

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME VIII

LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON,

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1909.

NUMBER 281.

PORTLAND FLOUR MILLS BURNING

TIRE WHARF THREATENED BY COSTLY PORTLAND FIRE

Believed Any of The Many Employees Were Caught in The Flames, But Careful Search Will be Made—Explosion in Dust Collector Starts Conflagration—Adjoining Factories in Danger—Great Piles of Grain in Close Distance.

PORTLAND, Sept. 15.—After destroying the Portland Flour mills, the largest plant of its kind in the Northwest, and spoiling thousands of dollars worth of grain, a fire which started from an explosion at the mill, was controlled shortly before 2 o'clock today. So far as could be learned no employees were killed, but the ruins will be searched.

PORTLAND, Sept. 15.—A fire which destroyed the Portland Flour mills, located on the water front in this city with a loss of \$250,000 started at 9 this morning and at 10:30 the flames are uncontrolled and threaten adjacent elevators and wharves on which are piled thousands of dollars worth of grain. Seventy employees of the mill are believed to have escaped, though it is impossible to ascertain whether the fire raged, whether all escaped. Firemen and police will be searching the ruins as soon as embers are cooled. The mill was owned by the Portland Flour mills company. Should the elevators and piers be consumed, the loss will reach a half million. A general alarm was sounded short-

ly after the start. Despite the efforts of a score of engines and fireboats the mill was soon a mass of flames, and only desperate work on the part of the firemen kept the blaze from spreading to adjoining manufacturing plants. The fire burned downward.

The building was the largest mill in the Northwest, and was equipped with the modern machinery, and automatic sprinkler. This is believed to have broken when an explosion of the dust collector on the sixth floor started a fire.

L. GARRICK HAS RETURNED

FOR TWO YEARS A MISSIONARY IN ENGLAND.

Returns to Join Family After Long Absence in Foreign Land.

L. Garrick arrived home today from a two years' sojourn in England, where he was a missionary for the L. D. S. church, spending his time while in the old country, in the Liverpool conference. His duties took him through Blackburn, Chester, Nelson, Charley and other smaller communities in his conference.

His trip was an enjoyable one and in his own words: "I would not have missed it for a world of money." During his trip he preached the gospel and while instructing others acquired a first hand knowledge of things which only such a trip can give.

On his return two of his little sons were at the depot, but two years time had removed from their youthful memories a mental picture of their father and they knew him not at first sight. Naturally enough he is highly delighted with his safe return and being able to reunite with his family, which has lived in La Grande during his absence.

CHIEF'S SPECIAL IS WESTBOUND

CHICAGO POLICE WILL PREVENT BODILY HARM

Trip of The Executive is Really Remarkable in Every Respect is Now Commenced in Earnest—Speaks at Stations Where Special Train Halts—Ellensburg and Yakima are Making Extensive Preparations For Taft.

BOSTON, Sept. 15.—President Taft left here this morning on the first lap of his western trip. The president's private car was attached to the Albany express. He was cheered by thousands as the train departed.

Reaches Springfield. SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Sept. 15.—Taft, journeying west, stopped here five minutes. In a brief speech he praised the Massachusetts Congressmen. He said: "Real people who control the nation's pocketbook, are the men in the lower house of congress."

Will Prevent Bodily Harm. CHICAGO, Sept. 15.—The police is taking unusual precautions to prevent any harm coming to the president during his western journey and when he reaches this city extra police protection will be afforded and every precaution will be taken.

Reception in the West. NORTH YAKIMA, Wash., Sept. 15: President Taft of the Yakima Commercial Club has named a reception committee to meet President Taft on his arrival here on September 29. The program committee is busy planning a half day's exercises which will be of

SEARCH PARTIES SEEKING EXHIBITS

SPLENDID SUCCESS MARKS TWO JUNKETING TOURS

Cove Will Have Individual Display as a City—Big Stock Exhibits From Union Coming—Allice Deeply Interested—Elgin, Summerville and Imbler Visited Tomorrow—Splendid Relics Coming From Cove District For The Fair.

Darting hither and thither, seeking where they can find a man, woman or child, who has not heard of, or is personally interested in the coming fair, two automobile parties are scurrying over the valley today visiting the principal towns and localities. Imbler, Summerville and Elgin to be visited tomorrow, while the two parties now out, have been to Allice, Union and Cove, and with many a stop between places. The party which went to Union and Cove is composed of Will Church, Adolph Newlin, Fred B. Currey and C. O. Ramsey. The second party comprised G. M. Richey, George H. Currey, E. Polack and T. J. Scroggin.

Cove's Individual Display. COVE, Sept. 15.—(Special)—The two parties met here late this afternoon and every member of it is jubilant. At Union an extensive stock exhibit was secured, among them an individual exhibit of stock by A. J. Goodbrod. At Allice remarkable in-

terest is shown, and at Cove arrangements are being made today to have a special display of Cove products at the fair. Special space will be allotted to this district and though the exhibits will enter into the competition for prizes, it will be grouped in one display place.

A book read by Abraham Lincoln when he was a boy will be sent over to the county seat as an exhibit in the relic department. An ox bow which was used in pulling a prairie schooner across the plains, will also be seen. Wide and sincere interest has been found by the tourists here today.

CHIEF JONES HOME AGAIN

ATTENDED BIG CONVENTION OF FIRE CHIEFS.

Much Good Will be Derived From Shoulder Rub With Other Chiefs.

Home from Seattle where he attended the national convention of volunteer company fire chiefs, Joseph Jones, chief of the local department, is today relating to his friends some of the features of the 10-day visit. He reports today, on his return, that Seattle did the host act liberally and that the 60 odd fire chiefs from various cities of the United States were treated in a loyal manner.

From a business standpoint, much good resulted in the trip. During the progress of the convention Mr. Jones listened to valuable addresses on the best methods of staying fires and the company here will profit by his trip for theoretical knowledge obtained at the big gathering of fire fighters will be converted to the practical here.

AN EULOGY ON BENJAMIN BROWN

DELIVERED BY F. S. IVANHOE YESTERDAY AT ISLAND CITY

Eulogy Read During That Portion of The Funeral Services Over Which The La Grande Lodge No. 433 B. P. O. E. Officiated—Deceased an Honored and Respected Member of That Order—Well Warded Tribute to Dead Brother.

(By F. S. Ivanhoe.)

To the widow, children, relatives and sorrowing friends of the brother whose life we admired and whose death we mourn, it might be fitting to say, that under the obligations we take in the order of the Elks, Benevolent and Protective order of our duty here. This duty is so sacred that no brother, however humble and obscure leaves this life without the readiness of every Elk to properly observe these last sad rites. And to all assembled here, it may be said that we have modestly provided as an order that a brief eulogy be spoken of the dead.

Benjamin Brown, familiarly, affectionately, and even reverently known as "Uncle Ben." He was born at a village named Broughton, in Yorkshire, England, on the 15th day of January, 1831. At the age of seven years he was left an orphan, and at the age of fourteen, commenced the battle of life single handed and alone. In the year 1857 he came to America, settling for a short time in the state of Michigan. The following year he crossed the Isthmus, coming to California to mine. He pursued this calling in the Siskiyou and Frazer River districts, later migrating from California to the Puget Sound country. From this point he returned to Michigan, and brought his wife to the coast across the plains. He lived one year in Umatilla county, and in 1891, returned to the Grande Ronde valley, where he resided until his death. Here he erected the first cabin built in the valley by a white man, in what is now old La Grande. Here he conducted the first hotel, and engaged in furnishing to travelers, needed supplies of all kinds. After the railroad came he bought and shipped hay and other feed and forage to the coast and other markets. In all this he prospered and was content.

Back in Yorkshire, on the 30th of June, 1852, when Ben Brown was six months past twenty one, he wooed and won the hand and heart of Frances Kirk, a comely Yorkshire maiden and made her the companion and help mate of his life. To this happy union was born, five surviving daughters, Mrs. Hester Ellsworth, Mrs. Ada Walters, Mrs. Alma Conley, Miss Fannie Brown and Mrs. Carrie Garity. Three children preceded him by death, making a family of all told of eight children.

A hero has fallen asleep, who enriched the world with an honest and upright life. He died as he had lived, at the post of his known duty, going about even on the Lord's day, doing good. While we again face the miracle and mystery of life and death, and again ask the question so often unanswered, we reassure our feeble virtue at the shrine of a well rounded and noble and completed career. Utterly void of hypocrisy or cant; a stranger to every dishonorable deed; hating only cowardice and wrong; measuring all people by all the good he found in them, and his own acts by a modest, but unerring standard of right; giving alms without ostentation or display; practicing in a practical way, every precept and virtue of the Ten Commandments; with a heart full of human kindness, and "a hand that so bestowed its largest, that even lean and cadaverous palm could not the kiss of gratitude affront;" ob-

Are You Ready For the SCHOOL BELL

BRING THE CHILDREN HERE TODAY

Fine full stocks and social offerings in Children's Clothing and school necessities.

LOOK THESE OVER

Lot 1---Boys School Suits \$2.85

This lot comprises values up to \$6.00 and comes in all sizes and desirable colors.

Lot 2---Boys School Suits \$4.65

Many of the best suits that we have are included in this lot. You will be surprised at the extraordinary value at this price.

MISSES SCHOOL DRESSES from 95c to \$3.00.

MISSES SCHOOL CLOAKS \$2.50 and up. All new styles and patterns.

SEE OUR LINE OF SCHOOL SHOES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. WE'VE STUDIED THEIR NEEDS AND HAVE THE BEST LINES WE CAN OBTAIN FOR SERVICE.

THE FAIR

LAMP IGNITES ELGIN STRUCTURE

FAMILY NARROWLY ESCAPES FROM BUILDING.

Exploding Lamp Starts Fire Which Threatens Several Lives.

ELGIN, Sept. 15.—(Special)—A repetition of the Oliver horror at Summerville recently was narrowly averted here at midnight last night when the home of J. M. Walters was ignited by an exploding lamp. It was sheer good fortune, abetted by the cool brain of Mr. Walters, that prevented serious if not fatal injury to his family. Mr. Walters is employed at the flour mill and at midnight came home from work. In setting a lamp on the table it fell and exploded, and enveloped himself in flames. He and his family reached a place of safety before serious bodily injury had been sustained.

The house and property was a total loss on account of the fact that the department was not notified in the excitement of saving himself and family. The loss is heavy.

Eight Trainmen Killed. CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Sept. 15.—A St. Louis train while running at high speed struck a freight train 25 miles west of here this afternoon. Eight of the train crew were killed instantly and it is feared others are dead, as several from the passenger train are missing. The passengers who escaped injury are fighting the flames which started when the crash came.

a public nature, Taft being in sight all the time and not bottled up. Ellensburg expects to be able to entertain the president while the engines are being changed at that point and elaborate preparations are being made to this end. Among other things will be a gigantic platform built from baled hay and decorated with thousands of red apples.

COLONIST RATES IN EFFECT TODAY

EXODUS OF HOMESEEEKERS WILL BEGIN WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

Lowest Rates Yet on O. R. & N. Went Into Effect This Morning.

Nineteen hundred and nine fall colonist rates on transcontinental lines, went into effect this morning from points in east & middle west to points on the O. R. & N. and the S. P. in Oregon. One can purchase a ticket direct to La Grande by this rate and is not compelled to purchase to Portland, for one way is \$25. The rate from Chicago is \$33, from Columbus, O., \$39.05; from Knoxville, Tenn., \$43.05; Memphis, \$34.45; Montreal, Canada, \$47.70; New York, \$50; Washington, D. C., \$48.25, and St. Louis, \$32.00.

These rates will be in effect for a period of 30 days. The Commercial club is preparing to fill up the exhibit hall at the depot and is laying in a full supply of boost literature for the coming of the colonist, which it is thought will be greater than ever. It is safe to say that La Grande will get her share of the newcomers.

DAVE CLARK HURT.

Hand Crushed And Ribs Bruised in Tussle With a Salt Barrel.

COVE, Sept. 15.—(Special)—D. M. Clark was quite seriously hurt here today while unloading salt from a wagon. The barrel fell striking Mr. Clark in the side and bruising several ribs, and at the same time catching his hand on the wagon wheel tire. The hand was badly crushed.

Notwithstanding the knocks Mr. Clark is able to supervise the loading of a mixed car of plums and a carload of peaches which are to be sent out tonight. About three carloads a week are being shipped out this month by this firm.