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The Deseret News
Salt Lake City, Utah



LIEUTENANT FRED R. JENSEN.

Young Utah Officer Who Has Been Given a Commission in the Philippine Constabulary at Manila.

On Nov. 1, Fred R. Jensen, a native of Mant, Utah, will leave San Francisco for Manila, P. I. Mr. Jensen goes to the Philippines to report for duty as a lieutenant in the Philippine constabulary. He is the first man from Utah to go into that branch of the country's military service, and he expects to make military life his career, applying for examination for a commission in the regular army at the expiration of two years of service as an officer of the constabulary.

The constabulary are native troops recruited for provincial service, and do most of the active work in keeping the peace throughout the islands. Mr. Jensen received his appointment as the result of recommendations sent to the war department by Capt. Styer of the Thirtieth United States infantry, who has been stationed at the Agricultural college. Capt. Styer himself has been ordered to the Philippines, to report Jan. 1, and he has taken a deep personal interest in young Jensen, who was trained under his care. Jensen has attended the Agricultural college for the past four years, and has served as senior captain of cadets for three years. Prior to going to Logan, Mr. Jensen spent most of his life in Sanpete county.

THE FAIR OF 1909.

SEATTLE—A \$10,000,000 fair three years from now—that's what the town of Seattle, the state of Washington and the Pacific northwest are looking forward to. The start has been made, a wonderful start, by the raising of \$650,000 in one day through the sale of stock in the exposition corporation.

Oct. 2 was a gala day in Seattle, the greatest day the Washington metropolis has had. It was known as Subscription day; the mayor, by proclamation, made it a holiday, and the slogan "Everybody Helps" adopted by Will H. Parry, chairman of the ways and means committee, was made a reality. There was a constant flow of checks as gold up the elevators to the fifteenth story of the Alaska building, where the temporary headquarters of the exposition have been established. The fair already gives promise of a scope yet unattained by western enterprises. The name, Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, contributes an idea of the general nature of the show. It will be primarily an Alaska fair, held in the suburb of College View, the little-known northland, and in this connection will be gathered the most remarkable mining display ever shown at a world's fair. The gold that made the country originally famous will be told of through specimens and photographs and machinery, and the other ores more recently discovered, will have proper representation. And more important, the agricultural and industrial possibilities will be effectively exploited.

Besides Alaska, the great Yukon country will contribute samples of its untold wealth, and the islands of the sea will show their marvels. One of

the principal objects of the exposition will be to bring together in trade the shores of the Pacific. With a population 10 times as great as the United States, occupying a territory three times the size of Uncle Sam's domain, Asia and Oceania produce enormous quantities of wares which Americans might use while on the other hand, they need millions of dollars worth of goods made in America. To bring the two together, through the medium of exhibits, will be the object of the Seattle fair.

State participation in the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition is already a certainty, and the United States government is counted upon to put up a building or series of buildings, and make a display worthy of the richness of the land. This western states learned through the Lewis and Clark fair held last year, the advantages to be gained through generous participation in national exhibitions, and can be counted upon to make even better displays than those which helped make the 1905 show attractive. Oregon is certainly to have a fine building, stuffed with products, and California, always a good show state, will be there. Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and the other states, as well as the British possessions to the north, will be adequately represented.

With nearly three years remaining before the exposition, the beginning of preparation has already been made. The Washington university grounds, comprising 355 acres, bordering on Lake Washington and Lake Union, have been chosen as a site, and landscape gardening will soon be begun. The site is situated 20 minutes' ride from the center of the city, and is in every way adapted to its purpose.

THIS WOMAN IS A BLACKSMITH.

UNABLE to secure an appointment as teacher in the rural school districts of Kansas, where she resided, Mrs. Philo P. Wilcox turned to blacksmithing, which was her husband's trade. In the last 15 years while thus employed she reared a family of four children, and as her husband failed in health she has worked more and more into the business, until now, in the suburb of College View, she does all the work offered, with the aid of three of her children.

Blacksmithing is the only part of the business at which Mrs. Wilcox balks. She is able to prepare a horse for its shoes, but owing to the handicap of three children she cannot affix the shoes to the animal's hoofs in the style long approved of by blacksmiths.

Mrs. Wilcox is 40. She has a clear complexion and her hardened muscles are evidence of the long hours she has put in at the forge.

During her childhood days she received a good education, and at Roselle, Kan., in Kansas married women are not wanted as schoolma'ams, and barred out of teaching she turned to the forge.

"I like the work," she says. "At first the tendency of people to stop and stare was disconcerting, but now I don't mind it. I know of no other woman blacksmith in the country."

Most of her work is in using the mallet, making horse-shoes, repairing wagons and farm implements, sharpening tools and the like. I am kept busy all the time. One of the girls takes care of the house, and the other three help in the shop."

Two of my girls, aged 17 and 15 respectively, are expert bicycle repairers. One makes from \$5 to \$8 a week at this work. The eldest is a natural born mechanic. She can take the most complicated bits of machinery to pieces, tell what is wrong, repair it and put it together again.

"My husband is now in Mexico for his health. The work is hard upon him, but the rest of us like it and thrive upon it."

"My oldest girl went out last summer with a threshing machine outfit, and was with it all summer. She cut hands, fired the engine, fed the separator and did part of the cooking for the men. It is hardly girl's work; but it does not harm her. She is as lithe and strong as a young lion, and in bicycle races has proved more than a match at long distances for the young men in the neighborhood."

"I still have a license to teach, and shall turn to that this winter, when the blacksmithing trade is duller. I like this work better than the schoolroom.—New York Sun.

CHOOSING A BREED OF SHEEP.

Looking at the sheep industry as a popular branch of farming, it is surprising that there is not more attention given to this branch of farming and greater numbers of sheep kept. In Great Britain an average of over 30 sheep to the square mile are kept. Might not every farm in many districts of the eastern states add to its stock a small or large flock of sheep, with profitable results? The successful flockmaster must have a natural liking for sheep, as well as a thorough knowledge of their habits, a way to feed and care for them. Provided there be that natural liking or fancy for sheep, even if practical knowledge is lacking, patience and careful study will bring success. Start a small flock and take lessons from the sheep. A beginning should be made with a few. It is an easy matter to increase the flock, but as results suggest or the condition of the flock maintain them should justify.

In starting a flock, the selection of a breed is the first point calling for the exercise of the flockmaster's judgment. There is a wide scope to please the fancy in this matter. The breeds are generally grouped in accordance with the characteristics of the fleece, such as fine, medium, long or coarse-wooled. These groups are again subdivided into varieties often known by the name of their native districts where produced. Thus there are in the middle-wooled breeds the Dorset, Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford and Southdown. Suffolk and Cheviot also the Tunis—all named from their native regions. In the long-wooled breeds are the Leicester, Lincoln, Cotswold and Black-faced Highland. Among the Merino or fine-wooled breeds of Spanish origin are the American Merino, Delaine Merino and Rambouillet or French Merino, the latter taking its name from its native village.

The chief influences in deciding on any particular breed will be location and the purposes for which they are intended—whether for the joint production of wool and mutton, or wool principally, or to supply the markets for early fat lambs. Among the Merinoes, perhaps the most popular is the Rambouillet, both on account of their fleece and excellent mutton-producing qualities—the meat is of superior quality. The Delaine Merinoes, being heavy milkers and good mothers, the progeny from a cross of Dorset ram on Delaine ewes are much esteemed by many for raising early lambs.

Of the long or coarse-wooled breeds, possibly the best known and most popular in America is the Cotswold, an attractive sheep with long, white fleece, eight to ten inches in length, and weighing ten to fifteen pounds. They are good feeders and are no doubt better adapted to rugged lands than any other heavy breed. Their average weight is from 20 to 25 pounds.

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EARL G. VAN LAW.

Young Salt Laker Who Has Just Won Distinction in the Chicago College of Dental Surgery.

Academic honors have come to another Utah student in the special line being pursued by him. This time the laurels have been won by Earl G. Van Law, son-in-law of State Senator W. N. Williams. Information comes to Salt Lake that Mr. Van Law has been made assistant to Dr. Truman W. Brophy, dean of the Chicago College of Dental Surgery. Dr. Brophy is a world-renowned oral surgeon, his specialty being cleft palate operations. Mr. Van Law's appointment comes by merit only and is the highest honor given by this college, and incidentally it may be stated that this is the second appointment bestowed upon a Utah student in two years, for which period the assistant must be present at all operations, clinical or otherwise.

This is Mr. Vanu Law's junior year at the college, and his success so soon after the opening of the school year will be learned of with pleasure by his friends in Salt Lake and elsewhere in Utah.

"BIG BEN'S" JUBILEE.

Stories of What is Alleged to Be the Most Accurate Clock in the World.

IN the course of the next few months Big Ben will celebrate its jubilee. Although the great clock was not actually set going with its four dials complete until the beginning of 1858, Big Ben was ready in 1856. At that time, however, St. Stephen's tower had not been completed, and the clock was kept waiting for over a year before becoming London's chief timekeeper.

Big Ben was made by Mr. E. Dent, the predecessor of Messrs. F. Dent & Co., Strand, and under the terms of his agreement with the office of works Mr. Dent undertook to make and keep in repair a clock which would never vary more than two seconds from the correct time. This contract has been more than carried out.

Since the day it started, Big Ben has been within a second of the real time, except, of course, upon rare occasions when for one reason or another the clock has stopped. Such an accident happened a few months ago, when a workman left a plank in such a position as to foul the balancing rod of the minute hand.

It is said that the clock on one occasion struck 13 instead of 12, but Messrs. Dent deny that this is possible in the ordinary course, and explain that if such a thing happened it must have been caused by a piece of metal falling, or by a workman striking the bell with a large hammer.

One of the most amusing of parliamentary incidents is associated with Big Ben. Lord Randolph Churchill, who was then a member of the House of Commons, was once in the habit of going to the clock tower, between the first and the last stroke of 12. The waiter was accepted, and at midnight people who happened to be on Westminster Bridge were surprised and amused to see a man in immaculate evening dress tearing across the bridge as if his life depended upon it. It was not until the next day that they learned that the amateur sprinter was a prominent politician, whose name had become a household word throughout the kingdom. It should be mentioned that Lord Randolph won the wager.

Big Ben was intended to be, and has proved to be, the largest, the most powerful, and the most accurate public clock in the world. Twice a day it automatically telegraphs its time to Greenwich observatory, and thus its performance is checked. The correct time is indicated by the first blow of Big Ben at each hour. To wind up the clock is no easy matter. It means five hours' work for two men on three days a week.

At present the clock dials are being cleaned. The workmen are now engaged on the eastern dial, which presents a curious picture. The upper part of the face is white and bright, while the lower part is covered with so thick a coating of dirt that it seems almost impossible that any one could have read the time from any considerable distance during the day.

During the past few months the electrical staff at Westminster have been conducting a number of experiments with the view of making the lighting of the clock at night more satisfactory, and it is hoped that the "autumn cleaning" which is now going on will considerably aid their efforts.—London Tribune.

State Going to Waste.

Portions of Michigan Undergoing a Reversion to Wilderness.

With conditions so uniformly and normally favorable, it comes with a double shock to learn that the people of Michigan have permitted actually one-sixth of their splendid state to be abandoned to waste, a literal reversion to the wilderness. The story of destruction, the recent movement to restore value to this wasted area, and the peculiar obstacles, political as well as material, which are to be overcome, narrates picturesque condition typically American and interesting in the extreme. It is described at length by Allan W. Benson in Appleton's Magazine for September, from which we quote:

"From Lake Michigan to Lake Huron and from the Straits of Mackinac almost to Grand Rapids, the lumber baron has swept, with colossal strength, the forests that were a people's heritage. And after the lumber baron has come the periodical fire with sweep not less stupendous. Only last May 50 square miles were burned over. Straggling hamlets were laid waste, hundreds were made homeless, and the young trees that a persistent nature was trying to force upon a careless state were burned to the roots again."

"Nature is tiring of this continuous indifference. In spots the white sand is beginning to show through. On tracts of 1,000 acres repeated fires have swept away the tangled masses of dead limbs, underbrush, and blackened stumps that mark the landscape elsewhere. The soil is so bereft of vegetable matter by fire that trees will no longer seed themselves, and drifting sand tells the story of nature at last crushed down by man's indifference."

"And yet nature is still ready to grow trees on this poorest part of Michigan if only she be given a little help and adequate protection against fire. The soil is not as poor as the people suppose. It will not raise wheat, but it will raise hemlock, cedar, pine, spruce and poplar. And the people of Michigan need these forest products. For lack of them, cities and towns in the northern part of the lower peninsula are wasting away. In 1890 Isco county had a population of 15,224. In 1900 the Federal census recorded only 10,246 residents of the county. A third of the population had vanished in 10 years, because the county had been stripped of its timber and nothing had been put in its place. Other counties have suffered as much. Nor has the loss been confined to a few counties. It has affected the whole state. In 1890 \$155,000,000 was invested in the lumbering industry of Michigan. Today only a little more than \$50,000,000 of this capital is left."

"There is many a 'deserted village' in northern Michigan, and under the present policy of the state these villages will never rise again. Meanwhile, the people of Michigan, who thirty years ago thought they had an 'inexhaustible' supply of timber, are shelling their houses with shingles from the forests, finishing the interiors of their homes with Georgia pine, and getting their moldings from California. The oak for their chairs and tables comes from Mississippi. Incidentally, they are paying an average of \$250 a carload for the freight on the lumber they import from other states."

"In Detroit is a man who is trying at his own expense to show the state of Michigan its mistake. He believes Michigan's 6,000,000 lost acres can be reclaimed. He is backing his judgment with his money, realizing at the same time that the more he plants in the object lesson will be lost to him, because the tree crop he is planting will not mature during his lifetime. The name of this man is Carl E. Schmidt. He is a public-spirited manufacturer who was closely connected with the political career of the late mayor and governor, Hazen S. Pigue. In the summer of 1904 Mr. Schmidt asked the authorities at the state agricultural college at Lansing to designate the location of what they considered the poorest land in the state. He was told that there was no poorer land than that in Isco county, north of Au Sable. On this recommendation he bought 3,000 acres. He wanted land so poor that, if he should accomplish anything in tree growing, nobody could say that as much could not be done anywhere else in the state. A visit to the land quickly convinced him that he had bought what he wanted."

"The rest of the article in Appleton's describes the amazing success Mr. Schmidt has had, and the methods by which he achieved it. Incidentally the article describes a peculiar form of graft indulged in by the small town editors of Michigan and their opposition to plans for redeeming the wilderness."

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