

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME VIII.

LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1909.

NUMBER 121.

ANNOUNCE DATE OF ORGANIZATION

BIG MEETING SET FOR

SATURDAY, MARCH 20.

Because Many of Irrigation Leaders Have Been Called to Portland, it Was Found Necessary to Decide on a Later Date—Wide Publicity Should Be Given the Date Decided Upon—Work on Sandridge in the Interim is Plan.

Because several of the men needed to make the proposed irrigation organization meeting as successful as possible, are in Portland this week on the Scribner matter, the board of managers has been forced to postpone the date officially set previously. It had been planned to organize the subscribers to the water rights next Saturday, but, as stated, this will be impossible and the following Saturday, March 20, was chosen last night at the regular board meeting.

The board requests all friends of the movement to give the definite date wide publicity. The roads are in bad shape this week, and it is very desirable as well as necessary to make a change from the date first announced in an official way.

Because it has been difficult to traverse the valley of late, much-needed solicitation on the Sandridge has been neglected and the club will bend its energies along these lines between now and the 20th.

Locate Murderer in Prison.

Chicago, March 9.—After a chase of several years for the murderer of Policeman Patrick Duffy, of the local force, the authorities are today in receipt of information that the murderer is Vincent Briscoe, who is now serving a sentence for burglary in San Quentin, California, under the name of Frank Bennett. It is alleged Bennett is the man who shot and killed Duffy when the latter searched his companion, suspected of burglary, on the street.

BOURNE PICKS A SECRETARY

OREGONIAN MAN GIVEN

JOHN C. YOUNG'S JOB.

Salem Correspondent to Portland Oregonian Will Go to Washington to Accept New Position—Young's Services Were Both Long and Faithful to Bourne.

Salem, March 9.—A. W. Prescott, the Salem correspondent to the Portland Oregonian, has accepted an appointment as private secretary to United States Senator Jonathan Bourne, succeeding John C. Young. He leaves for Washington on March 15.

This ends the services of John C. Young, the disputed appointee to the postmastership in Portland. Young

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Arkansas is Storm Swept

TOWN OF BRINKLEY LITERALLY OBLITERATED BY

TORNADO AND SUBSEQUENT CONFLAGRATION.

Arkansas River in Path of Storm That Sweeps State—Water Lifted High in the Air by Wind—Trains Rushed to the Rescue With Provisions and Doctors—Living Beings Pinned Under Debris in Path of Approaching Fire—Communications Cut Off and Details Come Slowly—Total Death List Said to Be Nearly Forty—Million Dollars in Property Destroyed is Low Estimate.

Helena, Ark., March 9.—From 10 to 20 killed and hundreds injured—many of them dying—and thousands of dollars' worth of property damaged as the result of a tornado followed by fire that late yesterday swept over several towns in the vicinity of Brinkley, near here, as shown by the latest reports. Brinkley, a town of 5000 inhabitants, is completely destroyed by fire, which started during the gale and was fanned by a high wind.

Can't Dodge Flames.

Telegraph and telephone systems are prostrated. Many are pinned under the heavy beams, with fire sweeping towards them. There was long and fearful delay in sending messages for help.

Miraculous Escapes.

The first news was received from T. N. Kinnell, the operator on the Rock Island road who, with Lineman Rickards, was in the depot when the storm broke. The station was blown to

pieces over their heads. After the gale had passed, the men scrambled from their hiding place and walked to Wheatley, where they managed to find a wire working. There Kinnell began sending messages appealing for help. A relief train was hastily organized with food, surgical and medical supplies, doctors and nurses, and immediately sent to Brinkley.

Lifts Water From River.

Great damage is reported in the vicinity of Guerdan. The building were unroofed at Bourche dam, where the storm crossed the Arkansas river, and turned into a tornado.

The water of the river was lifted into the shape of a waterspout 200 feet high. The storm swept on to Kerr, and through Bauchum, plying a path 60 feet wide, leveling buildings and uprooting trees.

The Latest Death Report.

The latest reports show 18 whites and 20 negroes were killed, 40 seriously injured and 3000 homeless in the wake of death and destruction. Six residences alone escaped destruction at Brinkley. The loss is conservatively estimated at \$1,000,000.

Among the identified dead are Porter Foote, J. L. Sterritt, Henry Stovall, Jr., and Charles Frenz.

Trainload of Injured.

Little Rock, Ark., March 9.—A train loaded with injured from Brinkley arrived here today. Trainmen say Brinkley caught fire in a dozen places and the streets are filled with debris.

The flames spread with such rapidity that trainmen fear many are under the ruins, and incinerated. Relief has been rushed from Memphis, Helena, Jonesboro and this city.

The storm had a general northeasterly direction, sweeping the state east of this city, and culminating at Bauchum, and Brinkley in a tornado.

Communication with the stricken territory is difficult, and reports are coming slowly.

Not a Business House Intact.

In response to a telegram from Mayor Jackson of Brinkley, Governor Donaghey left here today in a special train for the scene of the disaster. Jackson said that not a business house in Brinkley is intact.

Before departing for the scene Governor Donaghey ordered the state militia to proceed to Brinkley, because of reports of looting.

Private Message Says 18.

St. Louis, March 9.—J. A. Stoker, a resident of Brinkley, received a private message today saying 18 persons were killed in that town by the tornado.

Taft Supporting Cannon.

Washington, March 9.—Taft is reported today to have invited only supporters of Speaker Cannon to the White House tonight for a conference over the proposed changes of the rules of the house, indicating that Taft will not support the "insurgents" in their fight against Cannon.

ANOTHER WAR.

Russia Said to Be Preparing to Try Japan Again.

St. Petersburg, March 9.—After an all-night session the duma today voted \$5,000,000 to be used in placing the Balkan fleet in shape for action; also \$20,000,000 to restore army equipment and munitions which were depleted since the Japanese war. Many believe this to be a step toward preparations for a struggle in Manchuria with Japan.

Johnson Has "Big Head."

Victoria, March 8.—Johnson, the heavyweight champion, arrived today on the steamer Makura, and will proceed to Chicago and thence to Texas to visit his parents. He is suffering from "big head," according to his late manager, Sam Fitzpatrick, who says he will not fight Sam Langford and does not think Jeffries will re-enter the ring.

F. G. Taylor transacted business in Union today.

FIGHT DELAYED OVER CRAFTING

SENSATIONAL CHARGES

WILL COME TOMORROW.

Olympia Lawmakers Refrain From Further Attacks Against Secretary of State and Insurance Commissioner Until Tomorrow—Effort Made to Remove Insurance Commissioner Alone.

Olympia, March 9.—The promised fight over the resolution to investigate the state officers failed to materialize in the senate this morning. The date was advanced until tomorrow when Senator Pauhanus renews the charges against Secretary of State Nichols and Insurance Commissioner Schavely.

Both today introduced a resolution providing for an investigation of the insurance departments alone. The chair ruled the resolution was out of order, and was upheld by a vote of 27 to 13. The senate then passed the house bill compelling the insurance commissioner to turn over all moneys collected for examination of insurance companies to the state treasurer.

"Self-Defense" Pleads Cooper.

Nashville, March 9.—"Self-defense" on the part of Col. Duncan Cooper and his son Robin and John Sharpe, charged with murder, was the theme of the closing argument by their attorneys today. The arrest of Sharpe was characterized as an outrage and alleged he was not connected with the crime.

FRIEND KILLS FRIEND.

Idaho Miners Quarrel and Friendship Ends Tragically.

Butte, Mont., March 9.—News of the killing of H. A. Cody by Jack Nye, a life-long friend, at Spring Mountain, Idaho, was received here today. The men occupied the same cabin. It is believed they quarreled. It is reported that Cody assaulted Nye with a knife.

TAX TELEGRAMS AND ALL CHECKS

GOVERNMENT MUST HAVE

MONEY TO MEET SHORTAGE.

When Tariff Congress Convenes It is Probable That Tax Practices Used During Spanish-American War Will Be Revived Again to Fill Repleted Coffers—"Insurgents" Will Frustrate Such Movements if Possible—Taft is Busy.

Washington March 9.—A stamp tax on telegrams and checks, similar articles, four cents a pound duty on coffee and possibly an inheritance tax are among the propositions to be decided upon at the coming special session of congress for the consideration of a tariff to meet the \$100,000,000 deficit in the treasury which the Taft administration faces. Daily conferences are held between Taft, Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh, Speaker Cannon, Senator Aldrich and others. Taft realizes the tariff must be disposed of soon to settle the disturbed business conditions throughout the country.

Taft also realizes the "insurgents" in congress will fight for delay from the opening to the closing of congress, and is laying his lines accordingly.

The new tariff bill, now in the hands of the printer, includes a great part of the stamp tax law in force during the war with Spain. In addition to this, the bill provides for a 50 per cent cut on lumber and hides and to be placed on the free list.

Medford Editor Exonerated.

Salem, March 9.—George Putnam, editor of the Medford Tribune, was completely exonerated from conviction of criminal libel, secured against him before Circuit Judge Hanna, in an opinion handed down today by Supreme Court Justice Bean.

Land Grabbers Denounced.

Sacramento, Cal., March 9.—"I want to say to you, Ackerman, that I am neither a knave nor a fool. I believe, however, that within 30 days I can prove by the records of the office of the surveyor general, that you are both," declared Attorney General Webb last night, shaking his fist in the face of John D. Ackerman, at the assembled committee of the house on public lands and forestry. Ackerman is a lieutenant of F. A. Hyde, the convicted land grabber, who was opposing the Thompson anti-land bill.

The defense of the bill by Webb resulted in a measure being favorably reported by the committee.

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