

# FOREST BLAZE LOSSES LIGHT THIS SUMMER

Fewer Fires Reported by National Service Than in Other Years.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Barring unexpected disasters in the next few weeks, American forests this year will escape with smaller fire losses than for many a year. "In the national forests this year's losses have been lower than any time since 1923 or possibly even since 1916, and if present conditions continue the losses are likely to be the lowest since the service was organized in 1905," Col. W. B. Greeley, chief of the United States Forest Service, said today.

Col. Greeley says similar conditions have prevailed in forest areas outside the Government reserves. He attributes the low losses to a combination of late spring weather; more than the usual amount of summer rainfall; increased forces of federal and State fire rangers, and greater caution by campers and tourists.

## Lightning Not Halted

Most of the damage this year has been caused by mid-summer lightning. In California, where some of the largest fire losses occurred last year, few fires broke out this year before the middle of July, but on July 29 more than 100 fires were set by lightning in the Klamath, Shasta, Trinity and Lassen forests. Most of them were soon extinguished.

"In California we have required every party obtaining permits to visit national forests to take fire fighting tools with them. This has had a good psychological effect, we think, in causing campers to exercise more caution," Greeley said.

## Reduction Is Great

In Montana and Idaho, where the fire losses usually are greater than in any other Government reserve, the acreage burned up to August 20 this year was less than one per cent of the area destroyed last year.

The largest losses in the West have occurred in the Columbia Forests in Southern Washington. In the South a bad spring drought caused several fires in Florida, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina and one of the largest fires took place in Nebraska where 23,000 acres were destroyed.

In 1926 the total acreage of national forests destroyed by fire was 722,000. This year's losses will not exceed one-third this amount, Greeley believes.

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# Oklahoma Suspects Poison Murder



Following the sudden deaths of Mrs. Charles Bailey and her daughter, Mary Jane, 18, End (Okla.) authorities have arrested Mary Atkinson, graduate nurse and companion of the Rev. Charles Bailey, End pastor. County officials suspect poisoning. Helen Bailey, 20, another daughter, recovered from the malady that claimed her sister's life. Above to the left the pastor is shown; on the right is Miss Atkinson; the center panel pictures Helen (above), Mary Jane and Mrs. Bailey.

# Card Seeress Holds Boy's Death to Remain Mystery

Dismissal of Murder Charge at Evansville Supports Woman's Words.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Sept. 13.—"Leander's murderer will never confess and so far as the Spirit informs me now, his death will remain a mystery."

Thus spoke Mrs. William Booth, a plump, plain little farm woman, nearly a year and a half ago as she studied the faces of a pack of playing cards in the dining room of her little home north of Winslow, Ind.

The date was April 30, 1926. Peace and contentment reigned there but wild excitement prevailed in the village of Winslow, two miles to the south, townspeople gathered in excited knots on every corner, business was at a standstill and a growing throng flocked to a little undertaking establishment where an autopsy was going forward over the body of Leander Roe, 9, retrieved only that day from the muddy Patoka River.

Missing a Week

Little Leander had vanished on Saturday, April 24, just a week before. Thomas Roe, father of the youngster, his neighbors and friends searched all that night in vain and the next day, weary and worn, sought out Mrs. Booth, whose

strange gift of divination had aided many of her acquaintances in their hours of trouble in times past.

"Your son has been murdered," Mrs. Roe told the elder Roe. "His body will be recovered from the waters of the river and his murderer will confess if those waters are left undisturbed."

The next day, Monday, Roe and a neighbor, Press Morton, besought Mrs. Booth for further information.

"Go to the river down by the ball park," she directed them. "There you will find Leander's clothing. Leave it undisturbed and return to me without telling any one of your find."

"As you go through town on your way to the river you will see a group of boys at the corner."

Prompted Remark

"You, Morton, approach them and say: 'I surely would like to know if Leander Roe is alive.'"

"An overgrown boy, whose name has not been revealed to me, will step forward with an oath and reply: 'Lee will never come back; he's in the river.'"

The two men hastened toward the river. They encountered the group of boys and Morton put to them the statement that the seeress had directed.

A 12-year-old boy stepped forward with an oath and declared in answer: "Lee will never come back; he's in the river."

Morton hastened on to the banks of the Patoka. There lay Leander's clothing.

Excitement seized him and he ran back to the village, shouting of his find. Every available man turned out to search the river banks and drag the stream for trace of the body. The 12-year-old youngster was seized and threatened and cajoled to tell what he knew of Leander's disappearance. His stories conflicted and he was ultimately dismissed from consideration in the case by authorities.

Meanwhile Morton hastened back to Mrs. Booth for further instructions.

Held Pledge Broken

"You have broken your pledge of silence," the little farm wife greeted him sadly. "Had you obeyed me this mystery would have been solved by confession, within two hours. Now, so far as I can see, the case is doomed to remain a mystery."

And a mystery the case has remained.

Only last week murder charges were dismissed against the 60-year-old father of the murdered lad—charges preferred nearly a year and a half ago.

# WAR ON PARKED CARS

Stickers Greet Motorists in Woodruff Place.

Automobile owners of Woodruff Place awoke this morning to find windshield decorated with stickers, in a delicate shade of pink, warning them against parking on the streets overnight.

Elmer Luschner, town marshal, decorated every automobile parked on the streets.

Motorists were notified they were violating Section 2 of an ordinance passed by the Woodruff Place board of trustees Feb. 1, 1925, prohibiting parking in alleys or on streets between 7 p. m. and 8 a. m., or for any continuous period of more than six hours.

Penalty is a maximum fine of \$10. J. M. Dils town clerk and treasurer, explained today Marshal Luschner had been instructed by the Graham is president, to take steps to curb parking violations.

Further violations may result in fines, it was stated.

# 'FIRST DROP' SPURNED

Obey Koran's Injunction by Spilling Liquor on Ground.

MANILA, Sept. 13.—Mohammedans arrested for drunkenness have explained how they escape the Koran's injunction: "Let not the first drop of wine touch thy lip." They carefully spill some wine on the ground, then go ahead and drink the remaining drops.

# Laddergram

Climb Down!

COOK

MAID

This one solves a kitchen problem by changing the cook into a maid. Be careful, in climbing down, to change just one letter in each new word-step and do not disturb the order of the remaining letters. Try to beat this solution by reducing the number of rungs and watch for the answer, which will be printed tomorrow. In the meantime study the way in which Wild was turned to Tame: 1, Wild; 2, Wile; 3, Tile; 4, Tale; 5, Tame.

(Copyright by Public Ledger)



# RHEUMATISM

(may be relieved by rational treatment—it can not be rubbed away.)

Are you one of those unfortunate who suffer with pains in your muscles and joints, commonly called rheumatism, making you miserable, less efficient, interfering with your working hours, ruining your sleep?

You may have tried many things without relief. Why not try S.S.S.? For more than 100 years it has been giving relief in thousands of cases, as testified to in unsolicited letters of gratitude.

"I suffered from rheumatism for a good many years. At times my joints would swell so, I couldn't walk. I tried almost everything... then finally decided to try S.S.S. I took a course. In a short time the

rheumatic pains entirely left me. I am now in perfect health, and want to add that I have tried all kinds of medicines but I think S.S.S. is the best." Earl C. Campbell, 115 West Main Street, Johnson City, Tennessee.

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# LONE RAIDER HAS RUM MEN ON RUN FAST

Harvey Parry's Name Sends Shivers Through Florida Booze Haulers.

This is the third of four stories in which Rodney Dutcher describes the colorful warfare between Coast Guardsmen and rum runners along the Florida coast.

BY RODNEY DUTCHER

NEA Service Writer

(Copyright, 1927, NEA Service, Inc.)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—When Florida rum-runners want to scare their kiddies they probably announce that Parry will get them if they don't watch out.

Boatswain Harvey P. Parry, 26, is the ace of the Coast Guard liquor raiders in Florida.

In less than a year, Parry has been officially commended for the single-handed seizures of four rum-running craft. He delights to operate alone.

Bos'n Parry, who spends much of his spare time strolling about the waterfront of the Miami sector, was the daredevil who once jumped from a bridge over a canal to the deck of a smuggler craft passing below. The crew was so astonished that Parry had them under control and on the way to imprisonment before they could recover.

## A Significant Message

Says a telegram in the Coast Guard files here, dated last April: "Parry seized rum boat at Caesar's Creek last night. Took three prisoners on board his picket boat. They attacked Coast Guard crew. Two prisoners were killed and went over the side. Third man wounded and taken to hospital."

Parry's reports of his seizures are not illuminating. They are the most matter-of-fact accounts imaginable. But Parry's superior officers have passed the lacking details along to Washington.

The Coast Guard has been promoting Parry as fast as possible as a reward for his exploits and for the benefit of the Florida fleet's morale.

Driving along the beach road at Dinner Cay, Parry once saw a motor boat enter the channel and moor alongside a skiff onto which four men placed twenty-five sacks of liquor. The skiff came in and Parry stepped aboard as it reached the landing.

**Foe of Runners**

"That's Parry," one rum runner yelled. "He's alone. Let's get him." Parry reached for his pistol and found that it had slipped from his holster in the automobile. First flew rapidly and Parry knocked one boot-into the water. Then the skiff capsize and the smugglers went in up to their necks. Parry seized a sack of liquor and started to belabor the floundering rum runners over the head with it. They surrendered.

As he came ashore with his prisoners aboard Parry was confronted by a woman who pointed a pistol at him. Parry started toward the woman just as two immigration patrol officers arrived and took the pistol from her.

In the same month Parry had captured single-handed the five men and two boats near Cocoa Cove and had run two boats ashore off Dana Point, capturing them and their cargoes.

**Now He Works**

On the first instance Parry reported tersely: "There were two trucks, three cars and about fifteen men waiting for a boat back from Gun Cay. About 2:30 a. m. a boat was seen offshore signaling the beach, and after the signals were answered two boats approached through the narrow canal to the yacht basin, one towing the other."

"I jumped aboard the leading boat and seized him, made them turn around and run out without landing, and proceeded to Miami and came alongside the CG-297 and they took off the prisoners. The Both boats were loaded with liquor in bottles bearing foreign labels."

There were 1,000 sacks of liquor. Parry's single-handed capture of five men and two boats established a new record.

## Held in \$25,000 Bond

By Times Special

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Sept. 13.—Steve Evon, charged with shooting and seriously wounding his divorced wife, Mrs. Julia Evon, is a prisoner in Vigo County jail here, unable to provide bond of \$25,000. The woman's condition is fair, hospital attaches say.

## Elkhart Fair Opens

By Times Special

GOSHEN, Ind., Sept. 13.—Elkhart County's fifty-third annual fair will open here tonight to continue the remainder of the week. By tonight it is expected the sale of season tickets will have reached 5,000.

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# PIPE DOWN, MELLON ORDER TO LOWMAN



Seymour Lowman

Doran Will Do Talking for Prohibition Unit, Says Treasury Head.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Prohibition Commissioner Doran hereafter will be official spokesman at the treasury on prohibition news.

He has been requested to attend all press conferences held by Seymour Lowman, assistant secretary of the treasury, and take the responsibility of answering questions of newspaper men, it was learned today.

Mean'while, there will be no written press statements issued by the prohibition bureau unless such are approved by Secretary Mellon or Undersecretary Mills.

**Lid Comes Back**

Official censorship on prohibition news is now in effect. An old order prohibiting issuance of press statements unless they are approved first by the head of the treasury, has been resurrected by Mellon.

Lowman was called "on the carpet" by Mellon for his assertions that the dry organization was corrupt and that bribery was "rampant." Mellon today refused to discuss his interview with Lowman, saying it was a "private discussion of departmental matters."

Lowman "Too Enthusiastic"

Officials emphatically stated, however, that Lowman had become "too enthusiastic" in his work. They pointed out that the assistant secretary was supposed to act as liaison officer between the secretary of treasury and the prohibition commissioner, rather than actively to supervise Federal dry work.

Hereafter there will be no sensational statements, it was said at the treasury. Enforcement work will continue actively, but efforts will be made to keep the spotlight from Government dry activities.

## VIEW CANNING PLANTS

ELWOOD, Ind., Sept. 13.—Canning plants here will be inspected today and Wednesday by twenty quartermaster officers of the United States army, on an annual tour. Capt. Robert Wilkie, son of H. F. Wilkie, Elwood city attorney, and Mrs. Wilkie, is in command of the detail.

The officers will be dinner guests of the local Kiwanis Club this evening.

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## Gone, but Not Forgotten

Automobiles reported stolen to police belong to:

H. W. Taylor, 21 S. Senate Ave., Hudson, 14-988, from 21 S. Senate Ave.

Walter Steder, 1522 Wade St., Chevrolet, 572-649, from Tenth St. and Capitol Ave.

Asa B. Moore, 651 E. Twenty-Fifth St., Chevrolet, 583-969, from in front of that address.

E. V. Johnston, 1828 Roosevelt Ave., Ford, from New York and Illinois Sts.

**BACK HOME AGAIN**

Automobiles reported found by police belong to:

Nash Sedan, license 363-839, found at Roosevelt and Ingram Sts.

De Luxe Pastry Shop, 44 Monument Pl., Dodge truck found at 315 W. Ohio St.

## FIVE HURT IN CRASH

Collision Late Monday Night Causes Severe Injuries.

Five persons were injured severely late Monday night in a collision of cars driven by Robert Simpson, 25, of 1721 Bellefontaine St., and Frank W. Miles of Wolcott, Ind., at Emerson Ave. and Thirty-Eighth St.

Miss Harriet Cline, 28, of 2141 N. Talbott St., is in Methodist Hospital suffering with a fractured pelvis and probable internal injuries. Others who suffered minor injuries and were taken home are: Miss Frankie Sissidy, 20, of 2141 N. Talbott St.; Francis Morris, 21, of 3014 Hovey St.; Mrs. Mildred Miles, 1439 Montclair St., and Simpson.

Miss Mildred Turner, 17, of 1525 W. Twenty-Seventh St., was treated at city hospital early Tuesday for lacerations suffered in an auto accident at Senate Ave. and North St.

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