'HIGGINS, vice president of the Irish Free State, minister for justice and perhaps the leading man in the government, was assassinated as he was on his way to church in Booterstown, a suburb of Dublin. Three men fired bullets into his head and body and escaped in a motor car. O'Higgins, before his death a few hours later, whispered: "I go as Collins went and as my father went. I die as I have lived—for Ireland. I die at peace with my enemies and with God. I forgive them all." The brutal murder caused intense indignation, not only in the Free State but throughout the world, and messages of sympathy were received by President Cosgrave from King George, the duke of Abercorn for northern Ireland and many other personages. Eamon de Valera denounced the crime as murder inexcusable from any standpoint and said he was confident the republican organization was not responsible for it. Ten men, all said to be connected with irregular organizations that as senior officers of secret groups they directed the conspiracy resulting in the assassination. One of the prisoners was a son of Count George Plunkett.

ANOTHER week of debate in the naval limitation conference at Geneva, and no definite results. Great Britain, still striving to maintain her predominance on the seas but not willing that the conference should fail, suggested a compromise solution of the cruiser problem. W. C. Bridge-

man, first lord of the admiralty, said if the United States would agree to limit the number of 10,000-ton cruisers to ten each for America and England and six for Japan, he would be prepared to accept the maximum tonnage figures of 400,000 tons fixed by the United States. Mr. Gibson and his colleagues might have reached some agreement with the British with this as a starter, although it was asserted in Washington that our government could not accept Bridgeman's figures. But here the Japanese stepped in with the flat statement that they would not go above 480,000 tons for cruisers and destroyers combined, this being the total for both categories as suggested in the original American plan. Viscount Saito said his delegation was ready to return home without any treaty, and that if the Americans and British could get together, they might as well sign a two-power pact. This, however, did not suit Mr. Gibson at all. Mr. Bridgeman requested that a plenary session of the conference be held on Thursday. At this he, Mr. Gibson and Viscount Saito again set forth the positions of their respective governments in the matter of cruisers, and there was a formal review of what had been accomplished—if anything. Talking to the correspondents, Mr. Gibson was optimistic. "We luckily hold a middle position," he said. "The Japanese are in full accord with our original figures and we can get an agreement with the British on increased tonnage totals under consideration. Now it is up to the British and Japanese to get together." America has not definitely held out for 25 10,000-ton cruisers, Mr. Gibson added.

REPRESENTATIVES of the agriculturists in 15 Middle Western states, attending the Northwest farm conference in St. Paul, voted to support the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill until it becomes law, though they were willing it should be revised to meet President Coolidge's objections. Drafted by Congressman Charles Brand of Ohio, the resolutions urged that the bill be changed: To permit the President to select nominees for the federal board to stabilize prices of farm products, instead of having them chosen by farm organizations. To make the bill general in its application so as to include all farm products, instead of the five specifically named in the bill which Mr. Coolidge vetoed.

MR. COOLIDGE received a call from representatives of the Western Stock Marketing association who presented a plan for extending the co-operative marketing process to the cattle business, and asked government aid in its organization. Extended to the entire Western range, as is suggested, cattle would be manipulated just as the fruit growers of California handle their crops, holding them until they get a certain minimum price. Such an organization would compel the packers to bargain for cattle on the ranches instead of in the Omaha and Chicago markets. Among other visitors of the week at the summer White House was a large number of members of the National Women's party, just from their meeting in Colorado Springs, who presented to the President their demand for "equal rights for women." The farmers of North Dakota also sent a delegation to tell Mr. Coolidge that they are in favor of the St. Lawrence waterway project and a new diversion of the Missouri river waters through the James river valley and to urge the early completion of those projects.

power to maintain that price which other industries through their superior organization now enjoy." "The federal farm board should be able to empower organizations of farmers to take control of the surplus and to distribute the cost of that operation not only among the members of the co-operatives but among all the producers, whether they are members or not."

HONOLULU is host, for two weeks, of the Institute of Pacific Relations, and 100 leading citizens of ten nations bordering on the Pacific or having special interests in that ocean are trying to arrive at an understanding of the causes of friction between East and West. The conference is unofficial and the discussions are frank and open, with no germane topics forbidden. Nearly 50 Americans are present, including Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, president of Stanford university and chairman of the institute; Prof. James T. Shotwell of Columbia university; Robert Dollar, president of the Dollar Steamship company; Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, lecturer of New York; Stephen P. Duggan, director of the Institute of International Education, and Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of California.

EMULATING Oliver Cromwell, Marshal Pilsudsky has executed another coup d'etat in Poland by sending his soldiers into the senate and ordering it to dissolve because it would not pass laws he considered necessary without debating them. Pilsudsky had given democratic rule a trial for about ten months but it wasn't satisfactory to him so he has resumed the absolute dictatorship.

PROHIBITION COMMISSIONER DORAN held a conference with his district administrators in Washington and warned them that honest physicians and retail druggists are not to be harassed in the prescription or sale of liquor for medicinal purposes. Prohibition agents are not expected to practice medicine or pharmacy in the enforcement of the Volstead act, according to Commissioner Doran, who continued that doctors and druggists, as members of responsible professions, should be given an ample opportunity to explain apparently irregular practices before they are subjected to the expense of proceedings to revoke their permits.

WHETHER the two \$1,000,000 libel suits against Henry Ford will be settled out of court as a result of his public retraction and apology for the anti-Jewish articles in the Dearborn Independent is uncertain at this writing, but Aaron Sapiro said he was negotiating a settlement of his action. In Washington there was a mass meeting of Jews called to consider Ford's apology, and eloquent appeals for its acceptance in good faith were made. But a majority of those present preferred to wait and see if Ford's actions conform to his words. So the resolution of acceptance was rejected.

JOHN DREW'S death in San Francisco caused the nation to heave a sigh of regret, for the dean of the American stage was universally beloved and respected. His entire life had been given over to the work of entertaining the public with clean, intelligent and thoroughly artistic acting and he passed away "in the harness" though he had reached the age of seventy-three years. Another capable and popular actor, Gregory Kelly, died in New York after several months' illness.

DR. F. SCOTT M'BRIDE, general superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league, has issued a statement saying the league will make every effort to elect a bone dry congress next year, despite the fact that many constitutional lawyers are of the opinion that any modification of the Volstead act would be held unconstitutional by the Supreme court of the United States. "The 1928 campaign," he says, "will be carried into every congressional district. Candidates who are not known friends of the prohibition cause will be opposed, while candidates who are friendly to prohibition will be supported to the fullest extent."

Clerk: Timothy Shea, assistant president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers; John Brophy, former president of District No. 2, United Mine Workers; Frank Palmer, editor of The Colorado Labor Advocate (Typographical union); William Mitch, Indiana state secretary of the United Mine Workers; Albert F. Coyle, editor of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers' Journal; James W. Fitzpatrick, president of the American Artists' and Actors' federation.

A PARTNERSHIP IN THE TROUT BUSINESS

(© by D. J. Walsh.)

GRANDFATHER BROWN, who walked on four legs, two of them being canes, and eleven-year-old Leslie, were great chums. They would wander down the hill and along the brook and into the woods, and grandfather would tell about when he was a boy; how then more than half the country was woods; how his grandfather had told him of wolves coming up to the very door of the log cabin in the night, and how, one one occasion, when his mother was in the best room talking with a neighbor, a bear had ambled into the kitchen and eaten all the Thanksgiving dinner. And Leslie would listen with her round eyes full of wonder, and try to picture to herself the almost unbroken forest, with bears and wolves and all sorts of wild animals roaming about in the shadowy depths.

On the Brown place was a "live" spring where the water bubbled up merrily, and from which the overflow went dancing and sparkling down to the brook at the foot of the slope. One day grandfather stopped at the spring and said musingly: "John an' me used to have good times round here. To think of the trout we raised in this spring! Seems like it was only yesterday."

"Raised trout?" queried Leslie, skeptically.

"Yes, we were boys then. John was your great uncle—died more'n sixty years ago. Long time, isn't it?" "But how did you raise them, grandfather?" persisted Leslie.

"Oh, just caught 'em in the brook with nets an' put 'em in the spring. Then we stopped up the outlet with wire netting, so they couldn't get out. Used to feed 'em with grasshoppers an' bugs an' things. Time an' time ag'in I've been to St. Hopkins, the butcher, for chunks of liver an' such meat as he'd give away. My! but didn't they eat!"

"How old were you, grandfather?" asked Leslie, the glow of a sudden resolution beginning to form in her brown eyes. "Older'n me?"

"Lemme see. I guess I was 'bout nine an' Johnny fen. Stirrin' chaps we was then. Didn't have to go round with two canes."

He laughed regretfully and moved away toward the brook. Leslie walked soberly by his side evidently trying to solve some problem which his words made complex. But as they went on her face cleared and presently she was racing on ahead in pursuit of an unusually pretty butterfly.

Every afternoon grandfather took a long nap and then Leslie played with the chickens or kittens or Towser or went down the slope to gather flowers. But this afternoon she had something more important in view. She slipped into the woodshed, got the net he had made for her to catch butterflies, went down to the brook and tried to dip out some of the tiny fish that were darting about in the water. But the holes in the net were too large and as often as she caught them they slipped through, so that at the end of an hour she returned empty-handed. The next day, when grandfather was asleep again, she tried the net once more. And the next, and the next. Then she hung the net on its peg in the shed and tried to think of some other plan. She was not going to give it up this way; not she. She was eleven and grandfather and Uncle John had been only nine and ten. Grandfather shouldn't know a word about it until the fish were safe in the spring and the door shut so they couldn't get out.

But in spite of the thoughtful look on her face and her tightly shut lips, two whole days went by and she was no nearer solving the problem. Then a late spring freshet came tumbling down the valley and helped her.

It commenced to rain on Sunday and poured down with scarcely a break until Friday and, in addition to this, there was a rumor of a dam giving way somewhere up in the country. Anyhow, the water came rushing and roaring down the valley, "high-er'n he'd ever seen it afore," grandfather declared. The brook became a river; its water rose up to the very edge of the spring, and the ledge of rock where they had been accustomed to go after mosses and lichens was entirely submerged. It took three days for the water to go down and two more for the ground to become dry enough for Leslie to visit the spring. Grandfather had the rheumatism and said he guessed he wouldn't go along; he'd look over the almanac until she got back.

But he had scarcely got his spectacles on his nose when she came racing up the hill with glowing cheeks, and an exultant expression in her eyes.

"Why—why! What's the matter, child?" grandfather asked. But Leslie only pressed her fingers against her lips and shook her head. A few minutes later he saw her hurrying back to the spring with what appeared to be a piece of wire netting and some bits of boards. At first he thought of following her, then something in the almanac engaged his attention and he forgot all about it.

The next day the sun came out bright and warm and after breakfast grandfather proposed a walk. It was just the proposal that was trembling on Leslie's lips, and she caught up her hat and went racing down the slope. Leslie was standing demurely at the spring when he caught up with her and he was about to chide her for running away when his glance fell upon the water.

"Small fry—little trout!" he ejaculated, wonderingly; "an' hundreds of 'em! Land sakes, child; where did they come from?" "I 'spose the freshet brought 'em down," Leslie answered gleefully. "Anyway, I found 'em here and shut them in. See, grandfather," pointing eagerly to a piece of wire netting placed clumsily in the outlet of the spring.

"Yes, I declare! I see it. You're a keen one. Mebbe I can fix the netting a bit for ye, though. But what ye goin' to do with 'em, Leslie—raise 'em?"

"Yes, you and I—in partnership, you know," triumphantly.

"So we be, so we be—in partnership," he assented. "I guess you an' I will make a pretty sound firm, eh, Leslie? What I can't do in catchin' grasshoppers I'll make up in buyin' liver an' givin' advice. But s'pose we fix this wire door first."

As the weeks went by fish-feeding became one of their regular occupations, and it was a question which of them derived the most pleasure from the task. By next spring many of the trout were four or five inches in length, and grandfather began to get in the habit of shaking his head as he looked at them.

"Too many of 'em, Leslie," he said gravely. "When hot weather comes the spring will not be large enough an' lots of 'em will die. We'll likely be obliged to let half of 'em out; but we won't yet. Folks do say as trout fetch a big price nowadays, an' I'd like to fatten 'em up good, now we're partners."

Before the summer was over the story of Leslie's trout began to get about the neighborhood and there were many visitors who wished to see the spring. Not far away was a summer resort, and one day a gentleman drove in and asked to see the trout. It was near feeding time and as he stood by and watched them he explained that he had a small pond on his place which he wished to stock with trout.

"Your fish seem to be strong and healthy," he said, briskly, as they walked toward the house. "I am anxious to get good stock, and if you can spare me a few dozen I will be glad to pay you fifty cents each for them."

"Fifty cents! Even grandfather's mild blue eyes opened wider than usual at the offer. But only for a moment; then he regained control of himself and gravely closed the bargain.

What do you suppose they did with the money? Why, enlarge the spring and had a smaller one dug nearby, which was to be fed by the old one. Then they remodeled the outlet and caught more fish, and went into the business in earnest.

"For I believe there's money in it," said Grandfather Brown, sagely. "Leastways, I hear trout's wuth a dollar a pound at some hotels right now an' in my days they wa'n't scarcely wuth givin' away."

Then there came a "make-believe" far-off look into his eyes, and he said, just as though Leslie were not there to hear: "Some o' these days a little girl I know will want a sure 'nough education, an' fish money will come in handy."

Eastern "Coolies" The term "coolie" or "cooly," says the Pathfinder Magazine, is from the Hindu "kuli" or "quili," meaning laborer. The coolies are unskilled laborers from India, China and the Orient in general. They were first imported into Western countries under contracts according to which they bound themselves to a certain term of service.

In the United States Chinese immigrants in general are sometimes called coolies.

Brunettes Film Well There are more brunettes than blondes among motion-picture actresses because, under normal conditions, dark hair and eyes show up better on the screen, according to Liberty.

Antitoxin's Victory Thirty-three of every hundred children who caught diphtheria used to die before the discovery of diphtheria antitoxin.

Reelfoot Lake, Made by Earthquake



Reelfoot Lake, Showing Earthquake Ridges Marked by Trees.

(Prepared by the National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.)

MOST large national lakes of America came into existence many thousands of years ago, the Great Lakes, most notably, being formed during the Ice age. But one sizable body of water, Reelfoot lake, Tennessee, was formed by a great convulsion of nature, before the startled eyes of the first American pioneers on the banks of the Mississippi little more than a century ago. And now within the past few weeks the Reelfoot country has been shaken again and a ridge of gravel has appeared in a formerly level section.

Perhaps De Soto, in his wanderings along the Mississippi river, saw this country as a vast unbroken wilderness. As he thrust westerly northward along the west bank of the "Father of Waters," to the great Indian village of Cahokia, he little dreamed that this placid wilderness would within three hundred years be torn and racked by nature's forces, and that during one of the greatest earthquakes of historical times lakes covering tens of thousands of acres would come into existence overnight.

The old Spanish settlement of New Madrid, formed many years after De Soto had come and gone, did, however, play a prominent part in recording the story of Reelfoot, for here resided many of our American pioneers whose letters supply the details of that, to them, awful winter.

At the beginning of the Nineteenth century this region was called Indian country, and rightly so, for in the rich bottom lands dwelt a tribe of the Chickasaws, which camped at the base of bluffs that rose 300 feet above the Mississippi, providing the look-out points so needed in a wilderness.

Birth of Reelfoot Lake. One of the pioneers of New Madrid, Eliza Bryan, described the earthquake that caused the birth of Reelfoot lake as follows:

"The Mississippi first seemed to recede from its banks, and its waters gathered up like a mountain, leaving for a moment many boats, which were on their way to New Orleans, on the bare sand, in which time the poor sailors made their escape from them."

"Then, rising 15 or 20 feet perpendicularly and expanding, as it were, at the same time, the banks overflowed with a retrograde current rapid as a torrent. The boats, which before had been left on the sand, were now torn from their moorings and suddenly driven up a little creek, at the mouth of which they had lain, to a distance in some instances of nearly a quarter of a mile.

"The surface of the earth was from time to time by these hard shocks covered to various depths by sand which issued from fissures that were made in great numbers all over this country. Some of these closed up immediately, after they had vomited forth their sand and water. In some places, however, a substance resembling coal or impure stone coal was thrown up with the sand.

"It is impossible to say what the depth of the fissures was; we have reason to believe that some of them were very deep.

"The site of this town was settled down at least 15 feet, but not more than a half mile below there does not appear to be any alteration of the bank of the river.

"Back from the river large ponds, or lakes, which covered a large part of the country, were nearly dried up. The beds of some of them are elevated several feet above the former banks, producing an alteration from their original state of 10 or 20 feet, and lately it has been discovered that a lake was formed on the opposite side of the Mississippi, in the Indian country, upward of 100 miles long and

from 1 to 6 miles wide, of a depth of from 10 to 50 feet."

Several such letters are full of interesting detail, yet now we know that the facts were greatly exaggerated. For example, the 100-mile lake is nearer 14 miles in length and 4 1/2 miles in width.

Great Area Affected. This we do know and realize, however: That such an earthquake, if occurring at the present time, would probably cause ten times the damage which followed the San Francisco earthquake of 1906. Reelfoot was not the only lake formed, for large areas in eastern Arkansas and northwestern Louisiana were partly submerged and a number of small lakes formed. This earthquake, known historically as the New Madrid earthquake, caused a settling and rising of the land over a large territory, and partly demolished the old Spanish settlement from which it was named. General Rogers of Revolutionary fame, living at Rock Island, on the Caney Fork river, at the foot of Cumberland mountains, 200 miles to the east, saw great blocks of sandstone, loosened from the top escarpment, 1,000 feet above the river, crash down the mountain sides. A great area throughout America was affected by this earthquake. Far up in the northern woods of Canada the Indians reported that earth tremors occurred; to the west in Missouri and Arkansas, the reports of James' expedition say that the Indians were terrified by the same quake, while to the southwest, on the Washita river, there was much fear among the settlers. What occurred in the Reelfoot region? What happened to New Madrid? There were no hard rocks in that section; all the country was covered by rich loams and clays, and under this surface soil was layer after layer of loose sand and clay, down to a depth of 2,000 feet. The earth waves came up through these 2,000 feet of sand and clay, and where breaks occurred on the surface poured streams of quicksand from deeply buried layers, veritable sand geysers. The great forest trees moved, with branches interlocked, like fields of grain before the wind. Their trunks, not having the suppleness of youth, fell prostrate or reclined at grotesque angles to the earth. The rhythmic motion of the earth is well shown by the parallel lines of cypress trees growing on the low crests of the many rolls in the Reelfoot lake region. An airplane view brings to life again the roll of the earth as it occurred more than a century ago. During the last 100 years the Mississippi river has continued to ravage the areas along its course during the flood seasons. While the river writhed back and forth across its mighty plain, the newly-born Reelfoot lake grew more beautiful, and nature began to heal scars on the landscape which were inflicted at its birth. Its clear, brownish water became the home of many fish and its surface was dotted with lily pads, called "yoncoppins," whose gorgeous flowers had the imprisoned yellow of a river sunset. To this haven of beauty, teeming with plant growth and fish, soon came, on their yearly 20,000-mile pilgrimage, the wild denizens of the air—ducks, geese, water turkey or cornmorants, coots and the white heron, while the rail, gallinule, bittern and teal nested among the saw grass and the lily pads. Some fifteen years ago the state of Tennessee, realizing the value of Reelfoot lake as a source of revenue, made it a fish and game preserve.