

U. S. LEADERS IN CONFERENCE TO BATTLE FLOODS

Notables From All Walks of Life Assembled for Chicago Meet.

By United Press
CHICAGO, June 2.—As the South wrestled with the Mississippi flood thousands of the Nation's leaders gathered here today to plan against a recurrence of the disastrous overflow that has wrecked the Mississippi basin.

Government aids, Senators, Representatives, engineers, bankers and men from all walks gathered for the flood control congress called by Mayor William Hale Thompson, Chicago; Mayor Victor J. Miller, St. Louis, and Mayor Arthur J. O'Keefe, New Orleans.

President Coolidge was represented by Secretary of War Dwight Davis, who brings his special message. Davis will deliver the message today.

The congress keynote probably will be sounded by Senator Pat Harrison, Mississippi, this afternoon. He is organization committee chairman.

More than 500 plans for relief have been suggested since the flood. Many will be brought before the delegates, expected to number 25,000 by Saturday.

Leading engineers, among them Maj. Gen. Edgar Jadwin, chief of the Army engineers, employed in the flood area, will offer views. Every effort will be made to keep out political aspects.

Hoosiers Attend

Governor Jackson today headed the Hoosier delegation to the flood prevention conference called at Chicago, by Mayor William Hale Thompson and the mayors of St. Louis and New Orleans. Those attending are the Governor, Senator Arthur R. Robinson, Director Richard Lieber, State conservation department; Orr J. Davies, Indiana Manufacturers' Association secretary; Dr. W. K. Hart, Purdue engineering school head, and George M. Foland, Crown Point. The conference opens a three-day session Friday at the Sherman Hotel.

Jackson will present a plan of reforestation and Robinson a flood prevention scheme by canal construction to cost \$2,000,000,000.

MAN SLAIN BY OFFICER

Unarmed West Virginian Shot Eight Times.

By United Press
MARTINS FERRY, Ohio, June 2.—Frank Johnson, 55, of New Martinsville, W. Va., was shot to death shortly before midnight last night by Special Officer George Helt, who claimed he saw Johnson carrying a coil of copper wire along the Ohio River, shore near the city's abandoned water plant.

Johnson was shot eight times. No weapons were found on his person.

424 BUSINESSES NEW

City Total 164 for May Decline From April Mark.

In May, 164 new businesses were opened in Indianapolis and a total of 424 in the State, according to the business digest of the Indiana Clipper Service.

This was a decline from April, when 197 new businesses were opened in Indianapolis and 568 in the State.

Police End Rampage

Persons in the vicinity of 1400 Bates St., called police when they believed a murder was taking place. Instead, police said they found Albert Slick, 58, of 1416 Bates St., in the street, barely clad, and in the house they found his wife, suffering from a blow on the head. She was taken to the city hospital and he to the city prison, where charges of intoxication and assault and battery were preferred.

New Firm President

By United Press
CHICAGO, June 2.—Theodore F. Mersiles, president of Montgomery, Ward & Co., has resigned to become president of the Johns-Manville Company, it became known today.

He will succeed H. W. Manville, elected chairman of directors. George B. Everitt, vice president and general manager of Montgomery, Ward & Co., has been elected president.

Port to Bar British

By United Press
LONDON, June 2.—Vladivostok, Russian port in Siberia, soon will be closed to British shipping, a dispatch from Pekin to the Daily Express said today.

Hoosier Drowned

By United Press
MT. VERNON, Ind., June 2.—Thrown from a skiff into the swift current of the swollen Wabash River, Mose Hedrick, 42, of Griffin, was drowned Wednesday night.

Bigger Than Moon

In the northern sky a little south of the big dipper handle there's a huge ball of gases, 100,000 miles in diameter, traveling toward the earth at the rate of a million miles a day, according to Russell Sullivan, city astronomer.

Known as the Pons-Winnecke comet, the gases will be closest to the earth June 27, when they come within 4,000,000 miles. That night the ball will appear to the eye much larger than the moon, Sullivan said.

Scientists are preparing to photograph the comet. It tall, at first feared to shower the earth with meteoric fragments, has been lost.

Cal to Rest in Dime Novel Land

History Carved in Rugged Black Hills by Pioneers

President to Visit Scenes Where Deadwood Dick and Calamity Jane Shot Way to Lurid Fame.

Today The Times and NEA Service present the first of six stories by Peter Edson, staff reporter, describing the Black Hills region, including the history of the famous characters that lived there, pointing out its attractions and detailing a list of receptions and special events to be available for President Coolidge this summer.

By Peter Edson
NEA Service Writer

RAPID CITY, S. D., June 2.—If Calvin Coolidge comes back from his vacation this summer wearing a ten-gallon hat, chaps, and a trusty six-shooter, there'll be a reason; he is going to spend his vacation in the heart of the country made famous by the infamous yellow-backed dime novel.

In the Black Hills canyons to the north and south and west of the summer White House near Rapid City are the ghosts of more than 200 men than Bill Hart and Tom Mix together ever impersonated in the movies.

Twice a month, Deadwood Dick, with his one eye and his sawed off shotgun loaded with buckshot, and two pearl-handled six-shooters at his belt, used to ride through the country sitting on a Wells-Fargo safe filled with \$500,000 in gold, shooting his way clear to Omaha.

Buried 'Em Often

In White Rock cemetery, north of Deadwood, they used to bury a man every morning before breakfast. Here now repose the bones of immortal "Wild Bill" Hickock, who had forty notches on his gun.

Also, there was Calamity Jane, who threw away her woman's clothes, dressed as a man, was a mule Skinner for Custer, the Indian fighter, and the toughest, hardswearing, hard-riding, hard-drinking woman who ever graduated from the school of experience.

She was a Missouri preacher's daughter. Single-handed, she captured McCall, Hickock's slayer, with a butcher's cleaver.

Belle Fourche, just a few miles farther north, is still the scene of one of the best rodeos and roundups of the best rodeos and roundups in the West.

Found Gold There

Only a little more than fifty years ago all this country was a howling wilderness. Then one of Custer's scouts discovered gold.

It was a country so bad that there is a monument erected in the town of Custer to Mrs. Anna D. Talleent, the first white woman who dared set foot in the region.

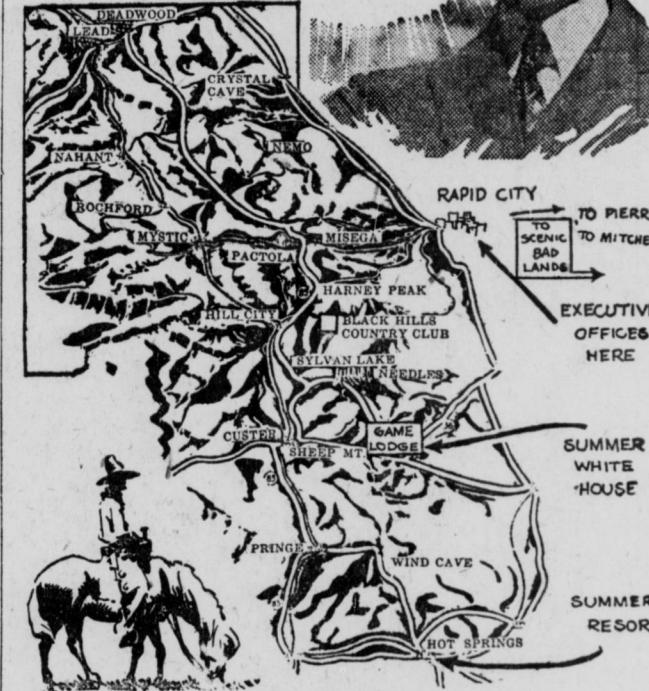
There are two other famous monuments in the hills. One, outside the town of Deadwood, is erected to Theodore Roosevelt.

The other monument is erected to the first "sky pilot" in Deadwood, Preacher Smith, who marched right into "Nutshell Bill's" saloon, made them clear away the bottles from the bar and abandoned the fare and poker table while he conducted divine services and passed the hat for a collection of gold dust and nuggets.

Famous Mine at Lead

Not far away from Rapid City, too, is the city of Lead, with its famous Homestake mine, which has been worked for more than fifty years and produces about \$8,000,000 worth of gold a year.

There are 1,800 square miles of United States forest reserve to the



President Coolidge with the ten-gallon hat that will be correct executive wear this summer—and a relief map of the Black Hills region.

west of the summer White House, all covered with the dark pines which give the Black Hills their name.

Harney peak, 7,200 feet high, is the highest mountain east of the Rockies.

And as if the country were not wild enough in its history and personal narrative, forty miles to the east of Rapid City are the famous bad lands of South Dakota. Here, ages before the days of Wild Bill, Calamity Jane and Custer, roamed the saber-toothed tiger, the dinosaur and the three-toed horse.

Of course the country is not at all wild now. Four railroads lead into Rapid City. Two of them end in Deadwood, as though this pot of gold were the rainbow's end. There are broad, beautiful highways through the hills.

At Rapid City last year they had a season of opera, guaranteed by the volunteer fire department.

All of the bold, bad men have been chased out of the hills. The sheriff's force in Rapid City says there are a few moonshiners left, but whenever they are caught they are fined \$25.75 and set to work cutting the grass on the court house lawn.

Tomorrow: The Story of Calamity Jane.

French interests would be sanctioned until France ratifies the Mellon-Berenger debt agreement, confidence was expressed in some circles that the ban soon would be lifted, no matter what action is taken toward ratification.

Lindbergh, it was said, virtually has cemented an unbreakable friendship between the nations. In view of this new friendly attitude and the dropping of anti-American propaganda in France, the money coffers of Wall Street soon may be opened to aid in stabilizing French industries.

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New friendly relations have developed between the United States and France by the great reception given Charles Lindbergh in France at the conclusion of his trans-Atlantic flight, and this "brotherly feeling" undoubtedly will be pointed out to the Administration.

While Administration leaders reiterated that no loans to private

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