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ports of Late Events.

BRIEF SPARKS FROM THE WIRES

Happenings of Interest in the Towns and

Cities of Oregon, Washington

and Idaho.

The Heppner, Or., school district

has voted in favor of an issue of \$6,000

of bonds.

A baby show on a large scale will

be held each evening of this week in the

Exposition building in Tacoma.

Lemati, Or., imposes a tax of \$1 on

dogs. After July 1 dog slaughter will

commence where the tax is unpaid.

The Dalles, Or., city council has

reduced the salary of recorder to \$50 a

month. His office hours are from 8 to

2 o'clock.

The Blue Canyon Coal Company has

received a trial order for 200 tons of

coal for use on the steamer City of

Kingston.

The Tacoma Mill Company has

placed an order for 2,500,000 feet of

choice timber, to be taken out around

Lake Whatcom.

The county court of Lincoln, Or.,

made no order at its last session in re-

gard to taxes, so that those in arrears

can settle at any time before August.

During the bicycle parade in Astoria

Monday night, some ruffian sprinkled

a lot of tacks along a part of the route

and a number of tires were punctured.

Arrangements are being made to

bore for coal on the marsh land adjoin-

ing the Beaver mill mine, Or., to de-

termine the depth the vein lies under

ground.

News was brought to Roseburg, Or.,

Wednesday that a tramp, while trying

to board a train near Glendale, missed

his hold, fell under the cars, was run

over and killed.

The new survey of Yaquina bay, Or.,

in charge of Mr. Holcombe, ordered

by the special board of engineers

who visited Newberg, May 11, will

soon be completed.

Walla Walla, Wash., has no engine

team or driver, and depends upon pri-

vate teams to pull her fire apparatus to

fires, by offering a reward to the first

team that gets on the ground.

The case of the South Bend, Wash,

water company against the city of

South Bend, for the collection of rental

on hydrants, has been decided in the

federal courts in favor of the city.

A petition for the pardon of a Walla

Walla prisoner named Genino, is being

circulated for signatures throughout

the state. Genino was convicted of

murder in Vancouver about twelve

years ago.

Tom Quaid, of Heppner, Or., who

has been for the past ten days in

Grant county endeavoring to purchase

5,000 head of yearling ewes, says there

is not an available market sheep in

the county.

James Maloney, a miner employed

in the old Cabell mine at Susanville,

Or., was badly injured by a cave-in,

while reworking timbers in the mine

last week. His leg was crushed and it

is not thought he will live.

A new industry developed at Ash-

land, Or., last week, three sacks of

turtles being shipped from that place

to San Francisco. The turtles were of

the ordinary "mud" variety caught in

Bear creek near the town.

An old dwelling in Spokane, Wash.,

commonly known as "the haunted

house," owned by Mrs. Henderson, of

Portland, burned Tuesday morning.

The building was considered an old

land mark. It was worth about \$1,600.

Owing to the frequent stage robberies

on the Ager-Klamath Falls line, and

the apparent indisposition of anybody

to ferret out the offenders, Wells, Fargo

& Co., have for the second time dis-

continued their express service into

Southern Oregon.

Suit has been brought in the superior

court of Pierce county by Archibald

Hassock, in behalf of himself and

others, against the Excelsior Park Land

Company, to recover on a mortgage for

\$50,000. There are more than 300

defendants to the action.

The Farmers' Alliance Implement

Company may have trouble collecting

insurance on its warehouse, recently

burned at Walla Walla, because the

building was on leased ground, and

was mortgaged, without giving due

notice to the insurance company.

In the Coos bay mail sack, which

was split open and robbed of its con-

tents last Thursday by the lone high-

wayman on Hoover hill, there were pen-

sion drafts for E. F. Walsh, Elizabeth

Rider, James Wells and John Cooper.

They are valueless to the robber.

The mining boom on the Methow

seems to have collapsed. The miners

in the Gray Eagle and several other

mines have quit work and filed lines

on the mines for money due them. This

added to the mining operations having

been discontinued on Slate creek, is

giving the camp a black eye.

A. J. Jackson, of Astoria, is said to

have discovered in this state a new

species of erythronium, of rosy pink

hue with an orange center; also, an

unknown variety of pine with needles

over a foot in length. This pine is

similar to, but not identical with, the

Jeffri, found only in California.

Chief of Police D. O. Smith, of Ta-

coma, Tuesday swore positively be-

fore the committee investigating the

alleged charge of bribery and corrup-

tion on the part of City Clerk Smith

and Councilman Thompson, that Smith

told him he gave Thompson \$135 to

vote for him (Smith) for city clerk.

M'GAUGHEY ACQUITTED.

The Slayer of Doctor Plouf Is Given

His Liberty.

San Francisco, June 24.—The case of

J. D. L. McGaughey, for the murder of

Dr. John E. Plouf, was given to the

jury at 6 o'clock this afternoon. The

jury after three ballots, acquitted Mc-

Gaughey, and the slayer of Dr. Plouf

was released from custody. On the first

two ballots three of the jurors voted to

find a verdict of manslaughter, but the

arguments of the nine others made

them vote for acquittal.

Almost the entire morning was de-

voted to the cross-examination of the

defendant. McGaughey made an excel-

lent witness. He stuck to the story

told on direct examination and the

prosecution found it impossible to trap

him into any damaging admissions.

He repeated the story of threats made

against him by the deceased and told

the jury that he was in fear of his life

for months before the fatal meeting

with Plouf.

This afternoon the state put Charles

S. Wilson on the stand to testify in re-

buttal and, before Colonel Eddy had

finished with the cross-examination,

Wilson turned out an excellent witness

for the defense. Wilson is the man

who was arrested in connection with

McGaughey for an alleged attempt to

blackmail Dr. Plouf. The case against

Wilson is still pending before Judge

Campbell, the defendant being released

upon his own recognizance. Wilson

admitted he blackmailed a man named

Curtis in Woodland, and that he did

so for the purpose of revenging himself

upon Plouf. He said he testified in the

police court against McGaughey at the

request of Plouf, who promised him

immunity from punishment for so do-

ing, and also agreed to give him (Wil-

son) certain letters and photographs

which Plouf had. The letters proved

that Wilson was wanted for forgery in

Seattle. Wilson said he obtained \$60

by blackmail from Curtis in Wood-

land. McGaughey knew nothing

whatever of his blackmail operations.

THE NEUTRALITY LAW.

Reason Why the Waco Bank Asked for

Instructions.

Waco, Tex., June 24.—John L.

Massey, cashier of the Farmers' & Mer-

chants' National bank of this city,

when asked of the circumstances which

led up to his letter to Attorney-General

Olney, published with the latter's reply

in the press dispatches, told the story

of the incident as follows:

"About two weeks ago two dark-

complexioned men, presumably Cubans,