

# Lots Near High School Grounds

I have for sale all of the lots belonging to Mrs. Hannah Tyszkiewicz, many of which are near the site of the high school. Now is the time to buy at reasonable prices and on easy terms. Make your selections before the best ones are gone.

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**GEO. H. SHINN, St. Helens, Oregon**

## REPORT FOREST FIRES

The State Forester is constantly getting notice through the press and from residents of the State of fires having gotten beyond control after several days fighting, that have not been reported to his office until after becoming a menace to the neighborhood. He wishes to urge upon all State fire wardens the necessity of reporting to him all fires as soon after being discovered as possible instead of waiting until they become dangerous to life and property. One such fire has just been brought to his notice after having burned three weeks, that might have then controlled and probably entirely extinguished if reported earlier so that proper assistance could have been given.

Every State fire warden, or other persons, in case they are unable to get in touch with a State warden, should telephone or telegraph (collect) F. A. Elliott State Forester, Salem, Oregon, informing him of forest fires before they get beyond control.

The above comes from the office of the State Fire warden and is worthy of close attention from everybody. Mr. Elliott is making a hard fight against the fire demon this year and should receive the aid and co-operation of all, and more especially of the residents of a county like Columbia, where the timber is such a large and important factor in the welfare and business progress. With the State officials asking only that the fires be reported and at their expense it seems as though their wishes should be complied with.

## Our Portland Letter

Portland, Or., Aug. 1 (Special) Business and business men generally expect marked improvement in business conditions throughout the Pacific Northwest as the result of the bumper crops the farms are turning out this year. It is believed the distribution of the crop money among the farmers will mean renewed activity in all lines and in none more particularly than in the lumber industry. A reawakening of the lumber business will be widely beneficial by reason of the money it distributes among a large number of people.

The grain harvest, now in full swing, is the most satisfactory feature of the whole situation. The yield of the three Pacific Northwest states is fixed at better than 60,000,000 bushels and prospects are favorable for high prices. Fruit, hops, salmon, and all the varied resources of the Northwest states will contribute their share to the continued prosperity of this section of the country.

Elk from Wyoming will be shipped to the mountain districts of Union and Wallawa counties during the coming winter. The animals are hard put to it for food during the severe Wyoming winters and many of them starve each year. The Government is determined to save the Wyoming herds from extinction and the Oregon mountains offer ideal range for them.

The suggestion of Representative Foss, of Illinois, former chairman of the House naval

affairs committee, that the old battleship Oregon lead the fleet of battleships from New York to San Francisco when the Panama canal is finished in 1915, will meet with the hearty approval of every Oregonian. This famous fighting ship, that made such a splendid record during the Spanish war, deserves such recognition.

The Portland Commercial Club is fathering a new plan for the development of the state that has for its object the use of Oregon products by Oregon people. This doctrine has been preached before, but there has never been greater opportunity for building up home industries than now. A campaign to extend the use of Oregon-made goods here at home is now under way and the co-operation of commercial bodies of the state will be enlisted.

Interest in commercial club circles of the state is now centered on the annual convention of the Oregon Development League in Astoria August 14, 15 and 16. The program, now being completed, includes the leaders in development work in this part of the United States, as well as a number of speakers of national prominence. Coming as it does while the Astoria centennial celebration is in progress, delegates will be entertained by the Astorians in royal fashion.

Recognition of good work done, as unusual as it was gracious, was evidenced during the past week at Sublimity, where women of the Wahi Club gave a dinner to the convicts who have been building roads in that precinct. Such appreciation is almost unheard of, yet it is instances such as this that do more to help the unfortunate regain their self respect than anything else.

It is not to be supposed that with the rediscovery of the sea serpent the mermaid would keep herself hidden. Therefore it is not surprising to learn that she has been found stranded on a southern sea beach. It was fitting and shows commendable impartiality of the discoverers that while the sea serpent appeared near a northern watering place, the mermaid should come to hand "down south". Hard-headed, sceptical people will, of course, refuse to believe either story, but even the most sceptical must admit that the stories prove that the summer hotel and watering season has arrived. If, in spite of the torrid heat, some still doubted that fact, the sea serpent and the mermaid have set the matter beyond all conjecture.

In the matter of vice Chicago may not be a sinner above any other large city. But the extent to which evil in that city does exist and flaunt itself, and the success with which law is defied is anything but creditable to the city authorities who could, if they were so minded, enforce law and guard morals very much better than they do. As in nearly every large city every incoming administration promises reforms and law enforcement which it conveniently forgets to fulfill. Small cities and rural towns may miss some of the advantages of larger centers of population but the comparative freedom from

vice is one great compensation

Probably the man was suffering from acute indigestion caused by poor cooking who said that, "God sends food and the devil sends cooks." No doubt the second half of that statement is a slander upon the great majority of American wives and housekeepers, but it is equally true that bad cooking is responsible for a good deal of domestic infelicity. If the way to a man's pocket is largely through his stomach it is by the same route his affection may, in many cases, be reached and held. If domestic science were more generally taught in public schools many a home might be made happier.

If an article falls from the place where it was put we instinctively put forth our hand to check it and replace it. In like manner and with even greater desire we should put forth our hand to support a fellow being who shows symptoms of falling morally. And if, unfortunately, some have fallen, then, instead of sitting in harsh judgment on them, we should do our utmost to set them once more upon their feet, that having learned wisdom by bitter experience they may with renewed hope and greater resolve and caution once more tread the path of life.

The length of life is not to be measured by years, but what one puts into it. People may live to a very old age and yet between the date of birth and that of death their life may be little more than a cipher. Everyone should aim to crowd into his life everything that will make for his own uplift and that of his fellows. Such a life will measure large and long in good deeds and consequent blessing.

Just at present there seems to be a scarcity of international weddings at which good American gold is exchanged for empty titles. Does it mean that American society girls are getting more sensible or is it that the supply of impetuous nobles is running short. Whatever the reason, no sensible person will regret the scarcity of such alliances.

The "man higher up," about whom so much was heard some time ago and whose arrest and punishment for breaking interstate commerce and other laws was promised, is a most elusive being. Anyway he has not yet been caught in the meshes of the law and the prospect grows dim.

The British house of lords, in making amendments to the veto bill, has gone to a good deal of trouble so nothing. The house of commons will reject all the amendments and then the lords, sooner than face the creation of hundreds of new peers, will accept the inevitable.

The world is not going to be made more heaven-like by an indiscriminate condemnation of everything that life affords us. Life in this world is not to be frowned upon and despised but to be enjoyed and exalted.

If people would only abstain from throwing banana peeling, paper and other litter into the street, fewer towns would have that slovenly, down-at-the-heel appearance which mars their attractiveness.

Some people seem to be so averse to cheerfulness and happiness that they take it in homeopathic doses and always with a wry face. It may appear contradictory but they get their main satisfaction in being miserable.

It would be wrong to judge ourselves or others by some sporadic thought or action. Our real self is rather to be learned by noting the direction our thoughts and feelings most readily take.

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## County Official Paper

Forest Fire Bulletin

Portland, July 28-Six prompt arrests and convictions in Washington several more in the other northwestern states, and such decisive organized work on all fires by the several public and private agencies that little loss has been sustained, mark the opening of the 1911 forest fire season. Advices received today by the Western Forestry & Conservation Association from nearly all state government and private protective agencies report that the recent hot weather has brought dangerous conditions almost everywhere, and that small fires are already numerous, but nearly all have extinguished or confined to slashings and old burns. There has been considerable loss of settlers' improvements and logging equipment carelessly left surrounded by inflammable material, but comparatively little injury to standing timber.

Reversing last year's experience, fires serious enough to be alarming began first in Oregon, where in Linn and Clackamas counties about \$70,000 worth of logging equipment and the property of several settlers have been destroyed by slashing fires which were, however, soon brought under control by a large force employed by the Forest Service and by private companies. Many other fires throughout the state which caused exaggerated reports also proved to be chiefly on open lands. Organization of the state's patrol system under the new law is practically complete, there being state fire wardens in 22 counties. Timber owners connected with the Oregon Forest Fire Association have about 200 patrolmen. In response to petitions from property owners, some of the counties are hiring patrolmen. The state has applied to the Secretary of Agriculture for \$10,000 under the Weeks law, which authorizes the expenditure of this sum by the Government in co-operation with any state which will add a like amount.

In Washington green timber is hardly dry enough to carry fire rapidly without strong wind, therefore the state and association authorities are devoting most of their effort to reducing the number of small fires and a slashing fire may otherwise break out soon to an extent overtaxing their facilities for fighting them. Swift examples are being made of violators. In four cases builders of county roads leaving inflammable debris have been fined; several convictions have been had for burning slashings without permits; and one or two logging companies have been shut down for careless operation. The only really serious fire in green timber so far is on Green River near Hot Springs, although slashing fires near Pe Ell and Doty have run into the woods a short distance and slow burning fires on the Toutle and Lewis rivers are requiring close attention.

There has been little trouble so far in Idaho and Montana. The timber owners' associations are heavily manned and with the Forest Service have made energetic preparation by cleaning up hazardous places, building trail and telephone lines and storing supplies, so that although lightning fires have been frequently they have been promptly controlled. The railroads have been especially active in cooperating against risk, the Great Northern and Milwaukee lines having spent large sums in clearing fire lanes along their rights of way.

Summarized, the reports show that the recent hot weather has brought hazardous conditions more suddenly than is generally realized and that from now on no fire is too insignificant to be dangerous. Settlers, campers and loggers are urged by the Association to take every possible precaution and to lose no time in notifying the proper authorities of any fires they are unable to extinguish quickly without aid. Timber owners are advised to perfect their systems of patrol and reports so as to permit getting labor and supplies to fires without delay.

It is far better to ally oneself with the "I can's" than with the "I can't's." With the one there is progress and with the other stagnation.

## Notice

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