

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 1909



Timber Experts Trying To Solve the Fire Problem

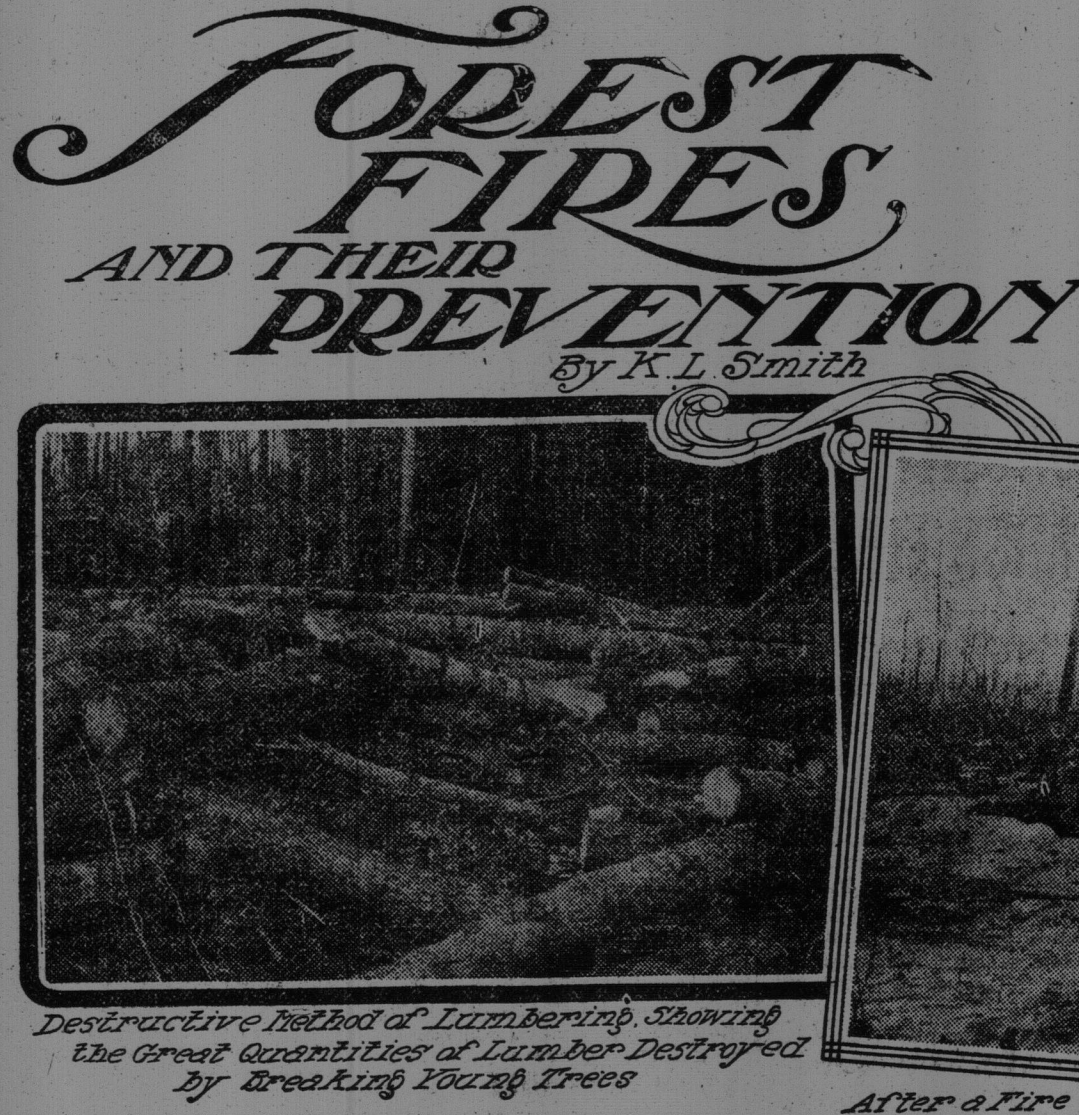
While we have had forest fires that reached gigantic proportions, as the Miramichi fire of 1825 where on two and a half million acres every living thing was killed, and the fish died along the river banks, the Peshtigo fire of 1871, which covered over two thousand square miles in Wisconsin and in which nearly fifteen hundred people perished; and the Hinckley fire of 1894, when that town and six other places were destroyed, in some ways the fires of 1908 were the worst known. Expert foresters who have since been over the ground state that it is impossible to figure the damage done and that the waste was enormous.

The loss by forest fires in our country in the average year reaches fifty million dollars. This figure was far exceeded last year. The drought, which was general, was chiefly contributory, but other adverse conditions played among them the indifference of the people to small fires. The fires in the national forests, but preventive measures kept the loss down to a minimum. The damage in a forest fire cannot be calculated in dollars and cents. Though there was comparatively small loss of life in the 1908 fires, people for months lived in terror. Fifty persons perished in Michigan and many suffered seriously from the effects. In the case of large trees an estimate can be placed on the damage, which grows greater as timber becomes more valuable, but it is not so easy to calculate the destruction to young, growing forest trees. Some idea can be gained when one reflects that it costs from six to twenty dollars an acre to plant tiny seedlings. If a million acres are burned over and all young growth destroyed it is clear the waste is enormous.

It is evident a more adequate system of forest protection is needed, and even the indifference have at last been aroused to see the necessity of some systematic crusade. Fortunately, we have a United States Forest Service and most states have a forestry department. It is to them we must look for an adequate solution of the problem, but they cannot act efficiently without the co-operation of individual settlers and lumbermen, the placing of favorable laws and facilities in the way of ample appropriations. Our forests cover an area of about 600,000,000 acres. In the North-western states once stretched the great white pine forests, along the Atlantic and Gulf coast, lie the Southern pine trees, in the Mississippi Valley are hardwoods and oak, hickory, ash and gum and on the Pacific coast the giant redwood and fir. Some parts of these areas are set aside for federal forest reserves and these are under the Bureau of Forestry. This bureau, composed of trained officers to administer and improve the reserved forest lands is always ready to give advice to individuals and forest owners and they have adopted a fire-fighting system within the National Forest's boundaries which has materially reduced the annual losses.

As a first step toward instituting a crusade against a recurrence of the fires of 1908, the national government sent Paul G. Redington and Raymond W. Pullman, capable officials of the forest service, to probe the situation and devise means for improving conditions in the future. Mr. Pullman visited the Lake district and sought at first hand for remedial measures. In his review of the situation, Forester Redington says: "What is wanted is effort on the part of the government, the states, corporations and individuals. There should be adequate fire laws in every state where any forests are situated." There are those who advocate a national fire department to protect all forests, but this may take years to accomplish, if it is ever done. What is needed at once is that the legislature of the various states pass better laws for the safeguarding of forests, that more money should be appropriated for the purpose and that men who ruthlessly set fire to forests should be punished.

A cause of forest fires are the sparks from locomotives and sawmills. Many of the latter are small and poorly protected. The danger from railroads is so great that Paul G. Redington proposes that the railroads have patrolmen who could follow the trains as they traverse the forests and extinguish any small fire that might be started. Other causes of fire are



ODEST FIRES AND THEIR PREVENTION
By K. L. Smith

Destructive Method of Lumbering, Showing the Great Quantities of Lumber Destroyed by Breaking Young Trees

campers, berry pickers and pleasure seekers who are careless in putting out fires in spite of the warnings that are posted. There are also factors beyond the control of mankind, such as lightning, which in one year started 250 forest fires in the national forests.

In the case of forest fire prevention the first thing to be considered, for after a fire gains headway it is with the utmost difficulty extinguished. It is generally conceded that forest patrol is an essential, and that it ought to be universally adopted. The advocates of a national fire department suggest that we have a body of men trained and equipped, provided with special trains and spending their whole time in guarding the forests of America. Those who say the wisdom of our present state systems also call for forest



Brush Should Be Burned When Snow is on the Ground

of this expense to the Forest Service the whole forest area of the United States could be patrolled for about a cent an acre. This would mean a tremendous saving in timber losses. In Michigan, the forest fire service is with the game and forest wardens, who have ten deputies, and they direct the supervisors of the towns, yet practically all parts of the upper peninsula and much of the lower peninsula suffered because there was no complete patrol. If any further argument were needed to impress the advisability of forest patrol it is coming from the best of our lumbermen, who are starting to do this themselves. Many lumbermen have their own men who are constantly going over the ground, and in some places the state authorizes these men to make arrests, if necessary. The discouraging feature of this patrol is that one lumberman may do this and the one next to him may do nothing, and so the argument arises, "Why protect my holdings if my neighbor will not take such precautions with his?"

It may seem strange to say that the best implements for fighting forest fires are the axe, the mactock, the spade and, in some cases, dynamite. The character of the country, timber, weather and time of day determine what method must be pursued. In swamps the fire travels slowly, but in dry, open woods it moves so quickly that the fire-fighter must go ahead and try to find an open ground to trench and backfire from there. Once in a while a fire moves so fast that a man cannot keep ahead of it. It springs from tree to tree and burns so hotly that animals flee as soon as it starts. Roaring flames,

COOK'S FRIENDS RALLY; CHARGES ARE MADE AGAINST PEARY

Battle Harbor, Labrador, Sept. 13.—The Associated Press tug Douglas Thomas arrived here this afternoon. Commander Peary's steamer Roosevelt was found to be in good condition and will leave Battle Harbor on Thursday or Friday for North Sydney. From that port the Roosevelt will proceed to New York, and if it is possible, she will take part in the naval parade at the Hudson-Fulton celebration.

New York, Sept. 13.—That Polar polemic could not only generate but maintain unabated such heat needed the proof of seeing and hearing to believe, but with Dr. Cook's homeward-bound and Commander Peary now in touch with the correspondent, comment and criticism took on today of their previous acidity and rather than lost in volume.

Previous assumption that Commander Peary would have the United States seal behind him was not borne out in a letter from Rear Admiral Schley (retired) made public today by Captain S. Osborn, secretary of the Arctic Club of America, at which Dr. Cook is a member. The letter under date of September 11 from Rear Admiral Schley, reads in part as follows:

"I like Cook's attitude immensely in this unfortunate, unnecessary and unwise controversy. He certainly has been dignified and manly in the stand he has taken in this matter."

Captain Osborn followed up his letter from the admiral tonight with a lecture on "Who Discovered the North Pole?"

"Dr. Frederick A. Cook," he said, "was for two years my wife's physician. I saw him two or three times a week and we chatted many hours. He was secretary of the Arctic Club while I was chairman of the executive committee. I have never known a man of integrity, probity, sincerity and modesty, it is Dr. Cook."

"I have known also the other fellow—known him to depart from earth by large margins. A man who will open a telegram and keep it four days from his superior; a man who could prevent the club from giving a dinner to the Duke of the Abruzzi, is capable of other things."

"He has also opened letters addressed to me. One letter opened by him he subscribed 'opened by Peary' and sent it to me. When this thing happened, I told him that if he opened more of my letters I should be very energetic with him."

Dr. Cook's attitude in withholding details of his discovery was attributed to his desire not to anticipate the publication of his book.

"But as soon as the other claimant got within reach of the wireless, said the captain, he sent despatches everywhere he could think of, but delayed in informing the mother of the unfortunate Marvin, who perished during the expedition."

"Dr. Cook is but an ordinary physician," the speaker continued, "the other being in the navy is supposed to have received the training of a gentleman, yet when Cook heard that Peary had discovered the pole he congratulated him. When Peary heard of Cook's claim he wired that the doctor had landed the public a gold brick. Some men dig pits under themselves."

"There is a mystery in the disappearance of Mr. Whitney, who is coming home with Cook's papers. I think, Captain

AMERICANS DON'T LIKE PULP WOOD EXPORT BAN

New York, Sept. 13.—The province of Quebec has definitely decided to prohibit the exportation of pulpwood cut from crown lands.

In September, 1906, the premier of the province made a promise that the stumpage rates of six cents per cord on wood cut from crown lands would not be raised for a period of ten years. It is intended to carry out that pledge and no increase in stumpage charges will be made until September, 1916. The Canadian paper-makers are urging the provincial authorities to stop the exportation of pulpwood cut from crown lands, but the American owners of rights to cut timber on more than 12,000 square miles of those lands resent that the pledge of September, 1906, implies a right of importation for ten years and that in good faith no prohibition should be placed on the export of that timber. The Canadian paper and pulp interests retort that the pledges specifically related to stumpage taxes, not to exportation, and that the extension of that privilege to American owners for another year will retard Canadian plans and diminish the value of the timber to the province.

The provincial authorities are balancing the question whether they should prohibit the exportation of pulpwood on Jan. 1, 1910 or Sept. 1, 1910. They calculate that the new policy will add over \$200,000 per annum in revenues. They are informed that the interests controlling the Berlin mills property in New Hampshire are planning to install a paper mill plant at La Tuque (Que.) and that the International Paper Company has prepared plans for numerous locations for paper mills in Canada—the company having stopped the manufacture of print paper at a number of its more expensive mills in the United States.

ALDERMAN TELLS OF \$3,000 BRIBE OFFERED HIM

Montreal, Sept. 13.—A sensation was created at the royal commission this afternoon when Ald. Clearhouse swore that Mark Workman had offered him \$3,000 to vote for the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co. contract.

Mr. Workman is one of the richest men in Montreal and a large holder of the common stock of the company. In his testimony this afternoon Ald. Clearhouse said: "I gave that man such a tongue lashing that he was ashamed of himself."

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

By local applications, they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by restoring the diseased part to its normal condition. Deafness is caused by the degeneration of the hearing nerve, which is the only nerve that can be restored to its normal condition. The only way to restore the hearing nerve is by the use of the "Hearer's Balm," which is a powerful medicine that restores the hearing nerve to its normal condition. The "Hearer's Balm" is a powerful medicine that restores the hearing nerve to its normal condition. The "Hearer's Balm" is a powerful medicine that restores the hearing nerve to its normal condition.

MANY ESTIMATES OF FORTUNE LEFT BY E. H. HARRIMAN

New York, Sept. 13.—What is the exact fortune of Mr. Harriman? Since the death of the famous financier this question has been asked very often no doubt, but it is certainly impossible to answer it correctly. It is even a difficult matter to make an approximate estimate at its great total.

Wall Street banks which have been associated with Harriman have given such estimates, but the nearest is between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000.

Other estimates, however, place his fortune at only fifty to one hundred million dollars.

The greatest part is composed of various stocks and bonds, not to speak of his immense grounds at Arden, estimated at about \$40,000,000.

The railroads which were controlled by the late financier are the following:

Union Pacific	5,016
Southern Pacific	9,731
Illinois Central	4,378
New York Central	12,282
Chicago & North Western	9,320
St. Louis and San Francisco	6,306
St. Paul	5,887
Delaware & Hudson	4,462
Baltimore & Ohio	4,462
Wheeling & Lake Erie	1,914
Erie Railroad	2,333
Total	84,319

One of the first things which Mr. Harriman did when success came to him, the worldly success so persistently denied to his parents, was to join with his brother in purchasing the church and rectory where they were born, at Hempstead, L. I., and in dedicating it to the memory of their father and mother.

Mr. Harriman established the Boys' Club on the east side of New York, building the structure and equipping it at a cost of \$250,000. The maintenance charges amounting to several thousand dollars annually, were in large part met by him.

The club has a membership of over 10,000 and is one of the biggest of its kind on the continent. It provides healthy recreation, and admits boys without regard to their religious beliefs or social standing.

Three daughters and two sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Harriman. Their city house was at 150 West 57th street, near Fifth Avenue. The family always spent a larger part of the year at Arden, N. Y., where in the beautiful Ramapo mountains, Mr. Harriman owned some 30,000 acres, including a stock farm.

TWENTY ARRESTS AFTER THE RIOTS AT GASPE

Dalhousie, N. B., Sept. 13.—The prompt action of the Quebec and Dominion authorities prevented serious trouble at Fox River and other points in Gaspé county, where several hundred fishermen undertook last week by force to have the merchants sign contracts to pay \$4 per cord for the season's catch of codfish and to wipe their debts off their books.

The merchants complained to the two governments that they could not return to their places of business unless all the ring leaders of the riot were arrested and punished. Thereupon the Cruiser Canada, which had gone from Halifax enroute to Montreal to be inspected by Admiral Kingsmill, was ordered to leave Quebec on Thursday last for Fox River, Gaspé county, the centre of the trouble, in charge of Commander Knowlton, with a military crew of sixty men.

The Canada arrived at Fox River on Saturday morning and twenty men were arrested and brought to the county jail at Percé, the shiretown of Gaspé county. The cruiser returned from Percé to Fox River where the remaining agitators will be brought to justice. There is great excitement in the Gaspé coast over the affair.

Arsenal of Prince Edward Island and Murphy of New Mills, were sent up for trial by Police Magistrate Trueman today for having raised a cheque. Arsenal confessed.

Word has been received here that a contract has been awarded to M. D. Reid, of Halifax, the lowest of five tenders to build the approaches to the Interprovincial passenger bridge at Metapedia. Work will be pushed with vigor and it is expected that the structure will be ready for traffic next year and will be of great value to the people residing in the western section of Restigouche and Bonaventure counties.

Later and corrected returns go to show that the Liberals elected seven councillors out of twelve in last week's municipal contest in Restigouche county—a gain of five seats. The Hazen road law is very unpopular on the North Shore.

The Conservatives of Restigouche county party brought Dr. and Mrs. Sproule and friends home in a motor boat last night.

Usually the last person to understand a woman is herself.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

FOR ALL KIDNEY AFFECTIONS

HEADACHE, BRUISES, CONSTIPATION, AYER'S PILLS, SUGAR-COATED, EASY TO TAKE, DON'T FORGET.

BANK PRESIDENT SUICIDES

New York, Sept. 25.—John W. Castles, president of the Union Trust Company, of this city, a director of other well known corporations, and prominent in club and social life, committed suicide today by cutting his throat with a razor in the Grand Union hotel at Park avenue and 42nd street.

Westport, Conn., Sept. 13.—Carl Wilcox, of the sewing machine firm of Wilcox & Gibbs, New York, died suddenly of heart failure at his home here this afternoon. Mr. Wilcox was about sixty-five years of age.

Say It!

If your doctor says this is all right, then say it over and over again.

Headaches, Bruises, Constipation, Ayer's Pills, Sugar-coated, Easy to take, Don't forget.

EARLY NEXT MONTH

A general committee of more than forty ladies and gentlemen met at the Every Day Club last evening and decided to hold an autumn bazaar on Oct. 12, 13, 14 and 15, in the hall formerly occupied by the club on Waterloo street, which the proprietors have kindly lent to the club for this purpose. It will be decorated with evergreen, autumn leaves, flags, bunting, etc., and booths will be erected. The intention is to make the hall brilliant with light, color and beauty. Tea will be served three evenings from 5 till 7 o'clock. There will be numerous attractions and a couple of voting contests. A musical programme will be provided each evening.

Some of the committees were appointed last night, as follows:

Tea table—Mrs. Belding, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Humphrey, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Stokes, Mrs. Grant.

Ice cream—Miss Ethel Kerwell, Miss Humphrey and Miss Cother.

Candy table—Miss Kerwell and Miss Humphrey.

Lemonade booth—Miss Lulu Colwell.

Fancy table—Mrs. Covey, Mrs. Shepard, Miss Dixon.

Decoration committee—Messrs. Edgecombe, Jones, Dixon, Barker and Cother.

Publicity committee—Messrs. Belding and Covey.

Other committees will be appointed later. The general committee will meet again on Thursday evening.

ANIMAL PUZZLE

THE TIMES DAILY PUZZLE PICTURE

ADD AND SUBTRACT THE NAMES OF OBJECTS AS INDICATED AND THE RESULT WILL BE FOUND TO BE THE NAME OF AN ANIMAL.

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

Left side down, in chair.