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FEAR IN STAUNTON.

Earth Swallows Houses and Trees in Virginia Town.

GEOLOGIST GOES TO THE SCENE.

Limestone Foundation Gradually Giving Away and Rivers Under Town—People Moving.

Staunton, Va., Special.—A two-story house and a large tree have been swallowed up into the earth, many other residences are sinking and have been abandoned by their occupants and public buildings are endangered as the result of the boring of an eight hundred foot well in the public square here.

Wide cracks in the earth are spreading, threatening the postoffice and public school building. The walls of the school house already are cracked. Residents are much alarmed and heroic efforts are being made to prevent further caving of the earth.

Washington, Special.—In response to an appeal to the geological survey from Staunton, Va., F. B. Van Horn, assistant chief geologist, has gone to investigate the cave-ins, which have caused heavy property damage in the Virginia town. The theory held by the government geologist is that the trouble was caused by water percolating through the limestone, which underlies the entire section, and thus has weakened the foundations of buildings and caused them to give way. Mr. Van Horn is familiar with the geological structure of that portion of Virginia and from press reports he judges that dissolving limestone is responsible for the trouble.

Senator Heyburn Stopped "Dixie."

Seattle, Wash., Special.—Senator W. B. Heyburn of Idaho, dislikes "Dixie."

He created a sensation at a reception given to Congressman T. R. Hamer at Wallace, Idaho, Friday night by stopping the orchestra while the musicians were playing that popular strain. Colonel Hamer had just finished his address and the orchestra had started a medley of well-known airs.

About the sixth number in the medley was "Dixie." The Senator leaped to his feet, strode across to the musicians and cried out:

"This is a Republican meeting. We want no such tunes here."

The amazed musicians stopped immediately. The Senator strode back to his seat. After a moment of silence Mayor Hanson arose and closed the meeting.

"Pride Goeth Before a Fall."

Biddeford, Me., Special.—Pride in the financial standing of the institution, of which he had long been treasurer, and fear lest the announcement of poor investments in Western securities would hurt that standing, led Richmond H. Ingersoll to make false entries in the books of the York county savings bank a quarter of a century ago and to continue the falsification through all the years without detection, each year getting deeper in the middle of false figures. This is the explanation given by the treasurer following the closing of the doors of the bank after a discovery of a shortage in the funds had been made by a bank examiner. That Ingersoll himself did not profit by manipulation of the accounts is the belief of bank officials. He had been treasurer of the bank for fifty years.

Treasurer Ingersoll himself is at the point of death, as the result, it is believed, of having taken an overdose of headache powders. He has been unconscious.

The depositors in the bank number about 4,000 and are largely cotton mill employes.

Rear End Collision at Raleigh.

The Seaboard Air Line north-bound train No. 84, at 1:10 Friday morning ran into the rear of an excursion train on the Southern railway just returned from Durham, while standing under the shed of the Union depot at Raleigh, killing one negro man named William Jordan, and injured probably fatally a colored man from Norfolk. Others injured were some half dozen.

Negro Shot From Excursion Train.

Valdosta, Ga., Special.—A 13-year-old negro boy, named Robert Lang, son of Mack Lang, residing on Hightower place, near here, was seriously shot through the head by a passenger on an excursion train from Florida to Atlanta on the Georgia Southern road. Efforts to catch the guilty party at Tifton and Cordele failed.

The boy was riding a mule to his work when shot. Part of his brains oozed from the wound and physicians state that he will die. It is not known whether the shooting was intentional or the result of an accident.

WOMAN DIES IN PRISON.

Higher Court Will Declare Miss Wardlaw's Guilt or Innocence.

Newark, N. J., Special.—Miss Virginia Wardlaw, who, with her two sisters, is indicted for the murder of Mrs. Oeey Wardlaw Martin Snead, died here in the house of detention. Her death, it is said, will materially affect the prosecution of her two sisters. General decline is given as the cause of death. Miss Wardlaw was at one time a resident of Tennessee.

The fate of the aged woman in this respect paralleled that of her alleged victim, for doctors who examined Oeey Snead before her death said her ailments were all due to lack of nourishment. In the opinion of jail attendants, Miss Wardlaw deliberately starved herself to death. This has revived rumors circulated at the time of Oeey Snead's death when the history of the mysterious household was under investigation that a suicide pact existed between Miss Wardlaw and her niece.

When she was removed from jail there was found in the cell she occupied a quantity of stale food which the prisoner had concealed.

At the aged woman's bedside when she died were her sister, Mrs. Richard Pringle, and her brother, the Rev. Albert Wardlaw, both of Christiansburg, Va. But her other sisters, Miss Caroline B. Martin and Mrs. Mary W. Snead, jointly indicted with her, were in their cell as she expired.

Die at Age of 29.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Frederick W. Cooper died here Friday, his death being remarkable because it occurred in his twenty-ninth year.

That was the age at which his father and eight of his father's brothers all died. Illness, and not accidents, were the cause of these deaths. Cooper became uneasy as his twenty-ninth year approached its half way mark, a presentiment seemed to come to him and he said, speaking of his thirtieth birthday next January:

"If I can not live until then, why, I'll live to be a thousand."

A short time ago when Cooper was taken sick with typhoid, the inevitable brooding over the fate of his father and his uncles hastened the progress of the disease. He died while his near relatives were too far away to be summoned to his bedside.

"Spirit Will" Null and Void.

Washington, D. C., Special.—A "spirit will" has no standing in law, according to ruling made by Justice Barnard, in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. Mrs. Elida J. G. Crowell, widow of William H. Crowell, a clerk in the Treasury Department, applied to the court for the appointment of her late husband's brother as administrator of his estate, and offered in evidence what purported to be a translation of an illegible message which Crowell scribbled while on his death bed favoring his brother's appointment. The court was unable to decipher the scrawl, but Mrs. Crowell said a "translation" had been made for her by a "slate writing medium."

The "translation" in part read: "Dear Elida—This is what I want to write on a slip of paper: 'I want my brother, W. H. H. Crowell, Washington, U. S. A., my administrator if I should pass away with my sickness. I have perfect trust in him. I believe he will deal honestly with my children. I have set aside \$5,000 for the exclusive use of my wife. Give little Elizabeth and brother both \$100 to put in the savings bank. Ruby met me. I have seen many folks here. This is a beautiful world. Is better than the sixth auditor's office. They can't put me out here.'" (Signed) "W. H. CROWELL." Dated June 7, 1910.

Judge Barnard appointed Mrs. Crowell and her stepson, William B. Crowell, joint administrators.

Aged Woman Millionaire Weds Boy.

Chicago, Special.—Mrs. Mary B. Train, who gave her age as 70 years, her home as San Diego, Cal., and estimated her wealth in the millions, was married here Friday to James Dibs, of New York, an Assyrian linen salesman, 23 years of age. Mrs. Train said her income from rents alone was \$2,600 a month. She said she was a distant relative of the late George Francis Train.

Harrassed to Death.

Newark, N. J., Special.—The prosecution of Mrs. Carolina B. Martin and Mrs. Mary Snead will not be interfered with in any way by the death of Virginia Wardlaw, the third sister indicted in connection with the mysterious death of Oeey W. M. Snead, the East Orange bath tub victim. This statement was made by Louis Hood, special counsel for the State in the Wardlaw case.

An autopsy performed showed conclusively that Miss Wardlaw had died of starvation. She will be buried in a cemetery near here beside Oeey Snead.

\$100,000,000 FIRE.

Belgians' World's Fair "White City" Buildings Destroyed.

MENAGERIE IS ROASTED ALIVE.

Little Loss of Life—Over 100,000 People on the Grounds—Thieves Pillage—Aggregate Loss Enormous.

Brussels, By Cable.—The White City of the "world's fair," as the Belgians have called their 1910 exposition, is a mass of flames and smoldering ruins. The loss is estimated at \$100,000,000.

A spark falling into inflammable material in the telegraph building burst up in flames, which driven by a high wind, swept rapidly in all directions. Soon the Belgian, English and French sections were destroyed. The firemen and detachments of soldiers called quickly to the scene, found themselves baffled by the veritable gale, which carried the burning embers to all parts of the grounds.

To the left of the main building arose the picturesque roofs and spires of "Bruxelles Kermesse," a Belgian Coney Island, with water chutes, toboggan slides and scores of side shows. This place was alive with Sunday crowds and before they could be gotten out with any semblance of order the Kermesse was afire. The crowds became panic-stricken and men, women and children fought madly to escape. The exits became choked with the struggling masses and men used their fists to clear the pathway.

Many were tramped under feet and badly injured. An engine corps from Antwerp attempted to dynamite the bridge of the French section in the hope of checking the fire but the flames leaped across and engulfed the Italian, Russian, Austrian, Japanese, Chinese and Norwegian buildings. Forty houses on the Avenue Solbosch, adjoining the exposition, were destroyed.

At the time of the outbreak not less than 100,000 persons were circulating in the grounds and the Kermesse.

As the flames reached the menagerie it was decided to shoot the beasts but the heat drove back the soldiers and the animals were left to their fate.

Many Indians Irresponsible.

Sulphur, Okla., Special.—Witnesses testified before the Congressional Indian land investigating committee Saturday that if the Indian lands in Oklahoma were sold and the \$30,000,000 proceeds were turned over to the Indians in cash, the State within ten years would be flooded with paupers.

It was asserted that many of the Indians who signed the McMurray contracts allowing a 10 per cent "attorney's fees" to J. F. McMurray and his associates, were financially irresponsible. They would soon squander the cash, it was asserted.

Many Chickasaws testified they were willing to give McMurray as high as 25 per cent attorneys' fees, if he would sell the land within a year.

"Do you mean to say you would be willing to pay McMurray from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 for doing something which the government has promised to do for nothing?" asked Senator T. F. Gore of Ben Dourlan, a Chickasaw.

"Yes, we would to get a quick settlement."

Confederate Veteran Honored.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—In the second primary held Saturday in the tenth Congressional district to select a Democratic nominee, General George W. Gordon of Memphis was renominated by about 2,500 majority. He is commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans.

Fast Train Hits Four Brothers.

East Greenwich, R. I., Special.—Three boys, all sons of John H. Straight, of Cowesett, were killed and a fourth boy, a brother of the others, was seriously injured Wednesday when a New York bound Portland express on the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, traveling at the rate of 60 miles an hour around a sharp turn, ran into the little group.

All Took Sugar in Theirs.

Washington, Special.—The average American ate 82 pounds of sugar last year, which was more than he ever had before in the history of the country according to figures made public by the Department of Commerce and Labor for the 12 months ended June 30.

The total amount of sugar eaten by Americans during the year is estimated at seven and one-half billion pounds. Only in two previous years did the total ever approach the 7,000,000,000 mark and only on four other occasions did it exceed 6,000,000,000.

HIGH OFFICIALS' CRIME.

Swindle Illinois Central Railroad Out of Millions of Dollars.

Memphis, Tenn., Special.—Disclosures of a most sensational nature, involving high former officials of the Illinois Central Railroad, in conspiracy by which the Memphis Car Company is alleged to have defrauded the railroad of hundreds of thousands of dollars, were made here when a decree was entered in Chancellor Heskell's court. By this decree every dollar's worth of property in the Memphis Car Company's plant and a sum in cash will be turned over to the Illinois Central Railroad. Deeds were filed from the entering of the decree.

Prosecution will immediately begin, it is said, against a number of the former officials implicated, probably in the Illinois courts first and later in the Tennessee courts. The stockholders mentioned in the decree, besides E. H. Ward and H. C. Osterman, the organizers of the Memphis Car Company, and their official positions at the time of the issuance of the stock were:

Frank B. Harriman, general manager of the Illinois Central.

Hugh McCourt, general superintendent of the Yazoo & Mississippi Illinois Central.

W. S. King, general superintendent of the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley Railroad, operating also the Memphis terminals of the Illinois Central.

William Renshaw, until May 1, 1908, superintendent of machinery having charge of the repair of equipment.

Joseph E. Baker, assistant superintendent of machinery.

John M. Taylor, general storekeeper Burnside shops, Chicago.

Renshaw is said to be in France, but as soon as a true bill is secured efforts will be made to bring him back.

It is known that the Illinois Central refused offers of large sums in a settlement to include immunity, declaring that the road would rather lose the millions of which it had been defrauded than to have the officials who had been parties to the alleged fraud, escape punishment.

Two of the officials, it is set forth, have returned to the Illinois Central the amounts received by them as dividends. These are H. McCourt and W. S. King, each of whom made voluntary restitution of \$13,000 in cash.

One of the stockholders, Ira G. Rawn, is dead.

Mysterious Death Wilmington Led.

Wilmington, Special.—The supposed murder of a youth to secure \$2,500 insurance on his life, the gutting of the Rock Spring hotel, a combination hotel and lodging house on the wharf, the arrest of J. C. Holly, about 40 years old, proprietor of the house, erstwhile preacher of the Sanctification faith, constituted the sensational features of a tragic fire which occurred in this city early Wednesday morning.

The seriously burned body of the youth, Edward Cromwell, 19 years old, who is said to have come here four months ago from an orphan home in Charleston, and was cook at the hotel, was found lying on the floor of his room, in his night clothes, nearly an hour after the fire was discovered.

J. H. Seull testified that on Monday, acting as notary public, he signed certificate of transfer of insurance policy for \$2,500 from Cromwell to Holly, the premium on which he was informed was paid by Holly, who had applied for insurance to the amount of \$5,000, the company refusing more than \$2,500. This is supposed to have furnished the motive for the crime that is believed to have been committed.

Fire Ruining the Northwest.

Washington, Special.—Forest fires in the Northwest threatening destruction to human life and to millions of dollars worth of property, have alarmed officials of the Interior Department and forest service. In response to appeals from the fire zones, additional United States soldiers are being rushed to the scenes to assist in combatting the flames.

Postal Banks in Small Cities.

Beverly, Mass., Special.—Postmaster General Hitchcock has made a preliminary report to President Taft regarding the plans for the institution of postal savings banks in different parts of the country in the near future. The experimental banks will be located in the smaller cities. Sufficient money to establish the system in cities like New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston and other great centres is not yet available. There is also a desire to perfect the system through the experiments in the smaller communities before an attempt is made to open up the metropolitan branches.

THE NEWS MINUTELY TOLD

The Heart of Happenings Carved From the Whole Country.

For annoying a woman in a New York subway train, John Clancey, a telegrapher, was committed to the workhouse for six months by Magistrate Breen, in the West Side Court. Application of the "grandfather clause" was made for the first time in a gas franchise election at Westville, Okla., and it proved to be hard on the negroes. Only three of 100 negroes passed the educational test which the clause requires, the election judges reported.

The tax returns for Georgia when complete will show a gain of \$40,000,000 for the year. Under an agreement of attorneys the Porter Charlton case has been postponed until September 20.

Turner Browning, aged 115, according to most authentic records, died at Durham, N. C.

The Alabama division of the National Red Cross has been organized with Gov. B. B. Comer as president.

Tyrus Cobb, the base ball idol, is valued at \$50,000 by the managers of the Detroit team, with which he plays under the usual contract.

Advices from Costa Rica say there was a severe hurricane last week on the Atlantic Coast, destroying a million banana trees, worth more than \$1,000,000 and belonging principally to the United Fruit Company.

Robert Treat Payne, president of the American Peace Society and widely known as a philanthropist, died at his home at Waltham, Mass.

All franks and half-rate certificates have been called in by the Postal and Western Union Telegraph Companies.

Governor Patterson, of Tennessee, has commuted the sentence of Marcellus Reinhart, the Montgomery county Night Rider, to life imprisonment. Reinhart was convicted of the murder of Rufus Hunter and sentenced to death.

About 15 additional day schools have been established in various parts of the country since July 1 and half a dozen more will be organized before the fall term begins. State and county officials are being urged to open the white schools to the Indian children.

Children in play poured water down the throat of Ralph, the 4-year-old son of J. A. Juan, of Calmar, Iowa, and the little fellow only lived an hour. The water went into his lungs and he was drowned.

During the month of July 52,727 citizens of foreign lands entered the port of New York and of this number the Ellis Island records class 12,985 as illiterate. The number barred was 1,127. The immigrants brought \$1,537,794 in money.

Material reductions are made in the freight rates on cottonseed from points on the Central of Georgia Railroad, and Jacksonville, Fla., by order of the Inter-State Commerce Commission in connection with a decision handed down in the case of the Florida Cotton Oil Company against the Central of Georgia Railroad and other carriers.

Only 30 generals of the Confederate forces, one lieutenant general, four major generals and 25 brigadier generals now survive, according to a statement by Gen. Marcus J. Wright, who has been an agent for the war department in the collection of military records since 1872.

Further competition with the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company in Columbia, S. C., territory is promised through the commissioning of the Congaree Fertilizer Company with an initial capitalization of \$100,000 to build a large mill at Columbia.

Mrs. John Hanan, a well-known society woman, of New York, frankly admits that she was in the Narragansett Club on the occasion of the anti-gambling raid Sunday, and she is the only person yet found who has admitted as much.

For the first four months of the fiscal year Canada's revenue shows an increase of \$5,600,000 over the same period last year.

Cavaliere, as she remained on the stage, an Italian, and of lowly origin, is declared the most beautiful of present day singers. Only 12 years ago she worked for a small pittance folding papers in a printing office in the city of Rome. She married millionaire Charles of New York.

The Allegheny County, Maryland, Commissioners made the first award under the new Miners' Relief law, which originated with former State Senator David J. Lewis, to Mrs. Elizabeth Hosken, widow of James Hosken, who was killed in Mine No. 7 of the Consolidation Coal Company, May 13 last. She received \$1,500.

Expert engineers have recommended to the Italian Government that the famous leaning tower of Pisa be torn down and re-erected on a better foundation. The tower was built in 1154. It is of white marble, 188 feet in height. The inclination from the top to the base is 16 feet.

OKLAHOMA'S SHAME

Breeding Ground of the Worst Grafters.

ORGANIZED TO STEAL LAND.

Congressional Investigation Uncovers Scheme—Thousands of Acres Taken From Minors by Land Grabbers.

Sulphur, Okla., Special.—Details of an alleged scheme by which "land grabbers" organized systematically to enrich themselves at the expense of minor Indians were related at the congressional investigation into Indian land affairs Monday.

In one instance, it was asserted the cost of disposing of the property of an 18-year-old Indian was \$2,075, more than the property brought. The condition which permitted this and similar deals was declared to be "a disgrace to Oklahoma."

Hearing that the scheme prevailed generally, Representative Philip P. Campbell, of Kansas, a member of the investigating committee, put on the stand James Yarborough, a Chickasaw Indian by intermarriage.

"Do you call this sort of thing grafting or just plain stealing?" asked Mr. Campbell after the witness had related the circumstances.

"Well, the people down our way think it is a scandal that the laws permit such a thing and we think it is time that Congress take notice of it."

The probate court at Durant allowed the guardian to sell for \$2,800 a tract of 140 acres of allotted land owned by an 18-year-old Indian.

The guardian then put in a claim on the proceeds.

The claim included \$850 for acting as guardian, \$1,650 for improving the land, \$500 for a barn, \$60 for posts, \$250 for fences, \$68 for witness' fees, and more money for other purposes.

It was found when the deed was closed that the child owed her former guardian \$2,075. Now the guardian is threatening to have the other property of the child sold in order to get the \$2,075.

"I know of another case in which 325 acres were sold for an Indian minor and when all the claims were paid, the child got only \$350. In another instance \$1,500 was obtained for 200 acres, but the child got only \$120. The property is sold at prices dictated by the land robbers. The children are robbed at one end by their guardians and at the other by the purchasers."

"Do you mean to say that such things are countenanced by the probate courts?"

"Yes, they go on with full knowledge of the judges. Thousands of acres of property thus are taken from the Indians and thrown into the hands of white people, the Indians getting poorer and the land grabbers richer."

Most of Monday's testimony was given by witnesses for the defense. J. F. McMurray, whose 10,000 contracts allowed him a 10 per cent attorneys' fee for the sale of \$50,000,000 worth of Indian land caused the present investigation, sought to show that a large percentage of the signers were still in favor of his terms.

Balloon Aeronaut Falls 1,000 Feet.

Pittsburg, Special.—Thomas Moore, aged 24, of Jacksonville, Fla., a professional aeronaut, is in the hospital with a fractured skull and broken limbs, the result of a parachute jump. Moore was exhibiting at an open air show, and after reaching about 1,000 feet cut lose with his parachute. It failed to open and he was dashed against the roof of a hotel in the East End residence section. Physicians are unable to say that he will recover.

Thirty-Two Persons Killed.

Royan, France, By Cable.—An excursion train from Bordeaux with 1,200 passengers, running at a speed of 50 miles an hour, crashed into a freight train at Saujon Sunday. Thirty-two persons were killed and 100 injured. Many of the victims were school girls. Several of the passenger cars were torn to splinters. A misplaced switch caused the accident.

Stole \$500 Worth of Diamonds.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—A clever thief succeeded in getting away with a silver purse containing \$500 worth of diamonds, three railroad tickets to New Orleans and about \$15 in currency, the property of Mrs. J. Muma Jorey, wife of a prominent lumber man of New Orleans, and has not been captured.

The couple were staying at a local hotel. Mrs. Jorey left her purse on a table and, while on the porch, the thief grabbed it. Sensational developments may be expected, according to the detectives.