

## CONDITIONS ENCOURAGING

Second Time During the Visitation of the Scourge That a Day Has Passed Without a Fatality—Reports From the Country.

New Orleans, Oct. 8.—New cases, 19; total to date, 3,195. Death, none; total to date, 410. New foci, 4. Under treatment, 200. Discharged, 2,359. This is the second time during the visitation that a day has passed without a death from yellow fever, the previous day being September 19. Among the new cases is a reporter on an afternoon paper whose brother was stricken two days ago. Only six of the cases are above Canal street, which is a larger proportion than has been noted in a month. Following are the country reports: Alexandria, one death. Grenna, one new case brought from Grand Island. Union plantation in Jefferson parish, several cases. Mississippi: Vicksburg, five new cases. Natchez, five new cases. Port Gibson, one new case, one death. No new cases on gulf coast or at Rosetta. The fever reported from Homo Chitto, near Rosetta, has been pronounced malarial.

### Fever Spreads in Pensacola.

Pensacola, Fla., Oct. 8.—Eighteen new cases of yellow fever developed in Pensacola today, a large increase over yesterday. This is partly due to rigid inspection by the citizens' volunteer committee, which was appointed yesterday. The prevailing opinion is that the fever is beyond control and that it will remain in Pensacola until frost comes.

## GREAT FIRE IN NEVADA

Reno, Nev.—A fire supposed to be of incendiary origin has been raging at Purdy, a town on the Nevada, California and Oregon Railroad, north of Reno.

Five thousand cords of wood, six new box cars and every building in the town have been destroyed, while the fire is still burning in the immense piles of wood stacked up around the town. The people had no way of fighting the flames.

The heaviest losers are the Nevada, California and Oregon Company and Felix Vegliotti of this city. Their losses will probably amount to \$50,000, while the loss on other property owners will amount to several thousand dollars more.

### Wild-Cat Mining Question.

In the current issue of the Mining Investor the Critic deals at length with the mine fakir and wild-catter question. He says that what is needed is general effort to expose the fakirs by name, and the effort should not be to stop investment in mining but to divert it from fraudulent channels into lines where it will do good. He has hit the nail square on the head. The denouncement of any of those gentry by name, and for specific cause, by any mining newspaper or periodical in good standing, is sure to be quoted extensively. The responsibility rests with the paper which first takes the case in hand. It must be sure of its ground, of course, but that is not often difficult, since the wild-catter's armour is generally weak, and he frequently has a record.—The Searchlight.

## TO BREAK RECORDS

Chicago.—A time shattering railroad trip across the United States from ocean to ocean is to be attempted by E. H. Harriman, who has developed an ambition for the big record. Although it will be at least two weeks before he arrives at San Francisco from his visit to the orient, officials of the railroad have commenced arrangements to give him a record run across the continent in accordance with his instructions. "We hope to have Mr. Harriman's special train make this trip from San Francisco to Chicago in fifty hours flat," said one official.

"That would beat the record to date by six hours. His train will run over the Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and Northwestern roads to Chicago. From here to New York it will go over the Lake Shore to Buffalo and by the New York Central probably to New York.

"I understand that the best time ever made between Chicago and New York is sixteen hours, the time of the Twentieth Century Limited June 18 last. We hope to arrange a fifteen hour trip, making the whole time sixty-five hours."

### Immense Forest Reserve Established in Arizona.

Washington.—The President has established a new forest reserve in Arizona, which is to be called the Tonto reserve and is intended to protect the watershed of Tonto Creek, an important feeder of the great irrigation reservoir to be created near Phoenix. The reserve will contain 1,120,000 acres and will extend north and south, from the Magellan Plateau to Salt River, and east and west from the Verde Valley to the White Mountain Indian Reservation.

## SAYS WE ARE MONEY MAD

Chicago.—"This nation has gone money mad. For ten years this land has enjoyed material wealth and prosperity such as the world has never before seen, and during that time this madness has come upon us in full force. We have forgotten the commandment, 'Thou shalt not steal,' and we are taking the position no matter how money is obtained. We cannot continue in this rut indefinitely and secure the continuance of free institutions. The dangers of peace will destroy this country at the present rate just as certainly as a disastrous war."

Such was the keynote of a speech on "The Patriotism of Peace," delivered by Governor Frank J. Hanley of Indiana at the Y. M. C. A. auditorium, in which the Hoosier chief executive sounded a vehement note of warning to Americans against allowing continuance of graft, official corruption and disregard for law in the scramble for plunder.

Governor Hanley painted a dark picture of conditions in the United States and insisted that the very life of the nation was dependent on a speedy return to safer ideas and honest methods.

### China Lends Money to Pay for Railway.

London.—Correspondents of the Morning Post at Shanghai and Hongkong say that the Chinese government has loaned to Viceroy Chang Chi Tung \$5,500,000 at 4½ per cent. for the final return to China of the Hankow-Canton railway concession, the amount to be secured by the opium revenues of the provinces of Hupe and Hunan and of Canton. Of this amount the correspondents say \$2,000,000 was paid to the viceroy, and the remaining \$3,500,000 will be sent to New York.

### Lowers Record Without Effort.

Lexington, Ky.—Dan Patch, king of pacers, clipped three-quarters of a second from his own world's record, negotiating the mile in 1:55½. Cheering people threw hats and wraps in the air, and swarmed on the track, despite the efforts of policemen, the ovation continuing several minutes.

### China Suspends Boycott.

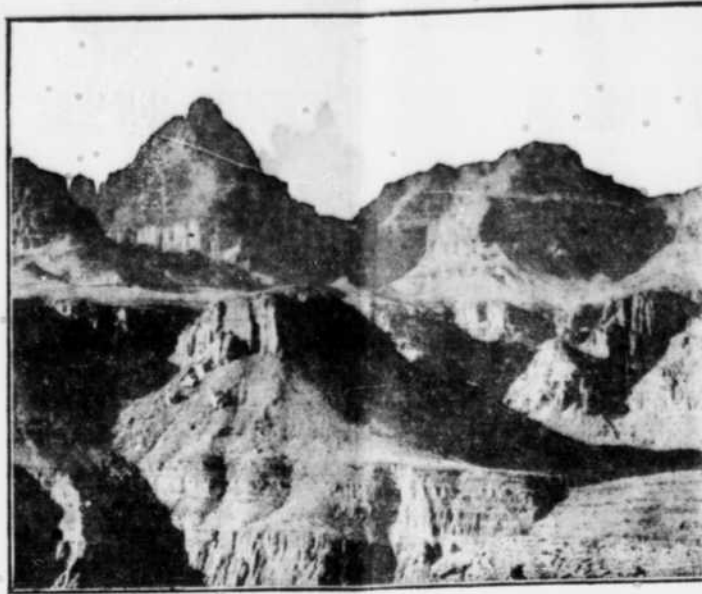
New York.—News that the merchants of China who have been prosecuting the boycott against American goods, have decided to suspend temporarily that movement to await possible action of the United States congress in softening the exclusion laws, is contained in official dispatches received from Peking. The information comes from the Merchants' guild of that place and is to the effect that this course has been decided upon by merchants throughout the empire. The action follows the advice of the Chinese government in the matter which was given as a consequence of the attitude of President Roosevelt. Should congress fail to take the desired action the boycott will again become effective and will be pressed vigorously.

### California Gets Medals.

Sacramento.—Governor Pardee received a dispatch from agent James A. Filcher of the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland, stating that the California exhibit has been granted sixteen golden medals and six silver medals in the liberal art department, six gold and one silver medal in the mining department and two additional gold medals.

## A WESTERN RAMBLE

Grand Canyon of Arizona, the Wondrous Gorge of the Mysterious Colorado.



EL TOVAR, Grand Canyon of Arizona.—In coming to this place I had half a wish and half a purpose to write a description of it; but now that I have seen it, I feel that description of it is, for me, impossible. The hand that wrote the Hymn to Sunrise in the Vale of Chamouni might have made a word picture of this wonderful scene, or, better still, might have expressed the emotion it inspires; but that hand is at rest, and no fellow to it exists on earth. One word, however, can be written, and that is a word of urgent counsel to the American traveller, not to seek the marvels of Europe till he has first looked upon this marvel of his native land. The journey to it can be made with ease and comfort, and, indeed, is one of the most instructive and delightful journeys that are feasible on our continent.

It happened that our train was late and did not reach Williams till about 9 o'clock in the evening of the third day. Williams, named after a famous scout, whose grave is on the top of a neighboring mountain, is the station at which the traveller leaves the main line of the Santa Fe, to make the run by a branch to the Canyon—a distance, northerly, of about sixty miles. I came to El Tovar accordingly in the middle of the night; but even then the hotel was a scene of brilliant animation. There is no village, but there are two hotels—El Tovar and the Bright Angel—the former a spacious new one, artistically rustic in architecture and decoration, but finely appointed. The pilgrim accordingly, need not fear that he will be subjected to hardship in an expedition to the Grand Canyon of Arizona. Tovar was a Spanish explorer who penetrated these wilds three hundred and sixty-five years ago and participated in the discovery of the Canyon—a prodigy of nature not previously known, except to the Indian inhabitants of this region; and so his name is fittingly chosen to designate the hotel, which is the traveler's home, but the place itself, which perhaps, one day will be a town or rural village was lovely as an Athenian grove. I was roused at dawn by the blithe singing of many birds, and I saw the sun rise over a spectacle so grand that all words are powerless to portray it. You do not stand upon a mountain and look toward other mountains, across a vale; that, in some regions—notably in the district of the English lakes, where Skiddaw defies Helvellyn—is a thrilling experience; but you stand upon a plain which is between six and eight thousand feet above sea level and gaze

down on the tops of mountains, scattered through an abyss that is more than a mile deep and more than two hundred miles long, covering an area of more than a thousand square miles and being diversified by more shapes of rock and land and more shades of color than the imagination of man could ever conceive or the hand of art ever depict. At morning the rays of the sun are slow in penetrating to the deep recesses of this stupendous chasm. Vast wreaths of mist float upward and drift away. The shadows of the cliffs and peaks sink westward, as the light is diffused into these colossal caverns of the underworld. Far down in the sinister, haunted depths among these subterranean mountains and ravines, the trees, massed in great groves, present the appearance of a carpet of grass. Some tents, erected on the margin of the distant Angel trail, look like little rectangular shapes of white stone. The black, swift rushing Colorado River, holding its irresistible course through this pageant of sublimity and terror, seems a mere thread of dusky water, a brook that a child might span with a little leap; yet its breadth in places is fully three hundred feet. Far northward, along the opposite verge of the chasm, thirteen miles away, the tremendous rampart walls are gleaming white with snow. No sound breaks the awful silence, except the twitter of the birds or the sigh of the wind in the pine and live oaks that fringe this terrific cleft—as of a shattered universe, all chaos and horror. As I gazed, through ever-clearing and ever-changing vistas, over this scene of unparalleled magnificence, it seemed to me that I was looking on the ruins of imperial cities, the gigantic remnants of a strange, glorious prehistoric civilization, long since dead and gone; on mosques and minarets; palaces, with spire terraces and fluted columns; stately avenues, amid crumbling mansions; boundless amphitheatres; and the frowning battlements of many a rugged fortress, set on inaccessible heights, above many a yawning precipice and grim and fatal cavern of death. The spectacle is sublime, but also it is terrible. Nowhere have I felt so deeply the sense of human nothingness in the presence of physical nature. As I stood there, at the dizzy edge of the vast cliff, an eagle rose from the vales and mountain tops below, and, with superb motion, winged his triumphant flight, upward and still upward, till he seemed to vanish into heaven.—William Winter in the New York Tribune.

## CASTRO IS ARMING UP

Caracas, Venezuela.—The Venezuelan government has ordered from the Creusote works, France, thirty batteries of field artillery and twelve batteries of modern guns of seventy millimeters caliber.

### Forest Fire Is Checked.

Santa Barbara.—At 8 o'clock Monday night Forest Supervisor Slosson gave out the statement that the fire which had raged in the mountains since Saturday night was under control, although a strong wind might again spread the flames to new localities. This is not probable, however, as no wind prevails at this time. The fire is plainly visible on ridges of the mountains from this city, but it is now in a locality where it will soon spend itself.

Scores of men are on guard in the district, and their services have been of inestimable value during the day. Many small fires have been extinguished by them which might have proved serious had they gained headway. The losses to property as a result of the fire are variously estimated at from twenty thousand to one hundred thousand dollars, but the former figure is probably nearest correct.

### Chinese Port to be Opened.

Shanghai.—The viceroy of Szechuen has decided to open the Yangtse river port of Wanhsien to foreign trade.

The coronation robe presented to the Empress of Russia was of fur. It weighed only sixteen ounces, yet was worth \$4,000, or \$375 an ounce.

## IN FIELD OF HUSBANDRY

Worth Trying—Absorbent Papers to Save Peaches—Value of Clipping Queens—Poultry Notes—Horticultural Notes.

### Worth Trying.

Grape growers in the United States may derive a useful hint from a process, as yet unknown on this side of the water, by which vine growers in France are enabled to market fresh outdoor grapes all through the winter. The method, which is a recent invention, is both curious and interesting.

Bunches of the finest grapes, when ripe in autumn, are cut in such a way that to each bunch a piece of the vine five or six inches long remains attached. From this piece the stem of the bunch hangs—an arrangement which, as will presently be seen, is essential to the success of the operation. A large number of wide-necked bottles, filled with water, are ranged in horizontal rows on racks in the cellar, and in the open end of each of these receptacles is placed a bunch of grapes, that is to say the pieces of vine stem is inserted into the mouth of the bottle, and the grapes hang outside. The grapes do not touch the bottle, but are supplied with moisture through the vine stem, which is immersed in the water.

In this manner Black Hamburg and other choice table grapes are kept fresh and perfect through an entire winter. The temperature of the cellar, being uniform and moderately low, is favorable to the preservation of the fruit, and to compensate for evaporation water is supplied daily to the bottles. Naturally, such grapes are expensive, but there are plenty of people, it seems, who are glad to pay \$2 a pound or even a higher price for them.—Daily Hotel Reporter.

### Value of Coal Soot.

Chimney soot, says the American Fertilizer, is one of the richest fertilizers known. That from coal is very rich in ammonia. When coal is burned, ammonia is set free, and during the various changes which take place during the process, sulphite and carbonate of ammonia are both formed. Soot is a highly compound substance, containing in its composition not only ammonia, but lime, sulphuric acid, nitric acid, phosphoric acid, magnesia, potash, acetic acid, chlorine and iron, nearly all of which are valuable, directly or indirectly. The value of soot is well known in England, where it sells for about £10 per ton, or about \$18. It is often thrown away as useless by those who do not know its value, but careful farmers should save every ounce for use. Sprinkled around some kinds of plants, it often prevents attacks from insects, and the rains then carry it down into the earth, where it does duty as a fertilizer. Soot from coal was once thought to be a very worthless substance, but experience and science have taught us to know better.

### Absorbent Papers to Save Peaches.

From an eastern exchange we get information of a method of lining cars with absorbent paper, which prevents deposit of moisture on fruit, thus preventing decay.

Strips of absorbent paper are placed along the side and ceilings of cars which are loaded in such a manner that the air within the cars has perfect freedom of circulation between the contents of the car and the sides and ceilings. The moisture that condenses as the ice melts, is taken up by the paper more rapidly than the fruit will absorb it. This has the effect of lessening the falling away of the fruit and causes it to hold up much longer and to reach destination in much better shape. The process and its application is limited to refrigerator cars.

### The Value of Clipping Queens.

As our bees are situated amid low shrubbery, where the lustering of a swarm in some inaccessible place would be unlikely to happen, we did not deem it necessary to clip our queens the past spring. The result has been that many of our finest swarms have gone to the woods after being hived, in several instances taking with them valuable queens. In all, I have lost somewhere near \$50, as a result of our queens being able to fly. It would have taken one man about half a day to have clipped all the queens in this yard.

At the clipping season there are but a few bees to the hive and the most inexperienced can readily hunt out and clip a queen. It is, in fact,

about the easiest work the beekeeper will have. Hereafter all the queens in my yards will be clipped each spring, or as soon as they are mated.—O. J. Farmer.

### Poultry Notes.

The nests need fully as much cleaning as the roosts. A piece of alum in the drinking water will prevent throat and lung diseases.

Remember that the hens that lay the golden eggs are the ones that produce them when they bring the highest price.

The object at this season is to reduce the flocks to a profitable basis, as it does not pay to winter useless birds. Sell them now.

Full hatched chicks require more care than summer ones. They are apt to take cold on frosty mornings and chilly days. Give them a warm place to roost and keep in until after the chill is gone in the morning.

Repair the poultry houses now; if eggs are desired in winter. The first cold weather should find all conditions favorable. New fowls should be purchased. New blood is necessary for the flock no matter what the breed is, and their purchase should not be delayed beyond September.—M. L. D.

Chickens that run with the hens should have a place to eat where they will not be molested by the larger ones. Make a low slat shed and put the feed troughs in the center. They will soon learn to go into it and will there be protected from sun and rain. It can be made of boards and narrow strips with spaces between for light. The posts may be driven into the ground and the bottom strips nailed on two inches or more from the ground. Cover the roof with paper or felt-roofing.—W. W. Maxim, in Successful Farming.

### Horticultural Notes.

(California Cultivator.)

The State horticultural officials are figuring on the erection of a new building in the Capitol grounds to be used as an insect house for the culture of parasites beneficial to fruit.

Citizens of San Jacinto and Hemet and surrounding territory have asked Senator Flint to use his influence to secure an appropriation of \$3,000,000 from the U. S. Reclamation Service to build a dam in the San Jacinto canyon, Riverside county, which would irrigate about fifty thousand acres. The plan proposes the absorption of the San Jacinto and Hemet water systems and the merging of all irrigation interests in the region for a radius of twenty miles.

Sixty leading cantaloupe growers of the Imperial valley met near Brawley and contracted with Lyon Bros. of Chicago to handle their crop for next year. The contract contemplates the shipping of a car or two of melons weekly during the entire season. One thousand pounds of seed are to be brought up from Rocky Ford for the planting next spring. It is estimated that about one thousand acres will be planted at Brawley and that a trainload of cantaloupes will leave daily during the height of the season.

## GOLD HEADS THE LIST

San Francisco.—The state mineralogist reports that mineral products of California in 1904 where worth \$6,019,308 more than those of the preceding year. The total value for 1904 was \$43,778,348, while for 1903 it was \$37,759,308. The total value of the metallic substances mined in this state in 1904, including precious metals, was \$25,114,699. Among the substances that receive special mention are gold, silver, pyrites, quicksilver, copper, lead, magnesia, platinum and chrome. The total value of non-metallic substances was \$2,131,369.

The leading items of mineral production in 1904 was gold, and this represented \$19,109,000. The copper amounted to 29,974,154 pounds, worth \$3,969,955.

The output of cement reached a total of 969,538 barrels in 1904 and the value is fixed at \$1,500,000. The total value of one year's output of structural materials was \$7,274,946.

The hydro-carbons, including asphalt, bituminous rock, natural gas and petroleum were valued at \$9,257,434.

### Inspects Irrigation Plants.

San Jose.—James H. McCall, twenty years a member of the Australian parliament, made a tour of inspection of the orchards and irrigation plants in this valley, accompanied by the representatives of the Southern Pacific Company and the local chamber of commerce.

Mr. McCall is making a study of irrigation in California with the view of applying them in Australia, and he was much pleased with the system as found in Santa Clara Valley. For the past three months, he has been touring the several States in which irrigation is practiced.