

EARTHQUAKE RECORDS

GOVERNMENT GEOLOGICAL SURVEY COLLECTS HISTORY.

International Seismological Association Invites Delegate from America—The Appointment.

Prof. Harry Fielding Reid of Johns Hopkins university, who is in charge of earthquake records for the United States geological survey, has sent out circular letters through which he expects to obtain important scientific data concerning the recent earthquake in San Francisco.

It may not be generally known that a few hundred dollars are devoted each year by the survey to the collection of records concerning earthquakes. No very active seismological investigations have ever been made by this bureau, but a small allotment is granted Prof. Reid, which enables him to correspond with observers all over the country and procure data recorded on seismographs at many different points. Reports of his investigations are published from time to time in the Weather Review, the official organ of the weather bureau.

It is interesting to note that Prof. Reid was appointed by the state department, as delegate from the United States to the international seismological conference held in Strasburg, Germany, from July 24 to 28, 1905. Delegates were present by invitation of the German government from 19 countries, and an international association was then formed for cooperative investigation of earthquake phenomena. The constitution adopted provides for a general assembly to meet at least once in four years and a permanent commission, composed of one delegate from each nation, which will direct the work of the association. A central bureau is located at Strasburg in connection with the imperial seismological station there, and reports are forwarded to its director and are published from time to time.

The association was joined by many countries but the United States has not yet signified its intention of becoming a member. The permanent commission or executive committee of the association was organized in Berlin last summer. Prof. Reid was present at that meeting also. After his return he recommended, as he did after his return from the Strasburg conference, that the United States join the association.

The director of the geological survey has recommended in a letter to the secretary of the interior, that the United States accept the invitation of the German government to join the international seismological association, provided that congress shall see fit to make the necessary appropriation. The total sum that congress is called on to appropriate annually is \$1,300, which includes \$800, the fee that the United States would be required to contribute to the association and \$500 for the expense of the delegate.

It is no irony that a delegate from the United States will ever have anything more important or more disastrous to report than the records of the earthquake which devastated the metropolis of the Pacific coast.

WHY POE LEFT WEST POINT

He Was Given to Escapades Out of Limits and Was Caught in the Act.

Several army officers were sitting in a New York hotel recently, discussing old times at West Point. The talk turned on the instructors who used to put them through their paces, related Success Magazine.

"I shall never forget old Prof. Church," exclaimed one. "He always impressed me as being about a hundred years old, and I guess he was pretty well along, because one day, up in the library, when I happened to be looking at a portrait of Edgar Allen Poe, he informed me that he had taught the poet mathematics, and explained how the young man came to leave.

"It was as much of a crime in those days as now for a cadet to be off limits without permission. It meant dismissal. Poe, being an untamed spirit, couldn't resist the temptation to take a chance now and then and run down to a resort at Highland Falls. He and four other cadets stole off late one night, and were having a high old time, when they heard a squad from the Point coming down the road. You can imagine the wild scattering. Two cadets sought the cellar, and two more the rooms above. Poe was small and was lifted into a convenient sugar barrel. The four other fugitives were quickly discovered. It was an afterthought on the part of the lieutenant in command to lift up the lid of the sugar barrel. He dragged Poe out and marched him, with the others, off to the guard house. He had offended before, and was regarded as the ring-leader in the escapade, and so his career as a soldier came to an end.

"And a mighty good thing it was," exclaimed one of the listeners, "for the world of letters!"

Difficult Tongue.

Eskimo has the reputation of being a difficult tongue to understand, even more so to speak. All manner of parts of speech may become joined to verbal roots and the whole may be conjugated like a simple verb—which is muddling to a foreigner. One mission-ary brought back a word which, when written on the blackboard, was quite 2 1/2 yards long. Houston Transcript.

WRECK FERRIS WHEEL

DYNAMITE REDUCES WORLD'S FAIR WONDER TO JUNK.

Marvel of Two International Expositions Meets an Inglorious End—History of Its Career.

St. Louis—Blown to pieces by a monster charge of dynamite, the Ferris wheel came to an ignominious end the other day, after a varied career of 13 years. At its ending it was unwept and unused.

Constructed as one of the engineering feats of a century, the wheel first was a feature of the Chicago world's fair in 1893.

Then for a long period of monumental and unprofitable inactivity it towered in an amusement park at North Clark street and Wrightwood avenue. It finally was removed to St. Louis to form for the second time the huge mechanical marvel of a great exposition.

For more than a month heavy wagons laden with the 4,600 tons of steel entering into its construction lumbered through Chicago's streets.

The old wheel, which had become St. Louis' white elephant, died hard. It required 200 pounds of dynamite to put it out of business. The first charge was exploded under the supports at the north side of the structure, wrecking its foundation and permitting the wheel to drop to the ground, a matter of but a few feet.

As the wheel settled it slowly turned with its bottom as a support, and then after tottering a moment like a huge giant in distress, it collapsed slowly. It did not fall to one side, as the wreckers planned—it merely crumpled up slowly. Within a few minutes it was a tangled mass of steel and iron 30 or 40 feet high.

The huge axle, weighing 74 tons, dropped slowly with the remnants of the wheel, crushing the smaller braces and steel framework. When the mass stopped settling it bore no resemblance to the wheel which was so familiar to Chicago and St. Louis and to 7,500,000 amusement seekers from all over the world, who, in the days when it was in operation, made the trip to the top of its height of 264 feet and then slowly around and down to the starting point.

Following the blast that wrecked the wheel, but which failed to shatter its foundations, came an explosion of another charge of 100 pounds of dynamite. The sticks were sunk in holes drilled in the concrete foundations that supported the pillars on the north side of the wheel.

The wheel was the wonder of two continents, by reason of its cost of \$360,000, its dimensions, and its utter uselessness. It was the rival of the Eiffel tower of Paris. Chicago was said to get rid of it, and St. Louis is said to have witnessed its destruction with satisfaction.

George Washington Gale Ferris, president of a Pittsburg engineering firm, originated the idea of the wheel that bore his name, taking the notion from a bicycle and adapting the constructive principles of steel bridges in its erection.

Ferris financed the wheel, built it in Pittsburg, erected it at the Chicago Columbian exposition, and took in \$750,000 at 50 cents a ride. Then Ferris took a kaleidoscopic trip to Europe. Later he lost all interest in the monster, and died in Pittsburg of tuberculosis. He was only 40 years old.

The stockholders, who had made 100 per cent. profit out of the wheel in 1893, later leased the ground in North Clark street, a short distance north of Wrightwood avenue and reerected it there. Ferris wheel park was not a success, and the wheel was taken down again and removed to St. Louis on June 3, 1903. The cost of taking down the wheel was \$10,000. Its ruins are estimated as worth \$5,000 as scrap iron.

LOCATED BY EARTHQUAKE.

Pennsylvania Boy Missing for Thirty Years Restored Through Trisoo Disaster.

York, Pa.—William Neuman, who left this city 41 years ago and had not been heard from since his departure, has been located during the last few days. Neuman left York when he was only 18 years old. He never wrote to his relatives and they thought him dead.

When the recent San Francisco disaster occurred Neuman was so disturbed that he concluded to write a letter to his family, giving them an account of his travels and present whereabouts. He said that he had lived at Oakland on a farm for many years and that the earthquake had shaken him up considerably, but had done no damage.

He will visit his old home again in the near future. He has several brothers living here, all of them being prominent business men.

Due to Wooden Shoes.

The use of wooden shoes may explain why the exportation of boots, shoes and sole leather from the United States to France is comparatively small. There is, however, in addition to the peasant class using only wooden shoes, another smaller rural class wearing cheap leather shoes. The wooden shoes are made from walnut and birch, the latter being the cheap ones and retailing at 20 to 30 cents a pair. Entirely wooden shoes are carved out of a solid piece of wood. When the sole only is used the split leather uppers are fastened on with nails.

IMAGINARY DISEASE

CASES THAT CALL FOR OPERATIONS OF "FAKE" NATURE.

Hallucinations Cured by Humoring Whims of Patients—Singular Case Cited in Illustration.

According to a Detroit surgeon, there are many sane persons who, believing that they are threatened with some dangerous disease, insist on undergoing severe operations in order that their lives may be saved.

"We do not really perform these operations," he explains in the News-Tribune, "but I have assisted at many imaginary ones to gratify the whim of a patient suffering from some form of hysteria.

"We had a young girl here a year ago with a most obstinate attack of hysteria which took a very curious form. She would never lie down in her bed, but invariably sat bolt upright with her back against the foot rail, constantly turning her head from side to side like an automaton.

"I had watched her do this many times, and one day I asked her why she continued it, to which she replied that there was a string in her head which pulled it from side to side, and that until it was cut she would have no rest.

"This remark gave me an idea, and I asked if she would allow me to examine her head. She was perfectly willing, and after an inspection lasting 20 minutes I gravely announced that she was quite right, and that the only cure was a slight operation in order to sever the string.

"She clasped her hands with delight like a child and declared that it was what she had told several doctors, but that they had all laughed at her. Would I perform the operation at once? I thought it better, however, to defer doing so until the morning, after I had consulted the visiting surgeons.

"Having explained the circumstances, the imaginary operation was agreed upon, and the following morning the young woman was led into the surgery, placed upon the operating table and anaesthetics were administered. Part of her luxuriant brown hair was cut off and a portion of the back of the head two inches above the nape of the neck was shaved smooth.

"Then, in order that there should be something to show for the imaginary operation, the scalp was lanced until the blood ran, leaving a cut about two and a half inches in length. This was bound but not sutured and the patient was conveyed back to her bed, where she remained for 40 minutes before returning to consciousness.

"Meantime I had taken a piece of an ordinary E violin string about four inches long and soaked it in water until it resembled a raw sinew, the object of this, of course, being to show the patient the actual string taken out of her head. When she returned to consciousness she was told how entirely successful the operation had been and shown the string which had been the cause of all her trouble, after which she fell into a natural sleep and awoke perfectly restored. From that day to this she has been entirely cured of her hallucination.

"The 'Corn Gospel' Train.

"Is it really true, I want to know, that them blue-sky farmers can actually make an extra kernel grow on an ear of corn?" A farmer in Nebraska was asking the question, says Eugene Lyle, in World's Work. He was half contemptuous of the "blue-sky" farmers. They were young men a third of his age, professors in the agricultural school of the state university, with education and linen collars. Never in their lives had they driven a load of produce to town. And what could they know about farming, anyhow? But despite the old veteran's sniff, there was a waver of credulity in his tone, and in his look positive eagerness. What if, after all, the vague and disdained thing, book learning, held secrets to make his land yield more than its usual crop?

School Tasks in Switzerland.

A Geneva correspondent of a London paper thinks the sums done in a Swiss school sufficiently extraordinary to telegraph some of them to his journal. The father of a schoolboy, aged eight, living at Chaux de Fonds, sends to the impartial the following problems as specimens of the home work the youngster had recently been set to work out at the cantonal school.

Multiply 5,101,520,253,035 by 3,330,232,015,105. The boy obtained the following answer: 18,099,652,152,375,778,242,083,675. Divide 71,242,283,542,906 by 24,538,714,212. After some hours' work the youngster obtained as answer 2,910,555,525. The mere reading of those terrible figures should make every small boy glad he does not live in Switzerland.

Artificial Storm at Sea.

The inhabitants of Aboukir, near Alexandria, were recently treated to a wonderful spectacle. It became necessary to destroy some 18 tons of powerful dynamite, and the explosive—sufficient to blow up a town—were taken to sea and placed beneath the water. Something like a submarine earthquake followed the explosion, which was heard for miles around. A waterspout shot into the air to a height of about 2,000 feet, and fell back in dazzling spray. Simultaneously the sea became a whirlpool of seething water, as if agitated by a hurricane.

SALOONS WILL BE BARRED.

All Ante-Quake Licenses Revoked in San Francisco by Police Board.

San Francisco.—Ever since the earthquake San Francisco has been a city without saloons.

While martial law was in force the drinking places were closed by order of the military commander, and violations of the regulation were punished by the bullet.

The board of police commissioners endorsed Mayor Schmitz's suggestion that all licenses in existence be revoked. The commissioners are a unit in the declaration that the city will be better off in future with fewer saloons than before its destruction.

Mayor Schmitz goes even farther than the commissioners. He says there is no possibility that the liquor dealers will be permitted to resume business for "a long time to come."

He attributes the remarkable absence of crime from the city to the edict against the sale of intoxicants.

Several saloon men who have been erecting temporary quarters have been warned that it may be a long time before they will be permitted to sell liquor at all, and that licenses will never be so freely issued again as in the past.

In San Mateo, just across the border, the supervisors recently permitted the saloons to reopen, and drunken orgies immediately followed.

Chief of Police Dines appealed to Sheriff Mansfield to force the dealers to close up again until conditions are more settled, and the sheriff has replied that he will comply with the request despite the supervisors' action, even though he may be compelled to call for state troops to aid him in enforcing his orders.

RAILS AT MISSIONARIES.

Visiting Brahmin Says His Country Is Overstocked with Religion.

Kansas City, Mo.—A Brahmin missionary to America, Marayan Krishna, filling the pulpit of All Souls' church, in this city, by invitation, one evening lately said in the course of a talk:

"We're overstocked with Christian missionaries. Ninety per cent of those we have are senseless. Furthermore, we don't want your religion and your holy book. We have more religion of our own than we know what to do with, and a surplus that we would like to export. So I pray you Americans, keep your so-called missionaries at home. If you want to Christianize us, send us some men that are qualified to teach philosophy that know their own Scripture. Until then the Vedas, our four books of philosophy, are good enough for us.

"Show me a country where missionaries have been that is prosperous; it does not exist. There were no famines, no plagues in India before the English invasion. I am here in the interests of India, for India, not India for England.

During these remarks some members of the congregation left the assembly, and later Rev. Charles Ferguson apologized for Marayan Krishna's statements.

REMEDIES NATURE'S WORK

Fingers of Young Man Remade to Fit Him for Service in Navy.

Minneapolis.—Sidney Middleton left the clinical operating table at St. Mary's hospital a few days ago fit, as soon as the wounds made by the surgeon's knife are healed, to be received into the United States army.

When nature designed young Middleton she did a good general job, but there were a few details which were obviously overlooked. Two fingers, the little and ring finger of the right hand, were united in one sheath of skin. This never bothered the young man, while he was working on his father's farm near Garfield, Mich., but proved to be a serious obstacle when he applied for enlistment in the navy.

Examining Surgeon Robert Bachman suggested an operation, but Middleton's lack of funds proved a serious obstacle. The government does not supply money for the medical treatment of prospective recruits and a clinic offered the only solution of the difficulty. Dr. Bachman himself conducted the operation, and reports that it was successful.

Safety of French Republic.

The results of the French elections thus far announced give the once more to the pessimistic forebodings of the prophets of evil. There was no building of barricades, the "forces of disorder" were apparently absent and not accounted for and the government was not able to reconstruct its "bioc" apparently stronger than before. France is bigger and stronger than any French party, however rabid. The republic having survived its troubled first decades, having nearly abandoned the old cry of "revue" against Germany and having routed its power strongly in the soil of the provinces, is not easily overturned.

Letter Eaten by Goat.

Gastronomical indifference on the part of the goat mascot of the cruiser San Francisco nearly three years ago caused a search in the files of the navy department recently to find a copy of a letter of commendation written by the secretary of the navy to John Connolly, coal passer, United States steamship San Francisco, on July 13, 1903, the original letter having been devoured by the careless goat. Connolly, now out of the service, is living in Detroit.

EARTH IN INFANCY

LIFE WILL ENDURE A HUNDRED MILLION YEARS.

So Says Chicago University Geologist, Who Also Declares That the Earth Is Still Growing.

Chicago.—That the earth will be habitable for a hundred million years to come is the belief of Dr. Thomas C. Chamberlain, head of the department of geology in the University of Chicago. This view he expressed in a lecture before the members of the Geographic society in the municipal museum recently.

Prof. Chamberlain declared that climatic phenomena and temperature conditions of the last hundred million years warranted him in offering the foregoing optimistic prophecy. His basis for the theory of perpetuity for human life was his own "planetsimal hypothesis" that the world is not gradually cooling from a ball of fire, but that it gradually has grown in size by absorbing other smaller masses of matter.

"The pseudo-romanticists picture the world as cooling into a frigid mass which one day in the near future is to become uninhabitable," said the speaker, "but if we are to consider the past we must admit that the temperature of the earth has remained always within the range where human life is possible. Therefore, it is only reasonable to suppose that the temperature in some parts of the globe will remain in that life range. Of course, the atmosphere may change in certain parts of the world as it has done, but it always will balance up. Once the tropical glaciers flourished in Greenland, while glaciers extended into India. This was due to an extraordinary swing in temperature. The present climatic conditions are due to a similar change. All these oscillations, however, have been kept in a narrow range for the perpetuity of life.

"The earthquake is really only a trivial phenomenon of the earth. The great question for us is not what disasters attend, but what agencies are likely to perpetuate life."

Prof. Chamberlain told how the land and sea cooperate to preserve life and the possibility of life.

"We cannot look with indifference on the future," concluded the speaker. "The human race really has just come into possession of the earth. The fact that the rocks and the animals have had their eras of prosperity is the basis for my belief that we shall have millions of years to work out our ideals of intellectuality. I believe the world will be inhabitable for millions of years."

GRAFT IN KING'S PALACE.

Merchants Required to Pay Big Commission to Court Officers in England.

London.—Graft in the king's household has resulted in several important officials losing their positions. The king has been aware for some time that certain goods used in his palace came only from certain dealers, and the charge of favoritism was freely bandied about. The king made a quiet investigation and learned that in elaborate system of commissions prevailed and that unless certain persons were "seen" and "fixed" the articles stood no chance of being seen on the king's table.

The king took a severe view of this offense and promptly ordered the guilty officials. He has furthermore, made it widely known that firms endeavoring to gain a foothold in the house by corrupt methods will be debarred from orders for all time. The commissions have been particularly heavy in wines. The privilege of advertising a certain wine as the only one used by the king was so valuable that the favored firm secured the king's patronage by paying out small fortunes.

ONE-ARMED VIOLINIST.

Wisconsin Town Has an Inventive Musical Genius Worthy of Note.

Hudson, Wis.—Hudson has a one-armed violinist in the person of John N. Schwalen, who, though deprived of his right arm, plays the difficult instrument with considerable skill. He has invented an artificial hand, which he fastens to the stump of the amputated member, and with which he holds the bow so firmly and accurately that he has just as good command of the violin now, he says, as before the arm was lost. So far as is known here, Mr. Schwalen's invention is unlike any other device for this purpose.

Mr. Schwalen is about 50 years old. When a boy he developed much skill as a violinist, and was frequently heard in public. When about 20 he lost his right arm in a planing mill at Sauk Center, Minn., the limb being so badly mangled that amputation just below the elbow was necessary.

For 25 years he never handled a violin, but his desire to play never left him. A couple of years ago the idea of inventing a device for holding the bow occurred to him.

Complaints of Insane.

In Belgian insane asylums there are securely locked boxes in which insane may deposit letters of complaint. These letters are collected three times weekly by outside officials, who investigate every case, and if a person asserts that he is not insane, a prompt examination ensues by medical experts.

ELECTRIC LIGHT IN ARCTICS

Noteworthy Feature of Extreme Northern Post Is an Extensive Plant.

Winnipeg, Man.—Thomas Anderson, a bronze and rugged employe of the Hudson Bay company, lately arrived here and laughs at the idea that the American whalers frozen up in the Arctic sea for the winter will suffer great hardships.

In giving some details about life at his far northern post, Anderson said at his headquarters there were 25 white men, all in the employ of the company. These men had come from western Canada, and were good seamen, this being a necessity for the work required of them.

A noteworthy feature of this northern post, which is over 1,500 miles north of the international boundary, is the electric light plant there. The light is used for illuminating the company's offices and the dwelling huts. During the winter it is kept burning all the time on account of the darkness of the days, but during the summer it is not used at all, the nights consisting of three hours' twilight during which artificial light is unnecessary.

While on the way south Anderson saw a herd of 43 buffaloes running wild, probably the only herd existing which is not in captivity or semi-captivity. Fur-bearing animals are very plentiful along the northern rivers this year, and the catch will be well up to the average, a number of musk ox being included with the furs being shipped to England via Hudson's Bay by the company.

The coldest day at Fort Simpson during the winter was 62 degrees below zero, but the past winter was an exceptionally mild one up there.

ANOTHER OKLAHOMA RUSH.

Over Half a Million Acres of Government Land Soon to Be Thrown Open.

Guthrie, Ok.—Oklahoma will soon experience its seventh land opening. There have been six in 17 years. The new boom will occur in the southwestern part of the territory, where the Kiowa and Comanche pasture of 480,000 acres will be thrown open to settlement within the next four months. The Stephens bill, which during the present session passed both the house and senate, has again passed the house, following the inclusion of a clause which provides allotment for Indian babies born since June 6, 1900.

Already around the edges of the big pasture the farmers from other states who are anxious to secure homes in this new country are assembling, and their tents are pitched along the Red river from Waurica westward to Davidson, and along the Indian territory line in the vicinity of Marlow, Dunsmuir, Bush Springs. Near these Indian territory towns are about 47,000 acres of the land to be opened. Immense crops are expected from northern states. Many of those assembling have all their early possessions with them.

WORD CAUSES LAWSUIT.

"Domiciled" in Will Ties Up an English Fortune of Over \$1,000,000.

London.—One word in the will of Temple West, who left \$1,125,000 to the National gallery and six British charities, has caused a lawsuit that has now lasted three years and shows no indication of being settled soon.

The word over which the dispute has raged is "domiciled." In his will Mr. West describes himself as "an Englishman domiciled in New York." The question is whether he meant domiciled or resident. In the form he put in the will was made subject to the French law, which places restrictions on bequests as between the family of the testator and other beneficiaries. The will as far as it is related to the National gallery and the six British charities was disputed, and negotiations have been proceeding without result. It is suggested that a compromise be effected. Under the French law the charities would receive \$50,000 each.

Kill Girls to Bewitch Foes.

Thousands of Zulus from Chief Kula's kraal are reported to be on their way to join the rebel chief Bambata, and colonial troops are being hurried forward to prevent their junction. Chief Kula was placed in jail at Pietermaritzburg. His arrest led to the rising of his followers. Captured natives report that witch doctors are sacrificing children. Before a battle they kill a girl and concoct "medicine" from her body, with which the witch doctors anoint the warriors, under the pretense that it renders them invulnerable. The Cape government has protested against German troops camping against rebel blacks in British territory.

Beet Sugar Statistics.

President Roosevelt has transmitted to congress the annual report on the beet sugar industry of the United States during 1905, prepared by Charles F. Saylor, special agent of the department of agriculture. The report says the average of beets harvested during 1905 was 307,364, with an average yield of 8.67 tons per acre. The aggregate manufacture was 312,920 short tons, or 425,841,328 pounds.

Men in Beauty Show.

London has just completed a beauty show in which men as well as women competed. The prize of the handsomest man was won by a porter named Fors-