

COOL AND FLAMES

Priest's Presence of Mind Saves Church Panic.

FATHER GOLLER'S HEROIC WORK

With Vestments Licked by Flames the Celebrant Calmly Continues Services Until Fire is Restored and the Fire Extinguished.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—While his vestments were being licked by flames, Father Goller, of Spokane, calmly continued services in St. Boniface's Catholic Church at Uniontown, on Christmas eve. He only desisted when the heat became unbearable and his robes had been set afire in several places. But in the meantime his courageous example had calmed a panic among the 400 people, and the fire was extinguished without any one suffering, except the priest, who has a number of small burns on his hands.

While the choir was chanting the "Kyrie," some of the decorations surrounding the main altar became ignited from a candle. In a few minutes the entire upper portion of the altar was a mass of flames. The cry of fire was quickly raised, and men, women and children arose, eager to make for the doors in the rear, while the choir sought safety in the sacristy.

Father Faust, local pastor, came from the choir loft and, in an imperative tone, bid all present to be seated, assuring them that there was no danger. Father Goller, of Spokane, the celebrant, calmly continued the services until forced to retire from the altar, after his vestments had been burned in several places. Meantime the agitation quieted, aisles were cleared and order restored.

Men came to the assistance of the priest, and in half an hour the fire was extinguished, with a loss of \$400. Service was then resumed. A statue of rare value was destroyed, and the main altar and surroundings were damaged.

PLATINUM IN DOUGLAS.

Philadelphia Men Demonstrate Its Existence in Southern Oregon.

GRANT'S PASS, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Walter F. Smith and son, of Philadelphia, representatives of the Weisbach Gas Fitting Company, who have been mining in Josephine County for the past year, have succeeded in demonstrating the fact that platinum is to be found in great quantity in the placers of Josephine, and that it can be saved. The work of these two men has been watched with great interest for many months past by mining men of this section of the state, and now, with the announcement that their experiments and tests have been a success, there will be a general mining activity for platinum in all the districts of Western Josephine County.

It was long ago known that a strange metal possessed of great value was contained in quantity in the black sand of the placers of the Illinois and Waldo. Being ignorant of this metal's identity and value the miners threw it from their sluices. The method of extracting the platinum from the black sand of the placers in which it is contained is one belonging entirely to the Weisbach Company. The beauty of it lies in the fact that the machines for catching the metal can be attached to the placer sluice and the platinum mined in connection with gold. This will be a great boon to the placer men of the Josephine placers, for Mr. Smith states that he feels confident platinum is to be found in all of the placer mines of Southern Oregon located on the coast channels, where the black sand is found, and nearly all of them are so located.

Mr. Smith attended the recent National Mining Congress at Butte, and exhibited a quantity of platinum he had taken from Josephine mines. He says it attracted great attention and excited more general comment in regard to the products of Oregon than anything else exhibited.

BOND ISSUE NOW CERTAIN.

Weiser City Waterworks to be Completed by May 15.

WEISER, Idaho, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—All Weiser is happy tonight after three elections to bond the city for water and electric lights. All of the bids carried, but through some technicality two were illegal, and at last the matter has been brought to a successful issue. The bond issue of \$40,000 has been sold, and today the contractor, B. C. White, of Baker City, signed a contract with the city for the construction of the water and electric systems and putting in and setting up the pumping plant. The contract calls for the completion of the system by May 15, 1903. The Oregon Short Line Railroad Company has leased to the city for a term of 50 years a strip of ground at the foot of the hill on which the pumping plant is to be located. The water will be taken from the Snake River. Filtering stations will be established on the island opposite the foot of Second street.

CARLOAD OF HORSES TO SEATTLE.

Heavy Draft Animals Go From Salem to Seattle.

SALEM, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—J. B. Canney, a wholesale dealer in horses at Seattle, today shipped to Seattle from Salem a carload of 15 head of horses and two mules. The shipment was one of the largest of its kind ever made from this point, and represented about \$200. Purchase was made of Skipton Bros., of this city, who had collected the animals from the farmers and the surrounding communities. The shipment included only heavy draft animals, and the horses are intended for use in the lumber camps on Puget Sound. The horses weigh all young, and average in weight from 1400 to 1800 pounds. The animals averaged Skipton Bros. about \$15 per head. Horses of this kind are becoming scarce in this section, and commanding high prices. Several other carloads have already been shipped to Seattle from this point.

MANAGER INSTITUTES LOCKOUT.

Walla Walla Ironmolders Were Preparing to Strike for 9 Hours.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 26.—In anticipation of a probable strike by the iron molders in the Gilbert Hunt Company's shops, the manager, Gilbert Hunt, Mayor of the City of Walla Walla, has instituted a lockout affecting 15 men. Mr. Hunt states that the company will not compromise, and that no submission is to be made. The men, who are members of the Tacoma Iron Molders' Union, are working 10 hours a day. They demanded a nine-hour day, in conformance with union regulations. The lockout is expected to last for a week, and the management declares it is merely a temporary shut-down for holidays.

CARVED HIS NAME ON A LOG.

Young Woman Sees It at Buffalo Fair and a Romance Follows.

PENDELTON, Or., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—In the Spring of 1901, when the Oregon exhibits were being shipped to the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, the train containing the immense timber exhibit, consisting of a marvellously large stick of Oregon fir, headed for Kamama for an hour or two. A locomotive fireman who was admiring the huge piece of timber at Kamela carved his name and address with a knife on it. A month later the former received a letter from a Buffalo young lady saying that the writer had been impressed with the size of the timber and also his name, and thought she would write him a friendly letter to that effect. A correspondence followed, a money order traveled to Buffalo, a young and winsome lady shortly arrived at Kamela, and a wedding ceremony ended the romance.

SUPPOSED GUN WAS UNLOADED.

Boy Accidentally Killed by Little Sister Playing With Rifle.

MISSOULA, Mont., Dec. 26.—Franklin Alexander Underwood, the 9-year-old son of James Underwood, was instantly killed today by a bullet from a .22 rifle, in the hands of his little sister. The gun was not thought to be loaded. The children, with Guy Toombs, a neighbor's boy, were playing in the room where Mrs. Underwood was sewing. The baby got the gun, and as one of the boys stepped on her hand she pulled the trigger. The bullet entered her brother's head and he fell dead in his mother's arms.

NOT FOR NATIONAL BANK.

District Court Decides Idaho License Does Not Apply.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 26.—Judge Stewart, of the District Court, has decided that the state law providing bank licenses does not apply to National banks. He has sustained the demurrers in the cases of the State versus the Boise City and the National Bank of Idaho. The state statutes to recover the amount of the license for some time back. Judge Stewart holds that section 164 of the Revised Statutes is not applicable to National banks, and that he is enforced against them being in contravention of the act of Congress establishing them.

COAST LINE IS CLEAR.

Great Northern Inland Towns Are Being Supplied Mail Overland.

DEAD AUDITOR WAS SHORT

LATE HENRY E. NELSON, OF ASTORIA, STOLE CITY WARRANTS. Examination of Books Shows Him Behind \$5000—Discovery a Sensation—Had People's Confidence.

ASTORIA, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Examination of the accounts of the late Auditor and Police Judge, Henry E. Nelson, show that he was short about \$5000. His defaultations cover a period of five or six years, and were the result of a thorough system of warrant raising. The Auditor bought warrants for local buyers, paying cash when claims were present. Afterwards he would draw the warrants payable to bearer, in increased amounts. Experts are at work on the books, and it is believed the shortage will be found to reach fully \$5000. His bondsmen will be held for the amounts stolen from 1906 to 1902. A few warrants thus fraudulently raised were presented to the City Treasurer this year. The discovery has created a sensation the late Auditor having enjoyed the unbounded confidence of the people. The city's loss will be small.

EARLY MORNING BLAZE.

Overturned Lamp Causes Fire in Astoria Dry Goods Store.

ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—A fire early yesterday morning, caused by an overturned lamp, did several thousand dollars' worth of damage to the dry goods and notions store of Mrs. E. Inleton, on North Washington street, in which the store is located. There was \$2000 worth of the stock which was damaged by fire and water, and this amount is expected to about cover the loss.

DEMOCRATS TO MEET AT BOISE.

Assembling of Central Committee January 6 Arouses Curiosity.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Chairman Donnelly, of the Democratic State Central Committee, has called the committee to meet January 6 in this city. At the meeting will occur the day after the assembling of the Legislature, considerable interest is aroused to know what the purpose of the meeting will be. There have been a great many rumors that the Democrats might play some part in the Senatorial contest, and the calling of the committee is thought to have some connection with that matter.

BICKLETON BREVITIES.

BICKLETON, Wash., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The hardware store of W. H. G. Carter, of Bickleton, was entered early Tuesday morning, and the safe blown open and burglarized.

The Pine Creek Mills changed hands Wednesday; consideration, \$12,000. McCooey & Sinclair are the purchasers.

James Van Noren was badly burned Tuesday by a gasoline lamp which he was filling. The burning gasoline went all over him, but luckily a crowd was the stouter of the crowd, and he was held and smothered the fire with blankets and coats. His eyelashes were burned off and his hands badly scorched.

The Pacific Packing & Navigation Company, which is next to the Alaska Packers' Association, the largest packer of salmon on the Pacific Coast, has had a representative recently in Astoria looking over the salmon-packing situation. It is now reported that this company, on the Columbia River, will erect before the opening of the next fishing season a large cannery near Astoria.

TO INVESTIGATE SEEPAGE.

Special Agent to Examine Irrigated Section of Yakima Valley.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Several days ago Congressman Jones, of the Alaska Packers' Association, sent the question of sending an irrigation or drainage expert to North Yakima to investigate and advise with the people there as to the best methods of drainage. The very serious problem of what to do with the seepage water from the irrigation ditches having arisen. Secretary Wilson has now informed Congressman Jones that Mr. C. Elliott, the drainage expert, has been directed to proceed to North Yakima for this purpose. It is understood by Mr. Jones and the department that Mr. Elliott will be prepared to turn in the ditches in the Spring.

Mr. Jones was not only successful in having the drainage expert ordered to North Yakima, but he has also had the Secretary agree to send Thomas H. Means, in charge of the Western division of soil survey, to Yakima and take up a small area of 40 acres of some of the best soil in the valley. Mr. Means will demonstrate to the people there the practical methods of reclamation.

Last year the Bureau of Soils made a soil survey of Yakima, and on the map of the area showing the condition of the soil as regards alkali and underground water has recently been published. This bureau already has reclassified the tract of land in the vicinity of Salt Lake City, Utah, and is now working on the reclamation of a small tract at Fresno, Cal., for the purpose of illustrating to the people of the West the practical and economic importance, as well as the commercial possibilities of reclaiming lands from alkali and seepage waters, and show them the best methods of doing the work. The soil survey will be finished about the 1st of April, at which time the Secretary promised Mr. Jones the party, in charge of Mr. Means, would be directed to proceed to Yakima.

TO OPERATE TROLLEY LINE.

Everett Company Incorporates With \$200,000 Capital.

EVERETT, Wash., Dec. 26.—The Snohomish Rapid Transit Company was incorporated today, with \$200,000 capital stock, to build trolley lines in Snohomish County. A survey of the work has been started, and the first line is expected to be behind the enterprise.

WISCONSIN PIONEER DEAD.

Hamilton Canning, 93 years old, a pioneer of Wood County, Wisconsin, is dead in this city. He was born in Montreal in 1809.

No Relief to Great Northern.

No relief has come to the Great Northern in the Cascades as yet, and trains are still coming in over the tracks of the Northern Pacific, as the bridge at Madison has not been rebuilt. No fresh snow has fallen, but chinook winds last night caused more slides. Large crews are still engaged in clearing snow from the tracks.

NOT KNOWN AT LOS ANGELES.

Nothing Definite About Prospective Appointment of Bishop Conaty.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26.—Bishop Montgomery, in discussing the forecast for the coming year, was favored as a candidate for appointment to the bishopric of Los Angeles, declared that there is nothing definitely known at Los Angeles about the prospective appointment, and says that the pope will not be influenced by current gossip. Although local priests are reticent about discussing the subject, it is understood that the Rev. Mr. Harasni, vicar-general of the diocese, is the favorite, so far as the clergy of Los Angeles is concerned.

TO ADVERTISE CLACKAMAS.

Real Estate Company Will Distribute Pamphlets in the East.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The first big effort that has been made for a long time to advertise Clackamas County in the East was made today, when C. N. Plovman & Co., a real estate firm of this city, contracted for the printing of 10,000 16-page descriptive pamphlets. This matter will be distributed and circulated widely in the Eastern and Middle Western States, and it is believed will be the means of bringing hundreds of settlers to this county. It is likely that within a short time other people interested in bringing immigration to this locality will begin to advertise this section.

TO OPEN COLVILLE LANDS

REPRESENTATIVE JONES HAS BILL BEFORE CONGRESS. Wants South Half of Indian Reservation Containing 1,500,000 Acres Thrown Open for Settlement.

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Be it enacted that, subject to the reservations and allotment of lands in severalty to the individual members of the Indians of the Colville reservation, in the State of Washington, herein provided for, all the south half of Colville reservation, containing by estimation 1,500,000 acres, the same being a portion of the Colville Indian reservation remaining unopened to settlement, be, and is hereby vacated and restored to the public domain, and the same shall be open to settlement and entry by the proclamation of the President of the United States, and shall be disposed of under the general laws applicable to the disposition of public lands in the State of Washington.

Sec. 2. That each and every Indian now residing upon the portion of the Colville Indian reservation hereby vacated and restored to the public domain, and who is so entitled to reside thereon, shall be entitled to select from said vacated portion 80 acres of land, which shall be allotted to each Indian in severalty. No restrictions as to locality shall be placed upon such selections other than that they shall be so located as to conform to the Congressional survey or subdivision of said tract, or country, and any Indian having improvements may have the preference over any other person in and to the tract of land containing such improvements, so far as they are within a legal subdivision not exceeding in area the quantity of land that he or she may be entitled to select and locate. All such allotments shall be made at the cost of the allottee, and such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may from time to time prescribe. Such selections shall be made within six months after the date of the President's proclamation, and such lands hereby vacated to settlement and entry, and after the same have been surveyed, and when such allotments have been selected as aforesaid and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, such reserved lands shall be subject to the laws of eminent domain of the State of Washington and shall, when conveyed in fee simple to the allottees or their heirs, be subject to taxation as other property in said State.

Sec. 3. That any of said lands now used and occupied for school purposes, and any lands now occupied by the agency buildings and situated on such reserved lands shall not exceed in the aggregate two sections, and must be selected in legal subdivisions conformable to the public surveys, such selection to be made by the Indian Agent of the Colville agency under direction of the Secretary of the Interior, and subject to his approval, provided, however, that said Indians may, in lieu thereof, select any or any of them, select other lands of equal quantity for such purposes on the vacated portions of said reservation, the same to be designated in legal subdivisions by said Indian Agent, and subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, in which case said first designated tracts shall not be exempt from the operation of this bill, such selection to be made and approved within six months after the survey of said lands and the proclamation of the President.

Sec. 4. That, for the purpose of making allotments and selections in this bill provided, including surveys of the lands provided to be vacated and restored to the public domain, \$50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 5. That nothing herein contained shall be construed as recognizing title or ownership of said Indians in any part of the said Colville reservation.

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Guglielmo Known at Vancouver.

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