

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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FIRE THIS MORNING DESTROYS FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS WORTH OF BUILDINGS, STORED MERCHANDISE AND FURNITURE

A. V. Oliver & Co. Heaviest Losers by Far—Stored Goods Also Destroyed Little Insurance

PROVISIONS ARE BURNED

It required less than one hour for the flames to destroy the large warehouse and stock of A. V. Oliver & Co on Jefferson Avenue, early this morning. More property was destroyed than in any fire for a number of years. On the whole La Grande has been very fortunate the past few years.

The buildings destroyed consisted of two large corrugated iron warehouses and one wooden building used for the storing and shipping of hay principally, the latter belonging to the Oregon Produce Co.

A. V. Oliver's loss will be considerably in excess of \$6000 with insurance at about \$3000. The exact amount can not be ascertained until the safe opens off so it can be opened.

Mr. Oliver is of the opinion that there was between \$12,000 and \$15,000 worth of stored goods in the building, belonging mostly to Portland wholesale grocers. Three cars were burned with their contents, one containing sugar from the sugar factory that was to have been unloaded today. All of the sugar distributed in this city and valley passed through this company. Mason, Ehrman & Co, of Portland had just sent a car of groceries. Allen & Lewis also had quite a lot of goods stored. In one corner were two tons of salt. O. F. O'Connell's city had just received a car of m and in addition had nearly two

car loads of cement and a car of plaster besides some doors and windows. There were several lots of household goods that were awaiting the orders of the owners. It is presumed that most all of the merchandise carried was partially covered by insurance at least.

A. V. Oliver & Co have doing business in this city for many years and had built up a large trade, and were just entering upon their hay shipping season. Just what they will do can not be stated for a few days. They are heavy losers and have the sympathy of the business community. The firm consists of A. V. Oliver and T. H. Boynton, the latter's interest was in the stock. Mr. Oliver owned the property and buildings.

How the fire started will probably always remain a mystery. When discovered it seemed to be in that portion of the building facing the railroad track. Several weeks ago sparks from an engine set the roof afire but it was promptly extinguished.

Had there been any wind we would doubtless be chronicling a different story at this time. As it was, it required vigilance to keep the feed store of John Wilson and the livery stable of Wm Smith from going. Had it crossed the street it would have cleaned out that entire block. The fire boys worked manfully and for over half an hour the heat was intense.

Mason, Ehrman & Co, it is thought had goods to the value of about \$5000 with insurance in the La Grande Investment Co for \$2000. Mr. Coolidge is a heavy loser as he had no insurance whatever on his goods.

OPEN TOMORROW

A. V. Oliver will be ready to take care of any and all business orders in the morning. He will be in the Slater building on Jefferson avenue.

GREAT SHOOT COMMENCES

(By Scripps News Association)
Saugert, N. J., Aug. 24.—Six hundred and fifty seven marksmen reported at the firing line in the military shooting tournament today. The conditions are that the entrants must have a score of at least 35. No one expected such great interest to be manifested in the tournament.

Trial Aug 30.

(By Scripps News Association.)
San Francisco, Aug. 24.—Clarence Edwards, acting city editor of the Chronicle, who shot at C. H. Harwood, one of the reporters, was arraigned this morning before Judge Morgan on the charge of an assault to commit murder. The trial was set for August 30. Harwood was in court and seemed little worse for his encounter on last Sunday and seems determined to prosecute Edwards, whose bail was fixed at \$2000.

Election Of Officers To-day

(By Scripps News Association)
Portland August 24.—"Emigration, Colonization and Their Relation to the Development of the West," is the title of the general meeting of the National Irrigation Congress today. A feature of the day was an address, "Irrigation in India," by William E. Curtis. The reports of the committee will be followed by the election of officers and the reports of the chairman.

A paper was read this afternoon by James J. Hill, who was prevented by his wife's illness to attend before, in which timber and cattle barons were denounced. He declared that congress should amend the land laws. As they are now employed only to increase the holdings of dishonest men and cited the land fraud exposes showing the results of the present law.

Tonight the delegates will be tendered a reception at the Commercial Club hall.

BOISE LUCKY.

Boise, Idaho, was chosen this afternoon for the next meeting place for the irrigation congress next year. Boise made a hard fight at El Paso for this year's convention but was turned down to give Portland the convention.

This year it was conceded that Boise was entitled to the convention and little opposition was made.

Family Killed

(Scripps News Association.)
Bakersfield, Cal., Aug. 24.—The entire family of A. M. McKee was killed by a dynamite explosion in a mine in Toll Gate canyon in the Amati district this morning.

Hanged Himself

(Scripps News Association)
Sacramento, Aug. 24.—C. J. Jackson, aged 73, a prominent merchant and pioneer of this city, hanged himself in the basement of his store this morning, no cause can be assigned for the deed.

SUMMARY OF WAR TO DATE

Japan has driven Russia from Korea, Port Arthur, the whole Liaotung peninsula and Southern Manchuria, to a line about 100 miles north of Mukden, and has occupied the island of Sakhalin.

Cost of the war—Russia, \$1,000,000,000 Japan, \$600,000,000.

Dead and wounded, including Japan Sea battle—Russia, 192,000, Japan, 164,000.

Ships lost—Russia, 68; Japan 24.

Forces sent to front—Russia, 940,000; Japan, 700,000.

Japan's present available naval strength is 253,401 tons. Russia's nominal naval strength is 235,780. But of these ships 102,165 tons are shut up in the Black Sea and 38,300 tons are in neutral ports, and are not available for hostilities. In fact, Russia has been driven from the sea, and her few remaining ships are either coast defense vessels in home ports, or are so scattered that they could not hope to accomplish anything. Japan, on the other hand, has raised a number of the Russian ships sunk at Chemulpo and Port Arthur, and has captured a number in the battle of the Japan Sea, which will be repaired for use in war.

Institute Gets Money

(Scripps News Association)
Portland, Aug. 24.—The county court today sustained the will of the late Amanda W. Reed, who died at Pasadena, bequeathing a million dollars to the Reed Institute of this city. The heirs contested the will on the grounds that Mrs. Reed was a resident of California, the laws of which state would regulate the amount of benevolent bequests. The court holds that she was a resident of this state and that the estate should be administered here.

Taft at Tacloban

(Scripps News Association)
Tacloban, Aug. 24.—The Taft party arrived here at ten this morning. They were taking a ride on the government coast guard cutters. Governor Curry, of Samar, introduced a delegation of five hundred children from his province.

RUSSIA REFUSES TO PAY ANY INDEMNITY

Count Lamsdorff Says Neither Will They Concede Any Territory

By Scripps News Association
St. Petersburg, Aug. 24.—The foreign office announces this morning that the outlook for peace is much brighter. Meyer is making daily visits to consult with the Czar.

EDITOR'S OPINION

Portsmouth, Aug. 24.—Ishika, editor of the Hochi Shimbun, of Tokio, in answer to a cablegram to his paper, says that Japan will not hear with favor any modifications of the peace demands that include the sale of any part of Sakhalin or waiving claim to any part of the reimbursement of the war expenses. The cablegram said: "Sakhalin is a vital necessity to the Japanese people and cannot be divided. Forty five years ago Russia proposed to divide the island but Japan would not consent, declaring that the island belonged to Japan. I do not like the attitude of Russia. If she maintains the present attitude it is doubtful if there will be peace. We must fight for lasting peace."

Shimbun is the organ of Count Okuma and its expressions are regarded as Okuma's.

MESSANGER OF ROOSEVELT

Portsmouth, Aug. 24.—Myers' report of a three hour conference with the czar has been forwarded to the President. The secretary of state authorized the following statement today: "Myer has been acting under the instructions direct from the President in the manipulation of the St. Petersburg end in the effort to bring about peace."

Today the Japanese and Russian envoys are resting. White and Rosen were in their automobile to Magnolia, the summer home of the Russian ambassador. The Japanese remained at the hotel today but tomorrow they will go to Manchuria, N. H., to visit the factories there which Komura is anxious to see. It is generally conceded that the latest terms of peace

submitted by the Japanese can be accepted by the Russians as a basis for negotiations.

ON PRINCIPAL ONLY

Portsmouth Aug. 24.—It is understood that the Russian envoy Witte wants Japan to wipe out unconditionally all her demands for an indemnity or reimbursement, then Russia could point to a victory of diplomacy and feel that she had not surrendered all her principals and then let Japan bring in her items of cost of the war and care of prisoners and other circumstances and then they would stand a better chance of reaching an agreement.

JAPS AFTER THEM.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 24.—Linevitch reports fighting near Railous Chon where he repulsed the Japanese after a severe struggle. He also reports that they have repulsed three attacks made against the Russian forces in Korea.

London Aug. 24.—A St. Petersburg dispatch received by the Boster telegraph company says Count Lamsdorff authorizes the statement that under no conditions will they pay the indemnity directly or indirectly, or make any concessions of territory whatever.

"A decision absolutely final states that it is not a question of the amount Russia should pay but the principle. This is not a war in which Russia can not accept indemnity. It would be contrary to the national interest of Russia and would be entirely out of accord with the present military position of adversity." The foreign office will make a statement tomorrow concerning the visit of the American consul Meyer, the impression prevails that after a conference with the czar he left for Portsmouth. The crisis is still unsolved.

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There are so many little items that the scholar requires that it's almost impossible to think of them all. If you will look over our ample and complete stock of school requisites you will be sure to find many necessary articles and also a splendid variety of minor things which may not be absolutely necessary, but will make the school work easier and the results much more satisfactory. A partial list which we give may help you to think of something you'll need at the beginning of the term

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Writing Paper	Pen holders	Dividers	Drawing Instruments
Writing Tablets	Erasers	Drawing Paper	Students' Companions
Pencils	Inks	Paste	Etc.
Drawing Pencils	Crayons	Mucilage	

You are sure to find everything you need in our stock. It would be hard for anybody to name an article in school supplies we do not carry. The values are exceptionally good and the savings you make in purchasing of us worth considering

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At the beginning of the school year parents with large families often have to do some close figuring to be able to equip their children with necessary school books. With a big stock of second hand books—books complete and in perfect condition—we are prepared to help you out in a manner that will make your money go farther. These books represent all the different ones used in the schools in this vicinity and will answer all the purposes of new books which will cost you more.

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