

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR FIRE AT ELGIN

Elgin Forwarding Company Ware House Totally Destroyed—Partially Covered by Insurance.

(Observer Special)  
Elgin, Feb. 13.—Fire this morning destroyed the Elgin Forwarding Company's warehouse together with its entire contents and six box cars belonging to the O. R. & N. Company. The loss is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars, partially covered by insurance.

The fire was discovered this morning about two o'clock, but after it had secured such headway that it was utterly impossible to save the building or contents. The origin of the fire is unknown.

It was soon realized that nothing could be done to save the warehouse and the fire department devoted its attention to saving the adjoining buildings, lumber yards and planing mills. One of the box cars was loaded with coal oil and this, with the inflammable nature of the goods stored in the building, made the conflagration so fierce that the firemen were kept at a distance. To add to the terrors of the situation, information was afloat that one of the cars standing near the warehouse was loaded with giant powder. This proved to be untrue but there was a considerable amount of black powder stored in the building which exploded from time to time as the flames reached the various packages. For a time things looked as if the lumber yards and livery stable would be consumed, but the heroic work of the fire department confined the ravages of the flames to the warehouse.

The loss is heavy from the fact that at this time an extra amount of goods was in storage awaiting repairs on the Wallowa bridge to be forwarded to points in Wallowa valley.

McCabe, the O. R. & N. construction contractor lost property to the amount of \$20,000. McCabe's property consisted of construction supplies used in the construction of the Elgin extension of the O. R. & N. line.

The conflagration was spectacular in the extreme. The flames, fed by the oil,

powder and other articles of a highly combustible nature, sometimes leaped to a height of over a hundred feet and illuminating the entire town of Elgin. Fortunately no one was injured, though many hair breadth escapes are reported. The Elgin fire department is complimented on every hand this morning for the splendid service rendered.

A carload of dynamite left this morning on the Elgin train for that place. Had the fire occurred tomorrow morning instead of this, the results would have been too awful to contemplate, as this car would have been on the side track at the warehouse.

### KEEP DOWN THE COST

(Observer Special)  
Washington, Feb. 13.—In making preliminary arrangements for the construction of a mile of good road on either side of the Cascades, Senator Fulton has been urged by Judge John H. Scott, of Salem, president of the Oregon Good Roads association, to strive at all times to keep the average cost of work down to the lowest figure. Judge Scott holds that owing to the sparse settlement in Oregon, such a demonstration will have value in proportion to its permanence and initial cost. The Senator has taken this point up with the government officials, who will have charge, and hopes that the experimental work will be a lesson in economy, as well in the new science of road construction.

### DIDN'T WORK

(Scripps News Association)  
Waukegan, Feb. 13.—Miss Estella Smith, who was principal in one of the Zion schools, died here this morning as a result of accidental burns, while the elders were praying for her recovery, following the Dowie teaching that no physicians be called.

### IRRIGATION MAY BE DELAYED

(Observer Special)  
Washington, Feb. 13.—Announcement of the Interior Department that reclamation work for some time would be confined to present projects, because available funds are pledged, is dejecting for the Oregon workers in Congress. Oregon's contribution to the reclamation fund being larger than other states, her people expected proportionate work, but have been disappointed. The varied troubles through which the state has passed made all efforts in her behalf the past year, unusually difficult, and just as these were being swept aside, the department expressed the purpose of entering upon no new work. Senator Fulton has been contending with the Interior Department for a long time that his state had as many practicable projects for reclamation as any other, and should be given money in proportion to its contribution to the fund. He hopes yet to establish this principle, so as to have it observed in the future.

## DENIES THE ELOPEMENT OF M'KINLEY

(Scripps News Association)  
San Francisco, Feb. 13.—District Attorney Heney this morning denied that McKinley, who is under indictment in complicity in the Oregon land frauds, has eloped with "Little Egypt," and is now with her in the Orient. He declares McKinley went to China on a land deal. His actual whereabouts are known, and he is under surveillance. Heney added that McKinley had had no trouble of any nature with his wife.

Mrs. McKinley also denies that her husband eloped. She says she is in constant communication with him.

### FIRE VICTIM DEAD

(Scripps News Association)  
Portland, Feb. 13.—L. T. Dailey died at the hospital this morning as results of burns sustained in yesterday's fire. The work of clearing up the debris is under way. It is expected that several bodies will be uncovered during the work.

### HANGED FOR MURDER

(Scripps News Association)  
St. Paul, Feb. 13.—William Williams who on April 12, 1905, committed a double murder, killing Mrs. Keller and her sixteen year old son, John, was hanged here this morning. Williams was twenty eight years of age. His was one of the most brutal murders committed in the history of the state.

### ENGLISH PARLIAMENT

(Scripps News Association)  
London, Feb. 13.—Parliament is this afternoon in informal session merely to select a speaker of the house of commons and swear in the new members. William Cowher was re-elected speaker.

### SHOT HIS BRIDE

(Scripps News Association)  
Raton New Mex. Feb.—George Evans aged thirty, fatally shot his wife, the bride of only one day and then committed suicide.

## ATTORNEYS ARGUING THE CASE

The case of the State versus Rufus Gaskell was closed today at noon, and the attorneys began their arguments at one thirty. The case has been a long and stubbornly fought, every point being closely contested. The testimony was of such a varied nature that those who have heard it all hold various opinions regarding the verdict the jury will bring in.

This case has attracted a considerable amount of attention and when the court was called to order this afternoon the court room was packed with spectators who came to listen to the attorneys argue the case.

Promptly at one thirty District Attorney C. H. Crawford began the argument for the state. In a thirty minute address he was able to make a masterly summary of the testimony.

He called attention to the fact that there was a wide divergence in the testimony given by the defense and that of the prosecution. Special attention was given evidence given by Mr. Silverthorn, witness from Walla Walla, who was presented by the defense as an expert witness regarding the value of drugs. In the estimation of the District Attorney Attorney Cochran on behalf of the defendant, followed the district attorney and after paying a high tribute to that gentleman, fondly passing around a few names which are familiar to readers of ancient mythology, launched into the consistencies and non-consistencies of the evidence and finally wound up by reading the thirty first chapter of Proverbs which was supposed to have some bearing upon the evidence given by Mrs. Gaskell, the defendant's wife.

Attorney Ivanhoe was just beginning to address the jury as we go to press. From present indications it will be late before the case is given to the jury.

### ATTORNEY HARDY BUSY

(Scripps News Association)  
Des Moines, Feb. 13.—Attorney General Hadley is taking depositions in the Standard Oil case in this city today. He declares the evidence here is sufficient to complete the case and that he is getting evidence upon which any court must recognize that the Standard Oil company under the names of the Waters, Pierce and Republic conducted as the same company in violation of the laws of Missouri.

### RAMMED BY A TUG

(Scripps News Association)  
New York, Feb. 13.—At least three lives were lost, this morning when a freight barge at the docks on the river was rammed by the tug Ganego. The barge broke into two sections, one of which sunk. The crew was accustomed to sleeping aboard the barge.

### COPPER WAR OVER

(Scripps News Association)  
New York, Feb. 13.—H. H. Rogers this afternoon confirmed the report that the Montana copper war is over.

### "SPEAKER" LONGWORTH

(Scripps News Association)  
Washington, Feb. 13.—Speaker Cannon called Congressman Longworth to the chair to preside for thirty minutes.

## PROBLEM IS TO SMOOTH RUFFLED CHINESE FEELINGS

Former Superintendent of Salaries in Post Office Department Confesses.

(Scripps News Association)  
Washington, D. C. Feb. 13.—The house committee is confronted with the problem of how to exclude the Chinese without offending China. The President has requested the committee to frame a bill that will smooth down the anger of the Pekin government and at the same time keep out the coolies. It had been remarked that its peculiar that Speaker Cannon placed no member on this committee from the district further west than Iowa. Congressman Cousin of being the representative furthest west.

George W. Beavers, former superintendent of salaries and allowances of the Post Office department, this morning pleaded guilty to conspiring with former Senator Green of New York to defraud the government in connection of the sale of time recording devices in the department, and was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary in West Virginia.

Washington, Feb. 13.—Quartermaster General Humphrey says the property of Black Point, San Francisco, which lies between the low water mark and the boundaries of the bay, is now in litigation between the government and the Freeman heirs who claim it. If the government wins, it is their intention to acquire additional land in that vicinity and build a big depot for the quartermaster of subsistence, the medical department and the army will also build a transport for the docks.

### TO RELIEVE FAMINE

Washington, Feb. 13.—The President this afternoon issued an appeal to the American people for contributions, for the famine stricken people of northern Japan.

### LONGWORTH'S BILL

Washington, Feb. 13.—Congressman Longworth's bill carrying an appropriation of \$5,000,000 for ground and building for legislations abroad has been adopted by the committee on foreign

affairs of the war department, confirm and report that another regiment is going to the Orient, it will probably be the 26th infantry. Additional vessels will go to Asiatic stations. The Oregon is now at Hong Kong.

### HAPPENINGS AT LODI

(Scripps News Association)  
Lodi, Cal. Feb. 13.—The infant child of Don Lewis was found dead in bed early this morning, as a result of suffocation. It had slept between the father and mother. The mother is crazed over the fatality.

The infant son of Ernest Hopkins swallowed five quinine pills this morning and died three hours afterwards. An autopsy will be held over both cases.

The Southern Pacific depot was robbed at 10 o'clock last night. A considerable amount of script and \$175 in cash was taken. Afterward a part of the script was found scattered about the railroad yards.

### HEARING EVIDENCE AGAIN

(Scripps News Association)  
Chicago, Feb. 13.—Hearing evidence to ascertain the plea of immunity in the beef was resumed this morning. Frank S. Hayward, of the Swift Company testified concerning the visit of Garfield's representative, and said the officer declared what ever information he received would be used in any way injurious to the packers, when disclosed by the investigation.

### TO EXPAND AGAIN

(Scripps News Association)  
St. Petersburg Feb 13.—The Nor'vor Vremya prints a bitter article from an American today which says that President Roosevelt intends to seize the islands of the northwestern Siberia, thus taking advantage of Russia's weakness following the war.

## GREAT SALE OF Mill Ends

We place on sale today 5000 yards of Mill ends, consisting of Gingham, Percales, Dimities, Batistes, Cotton Voils, Chambrays and Lawns. A lucky buy enables us to offer these mill ends at a very substantial saving.

12½c Ginghams, the yard 9c  
12½c Percales, the yard 9c  
12½c Outings, the yard 8½c

And hundreds of yards of mill ends in summer wash goods, suitable for dainty summer dresses, at a little more than

ONE HALF REGULAR PRICES.

New Dress Goods New Skirts New Shirts  
New Laces New Embroidery New Shoes

READY FOR YOUR INSPECTION

**The Fair**  
THE PLACE TO SAVE MONEY

## OUR BODIES WEAR

Every time we move a muscle we destroy some tissue. Our entire bodies, including the vital organs, are constantly wearing out. If repair does not keep up with the wear, something serious will happen. The remedy is best that supplies the best material for rest, and with least tax on the organs of indigestion

**Newlin's Beef Iron and Wine.**

Affords in a single dose more real body building material than you might get from half a dozen meals; and it is material ready to give you strength and energy immediately after taking.

Price 75c a pint

**NEWLIN DRUG COMPANY**  
La Grande, Oregon.