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ARP ON ASTRONOMY

Bill Talks About the Wonders of the Solar System.

SMALLNESS OF THE EARTH.

Arp Then Gives President Roosevelt a Roust for His Conceit and in a Postscript Hurrah for Capt. Howell in His Race.

Dog days. So many of the young people write to me about dog days that I will answer briefly that there are no dog days. It is nothing but a superstition that has come down to us from the ancients. The dog star or Sirius has its time to appear in the heavens and rise and set like other stars, but it is a very irregular time and so what we call dog days may begin the first of July or many days later. The rising of Sirius in a line with the sun begins now on the 3rd of July and will continue until the 11th of August. Those forty days were believed by the ancients to bring very hot and sultry weather and many malignant diseases, but this has been disproved by modern astronomy, for the appearance of Sirius is very uncertain and in the course of time it will rise in the winter. Now a little more about the wonderful star. You know that we have eight planets that belong to our solar system. They all revolve around the sun just as the earth does and the nearer the planet is to the sun the faster it travels. Neptune is 16,000,000 miles distant and it takes 165 years to get around.

But Sirius is away outside of our solar system and is 120,000,000 miles from us and gives 400 times more light than our sun. It is the largest and brightest star in the heavens. It is called the dog star because it appears to be in the tail of the constellation that the ancients named Major Canis or the Big Dog. They were a smart people and we still keep their map of the heavens and their names of the stars, but they had no telescopes and did not know that there were any stars or suns except those we see with the naked eye.

But now young people listen. It is now established and proven that there are millions of stars and solar systems far off in space and that ours is the smallest and the most insignificant of them all. We are nothing and less than nothing in the scale of existence. It has always been a mystery to me why the Creator of the boundless universes, that has no limit, should have chosen this little world of ours for His greatest work, the Creation of man in His own image, a little lower than the angels, man who sinned and fell and was redeemed by the sacrifice of the Son of God. I don't understand it. I cannot comprehend it. This little world is not bigger than a cannon ball compared with some of the planets and stars afar out in space. It has but one little moon that does not condescend to show us but one side of its anatomy. The other night we went out to Mr. Granger's beautiful home to look at the full moon through his great telescope that cost \$5,000—and is mounted in a high observatory with a dome that revolves as the earth revolves. It was a magnificent spectacle but the view of Jupiter with four moons and Saturn with his rainbow ring and seven moons was much more beautiful and impressive. Of course these planets must be inhabited, for the Creator would not have surrounded a dead world with such luminous and beautiful satellites. We don't know anything hardly and it fills me with disgust to see young men strutting around like peacocks—acting like they made themselves and knew everything and expected to live always—when the truth is they don't know where they came from nor where they are going and can't add an hour or a day to their existence. I have but little hope for a vain or a conceited man and a vain woman is no better. A conceited man is close kin to an idiot and a woman vain of her beauty should sometimes remember that she had no hand in creating it for it was God given or inherited. "Oh! why should the spirit of mortal be proud?" Of all the faults of which humanity is guilty that of self conceit is the last to be forgiven and the hardest to reform.

I ruminated on this yesterday when I read what Roosevelt said in his speech at West Point. The editor who publishes it speaks of him as our well meaning but impulsive president. He should have said our "conceited and erratic president." In speaking of the great men whom West Point had graduated, he said, "I claim to be a historian and I speak what I know to be true that West Point has turned out more great men and more statesmen than any other institution in the United States." It was self-conceit and ignorance that provoked such a monstrous absurdity, for Colonel Sprague, of Yale college, has recently challenged him to the proof and has shown beyond all cavil that Yale can number 10 times the great men that West Point can number. Among them 1,383 ministers of the gospel—78 justices of supreme courts, 17 chief justices, 546 doctors, 39 governors of states and 38 United States senators—besides these Yale has sent forth an army of educators, established 480 colleges, 160 for women and 8,000 high schools while West Point has sent out none but soldiers.

Teddy ought to be ashamed of himself, but he will not be. He is not yet ashamed that in his so-called history he called Mr. Davis an arch traitor and repudiator and told what he did when

governor of Mississippi, etc. His attention has been called to those malignant calumnies against a great statesman and whose curriculum at West Point that he obtained when secretary of war is still in force and who never was a member of the legislature nor governor of Mississippi. No, he is too conceited to take back anything or to apologize for his mistakes. The man he slandered was dead when he published those lies, but his widow lives and there are thousands of veterans all over the South who cherish his memory and who now hold his slander in supreme contempt. Yet he claims to be a historian! When a gentleman finds that he has unwittingly wronged another, he hastens to apologize, but a conceited idiot rolls the moral under his tongue and chews it as a cow chews and swallows her cud. He feeds on his conceit—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

P. S.—All hail to Evan Howell!—The soldier, the editor, the friend in need. I have known him intimately since his childhood. His good father was married in my town and I think I am the only living man who was at the wedding, though I was then but a child. All hail to my friend. He has the right to run for mayor and Atlanta will honor herself by electing him. B. A.

NEWSY CLEANINGS.

Cattlemen in Mexico City have band for protection.

Cuba has asked for proposals for the lease of the Havana Arsenal.

A steamship line is to be established between New Orleans and London.

A separate consular service has been recommended for Norway and Sweden.

The Simpson tunnel will cost a million francs beyond the original estimate.

The Academy of Muenster, at Berlin, is to be made a university by royal decree.

The Socialist press of Germany numbers 140 publications, fifty-two being dailies.

At Colwyn Bay, North Wales, three policemen control a summer population of 20,000.

The Cuban crop of pineapples this year is estimated at about 200,000 barrels, or 14,000,000 pines.

Seventy-eight profit-sharing enterprises, affecting 33,526 workpeople, were in operation in Great Britain last year.

A systematic study of the Japan current is to be undertaken by Professor William E. Ritter, of the University of California.

Brigadier-General Carter has been designated Acting Adjutant-General of the United States while General Corbin is in Europe at the German maneuvers.

The marvellous improvement of Egyptian industries during recent years and the country's present well governed condition have made the place a splendid market for American trade.

The English House of Lords has decided that labor unions could be sued and their treasures confiscated where employers could prove that their business had been damaged by strikes or boycotts.

LABOR WORLD.

Boston, Mass., telegraphers have formed a union.

Iron moulders on strike at Hamilton, Ohio, have returned to work.

Harnessmakers on strike at Columbus, Ohio, have returned to work.

The strike on the Oregon City trolley line at Portland, Ore., has been settled.

At Portland, Ore., the marine engineers' strike has been settled, both sides making concessions.

Striking capmakers at Boston, Mass., have received an increase in wages of from five to ten per cent.

Farmers are offering high wages in Iowa. At Fertile one man is paying \$47.50, and \$45 is freely offered.

Drug clerks at Des Moines, Iowa, have organized, adding another union to the already long list of that city.

The strike of carpenters, painters and plumbers at Lafayette, Ind., has been settled by the signing of a new scale.

A number of telephone operators at Des Moines, Iowa, have resumed work, having gained every concession demanded.

Coal miners in Holland are better paid and work shorter hours than men employed in any similar industry in that country.

Pullman conductors at Chicago have been given a voluntary increase of from \$19 to \$15 a month, according to their length of service.

At Lowell, Mass., the loom-fixers' strike, which has been in effect three months, has been ended. It is believed the men received favorable concessions.

Toledo, Ohio, has something unique in the way of a labor union. The insurance solicitors of the city have formally organized, and will be granted a charter by the American Federation.

A Remarkable Woman.

One of the most remarkable women in Great Britain resides at Swansea. Miss Dillwyn has written successful novels, acted as a reviewer, carried out the duties of farm bailiff, and is now the partner in a flourishing smelter business. She walks three miles to business every morning, and remains till 5 in the evening. She is a member of the school board and chairman of the hospital committee.

MITCHELL TO THE MINERS

He Tells a Crowd of 7000 Strike Will Be Success'ul.

COMMANDS PEACEFUL MEANS

The Strikers' Leader Says That the Miners Themselves Only Have the Power to End the Struggle—If They Fail to Win Their Future Will Be Black and Their Union Crushed—Plan of Relief.

Scranton, Pa.—The first of the series of strikers' mass meetings planned to take place at the various strike centres was held in the Roundwoods. There were 7000 strikers present from all parts of the city and the adjoining towns, one contingent having marched four miles to the meeting, headed by a band, and carrying flags and banners. National President John Mitchell, District President T. D. Nicholls, District Vice-President Adam Ryscavage, District Secretary John T. Dempsey, Organizer Mortini Memo and Sub-District President Theophilus Phillips delivered addresses. Vice-President Ryscavage spoke in Polish and Organizer Memo in Italian.

Mr. Mitchell's speech was brief, and dealt only with the live issues of the fight. He said in part: "It has been said by some who are not your friends that the miners of the Scranton region are getting tired of the strike and are about to return to work. I come to find out if this is so. I want to know if you are going to return to work, dishonoring your organization and dishonoring yourselves. (Cries of "Never, never," "No," "Don't you believe it!") "If the strike is lost, may God Almighty help the men, women and children, who depend for their subsistence on the mining of anthracite coal. If the strike is lost you will pay the cost of the strike."

"I want to say that the anthracite miners went on strike themselves. They themselves voted for the strike. It was not the officers of the United Mine Workers who called the strike. It will never end until you vote it ended."

"From the officers of the coal Presidents in New York comes the declaration that the strike will be settled only in their own way of settling it. I would direct your attention to similar declarations made in the 1900 strike. The Coal Trust may be powerful and strong, but the American people whose hearts throb in sympathy with the miners' cause are stronger than the Coal Trust. The American people, like a jury, have passed upon the conflict. They heard of the miners' request for betterment of condition and the operators' refusal. They heard of the miners' proposition to arbitrate and the operators' further refusal. Ninety per cent. of the people have agreed that the miners are right and the operators wrong."

"I understand there is some dissatisfaction and misunderstanding about the distribution of the relief fund. The operators have sent men among you to urge you to be dissatisfied. Through the newspapers they have told you that you were dissatisfied. We have sent a circular to all the locals which will explain in detail the plans for distributing relief, and I trust when you hear it read there will be an end to dissatisfaction and misunderstanding. While we haven't got millions, we have enough to see to it that no miner will starve during the continuance of the strike. (Loud cheers.)"

"I want to appeal to men with means to refrain from applying for relief. Let the fund be used by those who are in absolute need of help. Be patient with your committee. Put your shoulder to the wheel and do your share of the work. Don't depend together on your officers to win your help. If we are to win we must all help."

"The one among you who violates the law is the worst enemy you have. No one is more pleased that the operators in New York to hear of the disorder in the coal regions. I want our men to exercise their rights that inure to them under the laws, but I want that no man shall transgress the laws."

"The strike will be won. (Loud and long cheers.) I have no more doubt about it than I have that I am standing here addressing you."

"If you lose the strike, the operators will make you pay for their strike losses by reducing your wages. And, if you lose the strike, you lose your organization. I trust and hope and constantly pray you will stand as you did in 1900." (Cheers and cries of "We will!")

COLONEL LYNCH HELD FOR TRIAL

Denies Having Had Any Mission From Leyds to the Transvaal.

London.—Colonel Arthur Lynch, the Nationalist member of the Parliament who is accused of high treason during the Boer War, was taken to Bow Street Police Court and committed for trial.

Before the Court committed him Colonel Lynch made a long statement, in which he said he had gone to South Africa under contract with the Paris Journal, and that he had not expected to stay more than two months. He also arranged to serve several American publications. He denied that he saw Dr. Leyds, the Boer agent, before starting, and he asserted he had no mission from Leyds to the Transvaal.

The Colonel was visited in his cell before going to court by W. H. K. Redmond and other Nationalist leaders.

OUR UNUSUAL WEATHER

A Scientist Says That It is Not Due to Planetary Changes.

Doubts Whether Seismic Disturbances Are the Cause of the Summer's Extraordinary Rainfalls.

Geneva, N. Y.—As to whether the peculiar weather conditions of the present summer are due in whole or in part to the seismic disturbances so universally manifested of late and to the volcanic eruptions of the present year is a question which is absorbing the attention of scientists. It has been said that the unusual weather, cloudbursts, cyclones, terrible thunder storms and other atmospheric disturbances were due to planetary changes, but Dr. William R. Brooks, Director of Smith Observatory, in this city, and one of the world's best known astronomers, asserts that there can be no positive connection between the movements of the planets and the weather of this globe. Dr. Brooks said:

"I do not believe in the theory that the planets influence our atmosphere, nor do I believe that the commonly accepted idea about the effect of the moon on our weather conditions should be seriously considered. I know that my assertion that the moon can have no effect on our weather will be scouted in some quarters, but I am firmly convinced that such is the case. There have been no marked changes in the planetary system of late such as would lead an astronomer to believe that the planets are responsible for the present weather conditions."

Asked whether he thought it possible that the recent seismic disturbances or earthquakes and the volcanic eruptions had anything to do with the weather, Dr. Brooks replied that he was not prepared to submit an opinion for publication. Dr. Brooks recalled the eruption of Krakatau in 1883, when thousands of people were killed. Following that eruption there was wide remark on the coloring of the western sky at sunset. All that summer the sunsets were a blood red and scientists everywhere were trying to explain the phenomenon.

It was held in some quarters," said Dr. Brooks, "that the red sunsets were caused by the dust from the volcano, but I never accepted that statement as true. The fact that before the eruption an article had sketched and painted the peculiar sunset seems to have exploded the theory. However, I have kept careful watch for the same phenomena since the eruption of Mount Pelee, and I shall continue to do so for the reason that I may have been mistaken. As yet I have failed to observe any marked change in the color of the western sky."

GENERAL SMITH LEARNS FATE.

Gets First News of His Retirement as Transport Nears Shore.

San Francisco, Cal.—Standing on the bridge of the transport Thomas, eagerly waiting with the ship's captain, for a glimpse of his native shore, General Jacob H. Smith, who was tried by court-martial for having ordered the Island of Samar transformed into "a howling wilderness," was doomed to learn that the President had retired him from active duty. The pilot boat which met the Thomas just outside the heads at 2 o'clock a. m. brought to General Smith the first news of the President's action. In the falling light of a binnacle lamp the veteran read the message that apprised him of his fate.

Six hours later, when the Thomas reached the quarantine station in the harbor, Major Duval, of the transport service, boarded the ship with his Secretary and met General Smith at the door of his cabin. A sealed document from the War Department was handed to General Smith. It contained the official notification of President Roosevelt's action, and upon reading it General Smith retired, overcome with emotion.

Upon landing General Smith, with his wife, immediately repaired to a hotel. Repeated efforts made to induce him to discuss his campaign in the Philippines and his court-martial failed entirely. He even declined to take up the subject with intimate friends.

STRANGE FREAK OF A STORM.

Great Fissure Discovered in the Ground at Troy, Ill.—Its Origin a Mystery.

Troy, Ill.—During a severe electrical storm here a cross-shaped fissure was formed in the ground near the school building, one arm of which is forty feet long and about six inches wide, and the other twenty feet long and six inches wide. Where the arms of the cross converge there is a hole two feet in diameter, and a line 150 feet long weighted with lead did not touch bottom.

The theory is advanced that a bolt of lightning entered the ground, yet those in the vicinity assert that no unusual bolt of lightning was noticed during the storm.

SHAKE-UP IN MINNEAPOLIS.

Acting Mayor Fires Chief of Police Ames, Brother of the Mayor, Who Resigned.

Minneapolis, Minn.—The resignation of Mayor Ames has been followed by a shake-up in the police force. The acting Mayor has forced Chief of Police Ames, the former Mayor's brother, to resign. He has appointed a new Chief and has fired Police Captain Flobert, "Coffee John," who was Mayor Ames's pet captain.

All this is the result of the bribery charges against Mayor Ames, his brother and various members of the Police Department.

TOWN SHAKEN TO PIECES

A Heavy Earthquake Shock Caused Terror in Los Alamos, Cal.

BIG FISSURES IN THE EARTH

Every Brick Structure in Los Alamos Either Demolished or Seriously Damaged—People Fled in Panic From Their Homes—Shocks Not So Severe at Other Towns—No Lives Lost.

Santa Barbara, Cal.—A severe earthquake shock was felt throughout the Santa Barbara Valley, and at Los Alamos, a town of 600 inhabitants, every brick building was wrecked. At that place the shock lasted half a minute. The damage to property is estimated to be over \$30,000.

Throughout a strip nearly twenty miles long and four miles wide the earth was rent with wide, deep fissures, and the character of the country was changed. Hills sprang up as if by magic.

The seismic disturbances continued with but slight interruption until shortly before noon, many light shocks being felt. The first shock, which was so severe as to throw persons out of their beds at Los Alamos, was the most severe. About seventy-five shocks have been felt there since July 27.

The whole of Santa Barbara County was affected, reports of the earthquake coming from Lompoc, Santa Ynez, Ballard and other small towns. In this city the shock was slight.

The population of Los Alamos was panic-stricken. Many of the inhabitants have left the town. The Western Union Oil Company is the heaviest loser, two of its immense storage tanks being demolished, releasing thousands of gallons of oil.

No lives are known to have been lost, though there were many narrow escapes. Every brick building in the town was destroyed or badly wrecked. In nearly every house windows were broken. The Presbyterian Church, a large and handsome brick structure, was razed to the ground and a similar fate befell the general store of W. S. Wickenden, also a brick building.

The shock seems to have had a spiral motion. Goods were hurled from shelves of stores and piled in the middle of the rooms. Even such heavy articles as desks were thrown about. Not a chimney is left standing in the town. All brick walls are badly damaged, but frame structures generally escaped serious injury.

Many people appealed to President Benjamin H. Wheeler, of the University of California, for advice, and he told them to leave their homes. This, if anything, added to the panic.

On the following day four severe shocks of earthquakes were felt in Los Alamos Valley, and several buildings not already destroyed were cracked badly. One immense structure, a short distance from Los Alamos, was turned partly around on its foundations. Everybody who could left Los Alamos, many departing on a special train sent from San Luis Obispo.

Los Alamos is the centre of a large oil producing territory. It is situated in the Los Alamos Valley, one of the most productive valleys in the State, wheat, olives and citrus fruits being produced in abundance.

A CHILD HEROINE

Ten-Year-Old Girl Saves Her Baby Sister From Infracted Bull.

Rochester, N. Y.—Ten-year-old Flora Williams, of Aristotle, hearing screams from the cow pasture, arrived just in time to see her baby sister tossed in the air by a vicious bull.

Without a moment's hesitation the girl grasped a stick, and, springing into the inclosure, rushed at the bull, which was making ready to toss the baby again. At the sight of the newcomer the bull diverted his attention from the baby, and with lowered head charged the girl, who calmly invited his coming. As the maddened animal dashed up the child poised her stick, and when the bull was three feet away she poked it directly into one of his eyes. The pain caused the animal to desist from further attacks, and hastily catching her little sister in her arms Flora ran from the field, little the worse for her encounter.

The baby, while badly bruised, will probably recover.

NEGRO LYNCHED IN VIRGINIA.

Alleged Murderer Taken From a Jail and Hanged by a Mob.

Washington, D. C.—There was a lynching within twenty-five miles of Washington, when a Virginia mob of 150 white men took Charles Craven, a negro, accused of the murder of William Wilson, from the jail at Leesburg, hanged him to a tree and fired five hundred bullets into his body as soon as he was suspended.

Craven took to the woods, and for three days had been chased by bloodhounds. His pursuers had an understanding that if it was necessary to shoot the negro, they would try not to wound him mortally, in order that he might be lynched.

When captured Craven was more than half dead from exposure. He had not eaten for several days.

COINAGE FOR JULY.

A statement issued by the Treasury Department, at Washington, shows that during the month of July the coinage executed in the United States mint aggregated 16,566,000 pieces and was valued at \$4,576,800.

MINOR EVENTS OF THE WEEK

WASHINGTON ITEMS.

President Roosevelt approved the court-martial sentences of Major Glenn and Lieutenant Gault for cruelty to Filipinos, and disapproved the acquittal of Lieutenant Cook.

It was stated that Consul-General Bragg was likely to be recalled or transferred from Havana as a result of his criticism of the Cubans.

The Catholic Missionary Union received a gift of \$10,000 for the establishment of the apostolic mission house which is to be opened for the training of Roman Catholic priests.

Secretary Shaw denied that he had established a five-year service limit in the Treasury Department.

Hannis Taylor, former Minister to Spain, was reappointed as Special Counsel for the Department of Justice before the Spanish Treaty Claims Commission.

The Court of Inquiry which investigated the grounding of the battleship Illinois, while entering Christiania recently, found that no blame attached to the officers or crew.

OUR ADOPTED ISLANDS.

The typhoon which prevailed over Central Luzon for some days subsided. A quiet meeting in opposition to the friars was held at Manila.

An analysis of the water at Manila showed that it was uncontaminated.

A native, reared as a Christian in Spain, was said to be the Sultan of the mysterious race of white Filipinos in the Island of Mindanao.

Over 7000 cigar makers went on strike at Manila.

The bodies of the teachers murdered in the Philippines will be brought to the United States.

The Civil Service Commission issued a statement expressing gratification at the remarkable showing made by native Porto Ricans in the postal service examinations recently held at San Juan.

Ross Douglas, formerly Treasurer of the Island of Cebu, P. I., was found guilty of embezzlement.

DOMESTIC.

An unknown negro, apparently without cause, shot and killed Arthur A. Schelder, at Chicago, and escaped.

Albert Edward Tower, whose wife killed her son and herself at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., last April, will wed Miss Mary Towne Degardus, a former telephone girl.

A premature blast at the Clay Mine, New Cumberland, W. Va., killed two miners, who leave large families.

Angry from drinking, John Dickenson shot and killed Roe and Jack Dyer at a picnic at Vanceburg, Ky.

Bad feeling over a lawsuit caused the murder of Sherman Dyer by Berry Deahue at Luttrell, Tenn.

The Coroner's Jury that investigated the Johnstown, Pa., mine disaster, exonerated the company from blame.

William J. White, cashier of the Board of Public Works at San Francisco, Cal., had disappeared and it was officially announced that he was several thousand dollars short in his accounts.

The cloudburst in New York State effected nearly eighty square miles of territory and caused nearly \$250,000 damage.

Because of ill health Police Justice J. McKenney White declined the police marshmanship of Baltimore, Md.

Incedaries almost succeeded in blowing up Fort Stevens, a new military post near Astoria, Ore., and left a threatening letter.

The Common Pleas Court, at Cambridge, Ohio, decided that the municipal local option law enacted last winter, known as the Beal law, is constitutional.

Julia Pigg, colored, was fined \$5 by Police Judge McCann at Louisville, Ky., because she maliciously sat on the cat of a neighbor with whom she had quarrelled.

The Republicans of Morris County, Kan., nominated Miss Kate Beering for Treasurer.

As a result of a water famine, Trinidad, Col., was without fire protection, and water for domestic purposes had to be purchased by the bucketful.

Mrs. Elizabeth Chase Ingalls, mother of the late Senator Ingalls, died in Haverhill, Mass.

Lightning killed E. White, a farmer, and his son, at Indianapolis, Ind.

FOREIGN.

The freedom of the city of Edinburgh, Scotland, was conferred on the Colonial Premiers.

The provisional government of Haiti declared General Firman, the revolutionary leader, an outlaw.

Anxiety was expressed in Paris regarding the results of the Anglo-Japanese agreement on Korea.

The Costa Rican Government, it was announced, will grant Chile a coaling station on Cocos Island, in the Pacific.

Insurgents in Venezuela defeated reinforcements on the way to General Castro, and captured a quantity of ammunition.

Successful experiments in wireless telephony over a distance of more than four miles were reported from Berlin.

President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, commuted the death sentence of Dr. Wilson Russell, an American.

Mr. Balfour declined in the House of Commons to explain the Government's relations with the Morgan shipping combine.