

SECRETARY OF STATE BENSON DIES AT REDLANDS, CAL.

Redlands, Cal., April 14.—Frank W. Benson, ex-governor of Oregon and elected secretary of state at the last state election, died at 4:30 this morning. Death was due to a complication of diseases, kidney troubles, a lupus growth on the nose and a general breakdown after two years' illness. The end was hastened by la grippe. Mrs. Benson was at his bedside. The ex-governor came to Redlands shortly after his election, having returned to Oregon only a few weeks before that. The only public knowledge of his sinking condition was the fact that Dr. Lee Steiner of Salem arrived here in great haste yesterday and to this fact was ascribed the probability that the ex-governor was dying.

His death was first announced this morning when a message was sent to Chief Clerk Corey of the Oregon senate, and following this formal telegram, went messages to Portland, Salem, Eastern Oregon, and other friends of the late official.

Mr. Benson was born in San Jose, Cal., March 20, 1858, and begun his professional career as a school teacher at Roseburg, Oregon. He was rapidly promoted to superintendent of schools of Douglass county. He was county clerk in 1906. He was elected secretary of state soon after and succeeded to the governorship when Governor Chamberlain went to the United States senate. He was re-elected secretary last November. He was a republican and popular with the masses always.

Just what disposition will be made of the remains of the late secretary of state is not known in La Grande today. Private messages received by Mrs. George Carpy, a sister of the deceased, conveyed mere appraisal of the death at Redlands this morning. "Frank died this morning" was the sum and substance of the messages and Mrs. Carpy does not know this afternoon if the funeral services will be held at Roseburg, his real home, or at Salem where relatives live and where he has made his home the past several years. Messages giving further light on this subject are expected hourly.

Two Relatives in La Grande.

In addition to the sister, Mrs. Carpy, the late official was an uncle of Mrs. Fred B. Currey of this city, a daughter of Sanford G. Benson, a newspaper man of San Jose. The San Jose relative is a brother of the late governor. The list of brothers and sisters who survive Mr. Benson is:

Sanford G. Benson, of San Jose; W. W. Benson, Dryad, Wn.; Judge Henry L. Benson of Klamath Falls, and Fred

T. Benson, a younger brother of San Jose; the sisters are Mrs. George Carpy, La Grande; Mrs. W. T. Perkins of Salem and Mrs. A. T. Tonkin of San Jose.

Last Seen Here in 1910.

When Governor of Oregon Mr. Benson was in La Grande on various occasions but the last time seen here was in February, 1910, when he was guest of honor at a commercial club banquet given in his honor. He was at that time suffering with falling health and soon after leaving here went to southern watering places only to be recuperated temporarily. He was away from Salem most of the time during the last half year of his term as governor.

Governor Benson and secretary of state were titles which he carried simultaneously but a greater portion of his governorship duties were enacted by Acting Governor Jay Bowman. His success at the last election when he was a candidate for secretary of state, bespoke his popularity throughout Oregon. His vote was flattering.

KANSAS TORNADO FOLLOWED BY A HAIL AND WINDSTORM OVER THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

St. Louis, April 14.—Eleven persons are dead, and the population of two towns is rendered helpless and homeless while \$3,000,000 damages is estimated as being wrought in the Mississippi valley by the terrific wind and hail storm which swept over it last night. Hardly a town escaped without damage. Hall broke windows and the wind

POWDER, FLOUR AND HAY IN PATH OF SMALL WAREHOUSE FIRE

A considerable quantity of gun powder, a large supply of flour and hay were jeopardized this afternoon by a small fire of unknown origin, started presumably by engine sparks, when a blaze was discovered in the warehouse used by the Waters-Stanchfield company. The blaze damaged the entrance

destroyed crops, wrecked houses and injured people.

At Cadet, Missouri, 300 are homeless, four dead and 42 injured; at Valley Mines, Missouri, four are dead and 25 injured; at Plummerfield Arkansas, three are dead and 13 injured.

Hardly a town escaped without damage.

LATE SECRETARY OF STATE FRANK W. BENSON.



Oregon Statesman Who Passed away this morning at Redlands, Cal., after an illness lasting for about two years. Aside from relatives in La Grande he claimed a host of warm friends in this city.

PEARSON GIVES \$300,000 TO CHARITY

TODAY'S GIFTS MAKE TOTAL OF FIVE MILLION TO DATE.

"Paying His Debts" Is Way Philanthropist Classes Actions.

Chicago, April 14.—Dr. D. K. Pearson, the Hinsdale philanthropist, celebrated his 91st birthday today by giving away about \$300,000 to the American board of foreign missions and a number of small colleges or as he called it, paying his debts. Dr. Pearson called these gifts debts, because in most cases the sums are fulfillments of his pledges to the institutions concerned. Today's gifts were as follows: American board of foreign missions, \$100,000; Berea college, Kentucky, \$100,000; Doane college, Nebraska, \$25,000; Northland college, Wisconsin, \$10,000; Highland college, Kansas, \$10,000; McKendree college, Illinois, \$10,000; other small gifts, \$45,000.

Today's gifts bring the total of Dr. Pearson's donations, mostly to smaller colleges, during the last 25 years to

HERE.

fingers of the Oddi-an in lan-

FOR SALE—A top buggy just painted. A snap if taken at Inquire at Fish's paint shop phone Pleasant View Farm 57.

FOR SALE—Good water barrels. bakery.

tain sums to the endowment of various small colleges and he considered these pledges his debts, which he worked off as one after another of the institutions complied with the conditions upon which his gifts depended. Today's list of donations cleans up the slate of Dr. Pearson's debts, and, as he expressed it, he will be able tonight to lie down to sleep peacefully, free of debt for the first time in many years. The list of the colleges and other institutions which have benefited by Dr. Pearson's philanthropy, includes the following: Detroit college, Chicago; Theological seminary, Whitman college, Colorado college, Bears College, Mount Holyoke college, Lake Forest college, Knox college, Drury college, Yankton college, S. D., Carleton college, Fargo college, Pomona college, Fairmount college, Wichita, Kas., McCormick Theological seminary, Pacific university, Forest Grove, Ore., Illinois college, Jacksonville, Ill., Olivet college, Michigan, Marietta college, Sheridan college, Wyoming, McKendree college, California, Anatolia college, Turkey, Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill., Montpelier seminary, Vermont, Guilford college, Greensboro, N. C., Piedmont college, Washington college, Tennessee, Grand university, Chattanooga, West Virginia seminary, Morgantown, Parkville college, Parkville, Mo., and others.

POPULAR ENGINEER RETURNS.

After Wandering in Foreign Lands Throttle Man Is Back.

An old time O. R. & N. engineer who ran an engine out of here 7 years ago, D. A. Cooper by name, has been spending a few days in La Grande visiting his old time cronies who were more than delighted to grasp the old veteran's hand again. Since departing from La Grande he has spent considerable time as an engineer on the Panama canal project, and won a medal for faithful service for the government. Then he wandered on to Porto Rico, Cuba, the Florida coast towns, and after a period of travel which few equal, bought a farm in Illinois. About a year and a half of farming convinced him that Oregon was the place for him and he is back to stay. He leaves tonight for Portland and will select a permanent location in Oregon at once. His many friends here hope he will choose La Grande.

Well Known Actor Dead. West Swanney, April 14.—Denman Thompson, aged 77, died today.

A. J. Olson, Superintendent of the Public Schools of Union, says:

Union, Ore., April 12, 1911.—To the La Grande Observer: Let "N. E. A. for Portland, 1912" be our watchword!

The city that could give "Teddy" the "best time" can also be trusted to entertain right royally the nation's pedagogues in national convention assembled.

However, before any entertaining is done, we must go after the convention with might and main, and carry it to Portland, the City of the Roses.

The N. E. A. is one of the greatest educational forces in our nation. It is not only an exponent of national progress, but also an index, pointing the way for further progress. The Proceedings, published annually, is a veritable storehouse of the best thoughts of the best minds in all departments of educational endeavor.

To have this body brought to Portland for its 50th convention would not only be a credit to the city of which we are as justly proud, but to the state as well. It would be a splendid advertisement; an education

al uplift that would be felt and experienced by all.

This fight is not for the educators of Oregon alone; it concerns every citizen, every officer, whether of the state, county or city; it concerns every commercial club within the confines of our fair state.

It is gratifying to know that one of our leading papers of Eastern Oregon is enterprising enough to take the lead in this great and worthy matter. Let us try to earn a free trip to San Francisco to the 49th convention, so generously offered by the Observer. Let every friend of education boost for the San Francisco convention in season and out of season.

Let me venture a prophecy: If a thousand is needed from Oregon at the San Francisco convention to get it for Portland next year, a thousand friends will go, and return crowned with success.

"Who will go as guests of the Observer?" is the all-absorbing question. Yours for success, A. J. Olson.

AMERICANS SHOT BY MEXICAN BULLETS FIRED IN ARIZONA

Douglas, Ariz., April 14.—With three Americans, 30 Mexican fed-rais, and 15 insurgents dead, 12 Americans; 45 fed-rais and 30 rebels wounded as a result of the battle late yesterday when bullets were shot across the frontier and wounded Americans and finally caused the American troops to interfere and make the fed-rais surrender to save further injury to Americans, rebels today began entrenching to repulse any fed-rais that may be sent against them. In Douglas the vanquished fed-rais are thanking their stars that the Americans intervened.

Further fighting is expected at Agua Prieta and full instructions were telegraphed to the American commander what to do in case an engagement is recommenced. Yesterday three Americans were killed and nine were wounded in Douglas by rebel bullets.

Juarez Fortified.

El Paso, April 14.—An unconfirmed report this afternoon says that Madero has reached Casas Grandes and boarding trains for Juarez to fight Juarez the capital and municipal buildings are covered with soldiers alighting the attack. Mexicans are ring into Juarez from the country paring to flee to El Paso in the nt of fighting.

Advices by courier say 100 Americans and two machine guns are at Juarez. It is unknown whether they are part of Madero's army or are independent body bent on the rescue of Converse and Blatt, Americans imprisoned at Juarez.

Government Admits Danger.

Washington, April 14.—Dispatches received by the state department today say three thousand insurgents are entering Juarez and that authorities are preparing for an attack. Revolutionists outnumber the federal defenders four to one and control the central railroad.

ENTERPRISE HAS 1242.

Report Crediting County Seat With 242 Erroneous, of Course. Enterprise business men have, justifiably, taken exception to the publication report that Enterprise has but 242 people, according to the government census report. The figure should have been 1242 instead. This makes Enterprise the largest town in Wallawa county and also the largest on the north branch.

ANT NEGROES DISFRANCHISED

Report Made to Amend the Fourteenth Amendment Regarding Negroes. Washington, April 14.—Disfranchisement of the negro is the object of a bill introduced in the house today by Hardwick of Georgia. It proposes an amendment to the constitution repealing the 14th amendment of the constitution and will be submitted to the state legislatures for ratification.

Groceries for the Observer

BALLOT BOX FOR CONTEST VOTES

VOTE COUPON.

The Great Circulation Contest.

LA GRANDE OBSERVER—DAILY AND WEEKLY

This Coupon Will Count One Vote.

For (Name)

Address

Not Good After April 15.

Cut Out Around Border.