

Downers Grove Reporter.

By HUGH M. WHITE.

DOWNERS GROVE, ILLINOIS.

NEWS OF THE WORLD

Industrial, Political, Domestic and Foreign Happenings of Minor Importance Told in Paragraphs.

An entire block at Houston, Texas, including business houses and residences, was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$150,000. Several persons are unaccounted for, but no bodies have been found.

The Brazilian legation at Paris has issued a statement that there is no such republic as "the Free State of Cunani," as was declared by a man calling himself its president, and that the territory belongs to Brazil.

M. L. Lockwood, one of the largest operators in the Kansas oil fields, has failed, with estimated liabilities of \$250,000 and assets of \$100,000.

Iowa lawyers declare thirty-three members of the Iowa house are not entitled to their seats, because of population deficiencies in their districts. Heat and light at the Central Indiana hospital for the insane at Indianapolis have been restored, after having been cut off by the flood, and a panic among the frightened inmates has been averted.

A porter on the Continental limited West Shore train, bound for New York, was found to be sick with small-pox and was taken off at Syracuse, N. Y. Five passengers were quarantined in a tourist car.

Fire in the First Christian church at Logan, Iowa, during services, caused a panic among the congregation. No one was hurt, but many persons had narrow escapes. The loss is \$10,000.

Charles Kramer, a rich lumber merchant of Wisconsin, is hurrying to Washington to ask the president to secure a stay of execution for Edward Stoltz, an old schoolmate, who has been condemned to be shot Feb. 14 in the City of Mexico for a double murder.

In a fight in St. Louis Joseph Litter, proprietor of the Bachelor hotel, on Olive street, was shot and killed, and Police Officer Edward Mackeele was shot and seriously wounded.

Fred B. Havens, a Kansas City insurance man, is under arrest in St. Louis on the charge of obtaining \$662.90 from H. L. Bright of Carthage, Mo., on false pretenses. Havens denies the charge and declares he will be able to satisfactorily explain the matter.

George Bearskin, principal chief of the Seneca Indians, has been found dead by the roadside near Cayuga, I. T. It is supposed he lost his way and was frozen to death.

Will county Republicans will meet Feb. 15 to select delegates to the state, senatorial and congressional conventions. The primaries will be held Feb. 12.

A temporary injunction restraining E. H. Sothern, actor, from using or disposing of a drama entitled "A Holiday's Diversion" was granted by Judge Kirby at Louisville, Ky., to E. D. Schoonmaker of Lexington. The petition asks that if Mr. Sothern refuses to return the manuscript the petitioner be granted damages and compensation.

Federal grand jury at Kansas City threatens wholesale indictments of express agents who have sold liquor in Kansas and the prohibition counties of Texas.

Senator William A. Clark of Montana, Mrs. T. De Witt Talmage and Miss Talmage of Washington have sailed on the steamship Trinidad for Bermuda.

Fire drills have been inaugurated in the public schools of Neenah and Menasha, Wis., and gongs and special alarms have been placed in all the school buildings.

The police authorities of El Paso, Tex., have located W. R. Eaves, a bank employe of Arlington, Tex., who is alleged to have absconded with \$3,000 of the funds of the bank with which he was connected. Eaves is said to be at Torreón, Mexico, and steps have been taken to effect his arrest and extradition.

The pope issued an order by which the congregation of indulgences and sacred relics is united with the congregation of rites. Cardinal Cretoni, the prefect of the latter congregation, will be prefect of the united congregations, but as he is seriously ill Cardinal Tripepi, now prefect of the congregation of indulgences and sacred relics, has been appointed pro-prefect of the United congregations.

The second trial of prisoners connected with the Kishineff massacre has not yet begun and the date of resumption is not known at St. Petersburg.

Captain George F. Wilde, now captain of the Boston navy yard, has been selected to succeed Rear Admiral Sigbee as commandant of the League Island navy yard.

The combination of independent plate glass manufacturers, which has been under discussion at Pittsburgh, Pa., has been perfected. It will be known as the United Plate Glass company. The object is to market the entire product of the nine concerns that compose it.

Fire destroyed a block of buildings at Lakeland, Fla., causing a loss of \$75,000.

Orders to the houses of Charles R. Kelly it was decided to postpone the trial case against him at St. Louis until some time in April.

LOSS OF \$200,000,000 CAUSED BY FIRE IN HISTORIC CITY OF BALTIMORE, MD.

Flames Rage Unchecked from the Heart of the Business District to the Water's Edge.

Seventy-five Blocks, on Which Stood the Finest Buildings in the City, Are Completely Wiped Out.

GREAT FIRES IN AMERICA

Table listing major fires in America with dates, locations, and estimated losses. Includes entries for New York (1835), Chicago (1871), Boston (1872), Ottawa (1890), Jacksonville (1891), Paterson (1892), and Baltimore (1901).

The people of Baltimore were at worship when the flames broke out at 11 o'clock Sunday morning, Feb. 7—the outbreak of one of the worst visitations of flame the cities of the world have known.

Just a few moments after 11 o'clock, a terrific explosion, shaking the city to its foundations, gave the first warning of the fire. There was a sharp, splitting roar that went up with reverberating thunder.

It brought the city to its feet in terror. In a trice the churches were emptied. Panic seized the great congregations and emptied screaming, frantic men and women into the streets.

In a few moments the pavements were crowded with excited people. There was another deafening roar, a whistling crash and then columns of smoke shot up over the central section of the city. Showers of red-hot cinders and flaming debris began to fall over the city, sent upward and down like showers from a volcano's crater.

By this time only the fire had been located. It was found that the great wholesale house of John E. Hurst & Co. in Hopkins place, near Hanover street, was in flames.

The flames swept from this building with terrific fierceness. By the time the firemen were on the scene the large building adjoining, occupied by the William Roch Importing Company, was a fiery furnace. The Hurst building was in ruins in less than thirty minutes, gutted and crumbled by the fierce sweep of the flames.

Fire gongs were clattering, calling every available piece of fire apparatus in Baltimore to the scene. The flames had swept across the street and a half dozen structures were burning. The Stanley & Brown Drug Company's building was wrecked at a breath. Buildings along Baltimore street, the city's central business thoroughfare, were caught up by the fire as if they were portions of a great string of giant fire crackers.

The most desperate efforts of the firemen availed nothing. The flames rolled on, catching up other buildings with every sweep of the wind. Crash after crash shook the streets, telling of terrific explosions, and building after building was swallowed by the flames.

Telegrams of appeal were sent to Washington and Philadelphia. New York was begged to lend aid. Quick responses were received. Six engines were hurried from Washington by special train. Four were brought in from Philadelphia.

The fire plugs were found to be too limited in number. Every plug within a three-quarter mile radius of the seething furnace had been tapped and 250 lines of hose were playing on the flames. But the fire swept on unchecked. The temporary custom house, opposite the city hall and the postoffice, was claimed.

In Baltimore street every building from Liberty to Sharp street was set afire. Then the flames swept down and caught up the next block east to Hanover.

At 3 o'clock there came another roaring explosion. More than 150 barrels of whisky stored in the upper floors of the building at 24 Hanover street exploded. Tons of burning matter, flowing like lava from a crater, were thrown across the street and on to the roofs of adjoining buildings, spreading fire and heat.

This new burst of flame quivered

under the storm of water thrown on the fire, defied it and began to eat up the buildings on the east side of Hanover street.

Here the fireman had sought to make a stand and to make Hanover street the eastern boundary of the fire-swept zone. Their efforts were as nothing.

The \$4,000,000 marble courthouse, the pride of all Baltimoreans, and the handsomest court building in the world, caught fire time and again, but men volunteered to do all they could to save it. The great dome of the city hall and the turrets of the Federal building rose high above the sea of flame while "Big Ben" of the city clock banged out the hours that marked the progress of the fire.

Fire Chief Horton, fighting like a demon, was disabled by a live electric wire. Mayor McLane never faltered, but took personal command of the fire brigades, his clothing soaked with water, his hat gone and his body wet to the skin. His efforts roused the cheers of hundreds of volunteers, who worked until the sweat dropped from their faces and their bodies were wet, in the effort to check the roaring furnace.

All the afternoon was one story—desperate, determined fight. And all the efforts of these firemen and the hundreds of volunteers had counted for nothing. At 6 o'clock Fire Chief Horton determined to use new tactics. It was decided to fight the flames with dynamite.

Building after building was wrecked, hundreds of pounds of dynamite being used to blow the structures to ruins, hoping to place a gap in the pathway of the flames. It was the tactics used by the pioneer to check the prairie fire—his plowing of furrows about his homestead and turn-

water supply many engines were compelled to withdraw from the fight.

Salt water was drawn from the mains and the fight went on, but only those engines that were brass lined and could withstand the chemical action of the mineral could keep up the pumping of tons of water on the crackling flames.

In the throng that fought with the police were many who began to sing hymns and to pray. At many corners groups knelt in the street and offered appeals to the Almighty. From line to line hymns were taken up.

By 10:30 o'clock the flames had crossed Howard street along Fayette street. The blazing cauldron was spreading its borders further to the west and southward.

By 11 o'clock p. m. it was admitted that the business district was doomed. Firemen, with dynamite and hose, turned their attention to confining the flames to this central zone.

Maddened by fear and excitement, the crowds began to get beyond the control of the police. Crazed men and women forced the police lines aside, and firemen found it difficult to work in the confusion.

Mayor McLane acted quickly. At his orders the commanding officers of the Fourth and Fifth regiments were reached. By word of mouth practically the call was passed about, ordering the men of these two regiments to report at their armories.

In the meantime a hurried call had been sent to Fort Henry. Word was sent that the situation was urgent. It was feared that great loss of life might result if the crowds became unmanageable.

Orders were given at the fort and shortly afterward 200 United States regulars tramped through Baltimore's blackened streets, muskets on shoul-

"Fireproof" Structures Wither and Tumble Before the Fierce Breath of the Advancing Fire.

City at Once Placed Under Martial Law—Offers of Assistance Come From All the World.

buildings of Baltimore's business district, had been swept to a blackened heap of wreckage.

Just five minutes before noon the statement again was given out that the fire was under control and would be kept within the district outlined.

At 1 o'clock in the afternoon, with regular and state troops everywhere about the devastated district, with business paralyzed at a blow and the streets crowded with awe-stricken people, Baltimore stood a stricken, desolate city.

Desperate efforts of firemen and volunteers held the flames in check for but a short time, however. Slowly, fanned by the winds that swept the fire southward, the flames regained their former volume. The firemen were driven back again, the heat forcing them to give way inch by inch.

Sweeping toward the docks on the basin at Pratt street, new material was added to the fire and the flames leaped skyward again with all their former fury.

On the water front a seething furnace of flame was formed. The great mills there, a half dozen steamships, the wharves laden with tons of cotton and merchandise and warehouses crammed to the roofs with goods in storage, all offered a mighty feast to this banquet of flame.

The flames spread here with appalling rapidity. The docks of a half dozen steamship lines, including the Ocean Steamship Company, the Chesapeake & Atlantic, the Norfolk, Baltimore & Atlantic, were licked up within a half hour.

The fire then seized upon the cotton wharves and warehouses, laden with thousands of bales of cotton. The dry cotton was like so much oil added to the flames. All human appliances and human effort seemed powerless to check the red destroyer. The weary fire fighters were drawn back and their efforts again directed to hemming in the flames to burn themselves out along the water front.

In the early afternoon the winds, driving the flames along and fanning the fire to fury, became shifting. Warning was sent to East Baltimore that the flames might leap the Jones Falls at any time and begin their sweep of destruction among the blocks of frame houses on the east side of that stream.

At 2:40 p. m. the fire had been checked and begun burning itself out. The last places to go were the icehouses and coalyard of the American Ice Company. The coalyard, which spread out about 200 yards south of the icehouse, was the means of staying the march of the flames on the south and Jones Falls on the east. The Norfolk wharf of the Baltimore Steam Packet Company, which was stocked with barrels of rosin and other miscellaneous merchandise was destroyed before the fire had attacked the merchandise company's property. It took

Corner of Hurst Building.

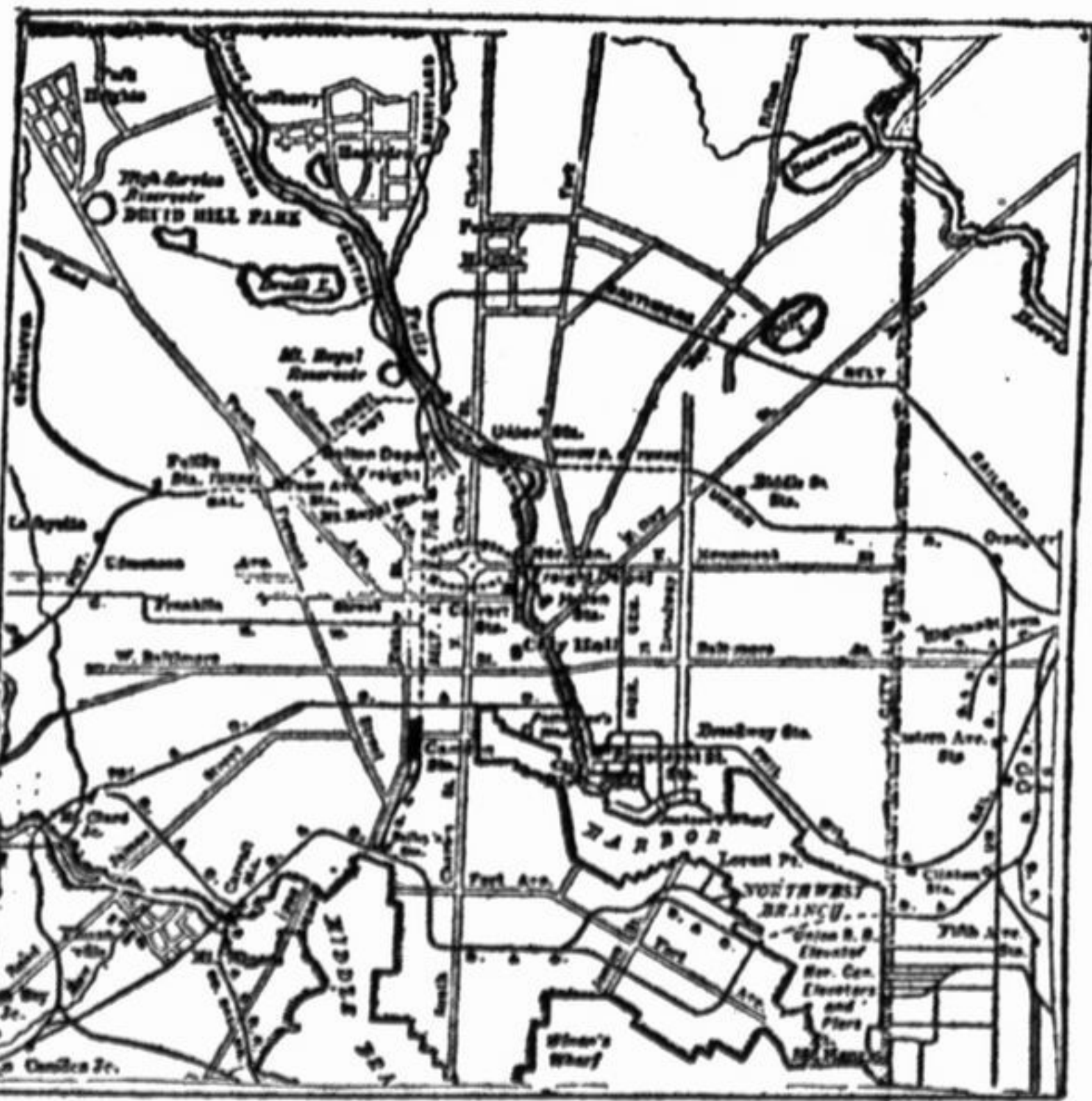


Where the fire started at 11 a. m. Sunday, Feb. 7.

twenty-seven hours to stop the progress of the great fire.

At least 50,000 men and women employed in the wholesale district are forced out of employment and many are in want. Hardly a fireman but suffered some physical injury during the fight against the flames.

AREA OF BALTIMORE FIRE.



Showing the Location of the Burned District.

ing up a strip of the black earth so that the flames might die for lack of grass on which to fasten its fiery fangs.

A conference of the fire chiefs was held. It was decided that the one chance of staying progress in that direction lay in sacrificing the splendid structure occupied by J. W. Putts & Co., notion dealers.

One hundred pounds of dynamite were placed in position. A fuse was applied. Then, as the police drove back the crowds there came a crash of thunder and the building lay in ruins. But even this heroic remedy failed materially to check the fire. It delayed the sweep of the flames, but only temporarily. The firemen were brought to a halt, practically powerless to make even the slightest resistance to the roaring furnace that was sending its flames 200 feet into the air.

By 7 o'clock, an hour after the fighting of the flames with dynamite had begun, forty buildings lay in ashes. A dozen blocks had been devastated. A high southwest wind swept the flames on to spread greater ruin.

By 8 o'clock in the evening, an hour later, the territory bounded by Lexington, Saratoga and Baltimore streets on the north—these streets running east and west through the business district—and by Liberty, Howard and other thoroughfares further west and south, was in flames.

Down Baltimore street, the pride of the city, roared parallel waves of crackling, consuming flames. The maddening work of firemen could do nothing to check it.

At this time a cry went up that struck terror through the heart-sick, frightened crowds that jammed the streets, their bowed heads dodging the blazing rain of cinders. "The water supply has given out," was the word that went down the fire lines and was communicated to the crowds, to be sent from lip to lip.

The fresh water supply had given out wholly. Baltimore had spent \$11,000,000 on its water system, yet that great reservoir had been sucked dry in the desperate fight on the flames. Almost four hundred leads of hose had been draining this great supply and hurled the millions of gallons of water on the flames. But the efforts had been of no avail. With the exhaustion of the fresh

A WOMAN'S MISERY.



Mrs. John La Rue, of 115 Paterson avenue, Paterson, N. J., says: "I was troubled for about nine years, and what I suffered none will ever know. I used about every known remedy that is said to be good for kidney complaint, but without deriving permanent relief. Often when alone in the house the backache has been so bad that it brought tears to my eyes. The pain at times was so intense that I was compelled to give up my household duties and lie down. There were headaches, dizziness and blood rushing to my head to cause bleeding at the nose. The first box of Doan's Kidney Pills benefited me so much that I continued the treatment. The stinging pain in the small of my back, the rushes of blood to the head, and other symptoms disappeared."

Doan's Kidney Pills for sale by all dealers. 50 cents per box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Power in Pound of Coal.

There are 10,000 units in a pound of average coal, a chunk as big as a man's fist, which, if properly expended, will give a fraction over 236 horsepower. The trouble is that we have not yet devised the means of extracting its fullest power. That pound of coal will do as much work—always if properly expended—as 100 men, putting forth their mightiest efforts, for four months.

Arid Lands Made Fruitful.

Those parched, dry, arid plains of Mont., Colo., Ariz., Idaho and other dry lands respond quickly and give a big yield when planted to Salzer's Speltz, Hanna Barley, Macaroni Wheat, 60 Day Earliest Oats, Billion Dollar Grass and Bromus Inermis. Above sent and flourish and laugh at droughts and arid soils.

JUST SEND 10c IN STAMPS and this notice to John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., for their big catalog and farm seed samples. (W. N. U.)

The Silver Lining Theory.

Dr. James E. Kelly, the well-known New York surgeon, was discussing the fall and decline of professional men.

"Still, there's a silver lining to every cloud," said he. "For instance, there's a conductor on a Broadway car who used to be a throat specialist in Harlem."

"How does the silver-lining theory apply?"

"Oh, he doesn't look as much down in the mouth as he used to," replied the doctor.

Centenarians of Different Nations.

More people over 100 years old are found in mild climates than in the higher latitudes. According to the last census of the German Empire, of a population of 55,000,000 only seventy-eight have passed the hundredth year. France, with a population of 40,000,000, has 213 centenarians. In England there are 146; in Ireland, 578; and in Scotland, forty-six. Sweden has ten and Norway twenty-three. Belgium five, Denmark two, Switzerland none. Spain, with a population of 18,000,000, has 401 persons over 100 years of age. Of the 2,250,000 inhabitants of Servia, 575 have passed the century mark.

Largest Motor in the World.

It is in the huge forests of Canada where the biggest motors in the world are seen. They have been specially designed by a Chicago inventor for hauling logs over snow and rough roads. One of these machines is capable of dragging a train of 200 tons weight of logs at a speed of twelve miles an hour. It is the only machine in existence that will draw a heavy load through 3 feet of snow and over stumps and logs a foot in height. It is of twenty-five tons weight and 200 horsepower. It travels on four runners, with a traction wheel in the center weighing seven tons. The machinery is enclosed in a box-like affair, giving the motor a somewhat strange appearance as it makes its way along the forest roads.

WELL POSTED.

A California Doctor With 40 Years' Experience.

"In my 40 years' experience as a teacher and practitioner along hygienic lines," says a Los Angeles physician, "I have never found a food to compare with Grape-Nuts for the benefit of the general health of all classes of people. I have recommended Grape-Nuts for a number of years to patients with the greatest success and every year's experience makes me more enthusiastic regarding its use."

"I make it a rule to always recommend Grape-Nuts and Postum Food Coffee in place of coffee when giving my patients instructions as to diet, for I know both Grape-Nuts and Postum can be digested by anyone."

"As for myself, when engaged in much mental work my diet twice a day consists of Grape-Nuts and rich cream. I find it just the thing to build up gray matter and keep the brain in good working order."

"In addition to its wonderful effects as a brain and nerve food Grape-Nuts always keeps the digestive organs in perfect, healthy tone. I carry it with me when I travel, otherwise I am almost certain to have trouble with my stomach." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Strong Indorsements like the above from physicians all over the country have stamped Grape-Nuts the most scientific food in the world.

There's a reason. Look in each pkg. for the famous little book, "The Road to Wellbeing."