

BAKER FIRE RAZES STABLE

BETTNER HACK LINE STABLES DESTROYED BY FIRE

Loss Is Almost Entirely Covered by Insurance. Owner Hurt by Horses. (Baker Democrat.)

The Bettner Hack Line stables, on Sixth and Place street, were entirely destroyed by fire shortly after 2:00 o'clock this morning, the origin of the blaze being unknown, although the possibility of some one entering the barn to sleep and setting the fire was suggested as a possibility by Robert Bettner, the owner.

Mr. Bettner was quite badly hurt attempting to get the three horses out of the barn, they being frightened and knocking him down as he was leading them out. He was found in a semi-conscious condition by Joseph Buckley just outside the barn door having been overcome by the smoke. He also suffered a painful injury to one of his feet, one of the horses stepping on him, and he also received a hard blow on the head. He was sleeping in a room in his house next to the barn and the noise of the horses awakened him. The fire had gained such headway when the firemen arrived that the building could not be saved.

Two hacks, some harness, grain tools, etc., were destroyed, but according to Mr. Bettner, the loss, which he was unable to estimate, is covered by insurance.

BACK-DATING BONDS

(Continued from Page 1.)

same method from now on. The "look to the property solely" clause prevails in the Fourth street contract, but the new plan met with the sanction of the company counsel who really proposed it and he then removed objection to non-interest bearing warrants, previously filed.

It was a long session the council had lasting into Thursday. The mayor and all councilmen were present.

Ten Per Cent Issue Up.

The 10 per cent retainer feature was stricken from the contracts on O street between Seventh and Washington, and O street between Fourth and First, and the city has set the precedent of cleaning up final estimates entirely when the paving contract is completed and accepted. Final estimates came in for these two sections of O street's hard surface paving last night and before the matter had been finally decided, all councilmen but one were in favor of the new plan. Each section of the street was adopted as final and accepted with the specific provision in the motion that the bonds under which the Warren Construction company is bound, for several years, hold good for defects solely. Much debate was precipitated by the suggesting of paying all that was due. Councilman Haisten was the only member who opposed the plan. The 10 per cent retainer was held to be a trivial matter of protection to the city compared to the bond that exists. Furthermore the 10 per cent retainer makes a tremendous fuss and heavy expense to the city for when the work is completed, the city is very anxious to sell bonds and clean up all details pertaining to each street. It saves money and loss of time to get a speedy bond sale. Heretofore the 10 per cent has been held for six months and necessitates a big lot of red tape, in the opinion of the councilmen, that could be eliminated and still give all the protection to the city that a surety company can give and which bond has

no bearing on the 10 per cent matter whatever.

Monthly estimates came in on Fourth street where the project is almost complete. The monthly estimate came in on Jefferson street too.

Municipal Horses Suggested.

A harness and dump cart, if owned by the city, would pay for itself in 31 days and give greater satisfaction in the work than is now done, according to a recommendation by Street Commissioner Stacey, favorably received by the council. The outfit will cost \$107 and can be operated by one man and one horse instead of two horses.

The purchase of a team for municipal purposes was brought up and discussed. The several committee chairmen seemed to favor the plan holding out that the purchase price of the team could be saved in about six months and that it would generally be a profitable plan. Much hauling and dray work now paid for by the city could fall upon the municipal horses.

Will Sprinkle Streets.

Main approaches to the city will be sprinkled for a period of 30 days. This order was the upshot of a remonstrance against the dust clouds on East Adams avenue. The dust there is said to be terrific, and the council realized full well that the citizens need some assistance but to sprinkle East Adams avenue without caring for the rest, would be outright discrimination so that in the end, Street Superintendent Stacey was instructed to borrow a sprinkler and keep two in motion so that all the principal approaches, such as North Second West Adams, East Adams, North Fir and others could be sprinkled for a period of 30 days. The teams went to work at 10 o'clock today.

The Library commission submitted a complete summary of work done looking toward erection of the library. This was for official inspection by the council.

Tool House Status Uncertain.

Though the city library commission is anxious to begin construction of the new library, the tool house which now stands on the proposed site has no home in sight. The ways and means committee found its former scheme of occupancy of the terminus of Ninth street looking dubious, and asked for a reconsideration. The approach is too steep. Today the ways and means committee again has the question in hand and may select one of the several sites on most any basis. The installment plan was suggested in the purchase of a site. Those discussed were the McCall site on Ninth, the Erickson, further east, the Fisher on North Spruce, and other prospective locations.

A petition to hard surface, curb and storm sewer Greenwood from the present paving on Adams to the O-W. right of way, came in and was received. This is a matter of nearly two blocks and hits the wholesale district.

Alley Is Sought.

Several residents living on Washington and Jefferson between Hemlock and Spruce, asked for an alley that will, some of the property owners set out, greatly facilitate sanitary campaigns in that block for those not living on or near the corners and generally be desirable. It seems that only a few in the block have not signed the agreement to deed rights of way for a 16 foot alley and the street committee and city attorney now have the matter in hand to effect an alley as soon as possible. Mr. Norby and others living in the block appeared in favor of the petition.

Underwriter inspectors have found about 25 small defects in the fire alarm wiring system and the Gano people of Seattle, who installed it will be asked to explain. These faults allege there is too small a hammer on the main bell, among other things.

The annual repairs and inspection of the Beaver creek pipe line and telephone line was ordered commenced at once.

A tentative contract with the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company was presented and will be sent to the company for approval. It calls for a rental price of \$6.00 monthly for each are light when the number is less than 100 and \$5.00 when 100 or more. There are now only 79 lights but an increase of 21 lights would only add \$26 monthly to the cost on the basis of the new contract. Mayor Hall has personally negotiated for such a contract and the council seems

disposed to order the new lights if the contract is accepted at the other hand.

The city is investigating the feasibility of allowing The Grandys to secure hard surface paving on Fourth from Washington to Jefferson if the city will change the Jefferson avenue tin sewer to run down Jefferson a half block to Fourth then south on Fourth a half block to its present channel cutting off the triangle ditch over the Grady property. The Grandys own a majority of the land abutting the block. The city engineer will investigate the costs.

Some action to relieve the situation on First street where a storm sewer is greatly needed to take off the stream of water that cement walks may be built where the stream now runs, came up again last night. The storm sewer plans had been previously adopted by the council as drafted by City Engineer Roscoe Neal. The property owners want something done so they can construct cement walks to replace the defective board walks now existing.

The house moving ordinance calling for a change from cement to the material of which the street is paved for refilling pin holes made by house movers, was presented and passed. The fee for each pinhole will be 50 cents and if the cost of refilling under direction of the street superintendent is less, that sum will be refunded.

Water Superintendent L. M. Hoyt was made official agent of the city to file application for water before the state water commission.

Specifications for the new municipal reservoir were referred to the water committee.

Attention of the Warren Construction company was called to the condition of the paving on First street where the first coat is said to need repairs.

WANTED—\$1000 on first-class collateral security. Must have the money and am willing to make it an object to the lender. Address P. O. Box 878, La Grande. Adv 8-7 3t

Sand Ridge Also Has 'Em.

"I picked and sold twenty-seven tons of these," said Cecil Cates to the Observer today as he presented a twig from a cherry tree heavily loaded with large Bing cherries. "I just wanted you to know that the Sand Ridge has 'em" along with Mayor Cleaver of Imbler, Willard Couch of Ladd Canyon and the Cove people. Mr. Cates is on the old Reasonee ranch about eleven miles from La Grande and two and a half miles from Alice. He picked 103 gallons of Royal Anne cherries from a single tree. A few days ago a lady from the east visited the Cates and it was hard to convince her that the cherries were not plums.

MEDIATOR IS UNWELCOME

(Continued from Page 1.)

not know how long he would remain in Mexico. He also declared that he would not accept the position of ambassador if it were offered.

Administration Is Puzzled.

Washington, Aug. 7.—Confronted on one hand by the announcement of Provisional President Huerta that special Ambassador Lind will be a "person non grata" unless he recognizes Huerta, and by open opposition of a large section of constitutionalists to Lind's mission on the other hand, the administration is admittedly puzzled for a way out of the apparently serious situation.

The administration is suspicious that Huerta is bluffing. The officials in touch with the president and Bryan declare that Lind's mission doesn't concern Huerta and profess to regard seriously the suggestions that Lind may not be allowed to proceed to Mexico City.

President Wilson and Bryan conferred today on the outlook of the Mexican situation.

Lind wired Bryan that he would sail from Galveston this morning on the battleship New Hampshire, for Mexico.

Boy Scouts to Morgan Lake.

The Boy Scouts will hike to Morgan lake on Friday evening. They will take their blankets and food for two meals and spend the night in the hills.

HELP OTHER SOULS.

Be to other souls
The cup of strength in some
great agony:
Eukindle generous ardor, feed
pure love:
Beget the smiles that have no
cruelty:
Be the sweet presence of a good
diffused.
And in diffusion even more in-
tense.
—George Elliot.

BE UNENVIOUS.

No man is happy till he thinks
on earth
There breathes not one more
happy than himself:
Then envy dies and love o'er-
flows on all,
and love, o'erflowing, makes an
angel here.
—Young.

RECOMPENSE.

There is no winter in the heart
Of him that doth a useful deed.
Of what he gives he hath a part.
And this supplieth all his need.
—J. H. Gourlie.

MEDITATIONS OF MARCUS AURELIUS.

The ways of the gods are full
of providence.
Thou wilt find rest from vain
fancies if thou doest every act in
life as though it were thy last.
Find time still to be learning
somewhat good and give up be-
ing desultory.
A man should be upright, not
be kept upright.
The universe is change. Our
life is what our thoughts make it.
Whatever is in any way beau-
tiful hath its source of beauty
in itself and is complete in itself.
Praise forms no part of it. So it
is none the worse nor the better
for being praised.

WHISTLE AND I'LL COME TO YOU, MY LAD.

Oh, whistle and I'll come to you,
my lad;
Oh, whistle and I'll come to you,
my lad.
Though father and mither and a'
should go mad,
Oh, whistle and I'll come to you,
my lad.
But warily fent, when ye come
to court me,
And come na unless the back-yet
be a-joe.
Syne up the back style and let
naebody see,
And come as ye were na' comin'
to me.
At kirk or at market, when'er
ye meet nae
Gang by me as though that ye
cared nae a fie,
But steal me a blink o' your
bonnie black e'e.
Yet look as ye were na lookin'
at me.
Aye vow and protest that ye
care na for me
And whilles ye may lightly my
beauty a wee,
But court nae anither, though
jokin' ye be.
For fear that she wile your fan-
cy frae me.
—Robert Burns.

A PATRIOT'S WISH.

It is my heart's first and fa-
vorite wish to be employed in
active and enterprising services
where there is a prospect of ren-
dering such services useful and
acceptable to America. The sin-
gular honor which congress hath
done me by their general appro-
bation of my past conduct hath
inspired me with sentiments of
gratitude which I shall carry
with me to my grave, and if a
life of service devoted to Amer-
ica can be made instrumental in
securing its independence I shall
regard the continuance of such
approbation as an honor far su-
perior to the empty pageantry
which kings ever did or can be-
stow.—John Paul Jones.

THE RAINBOW.

My heart leaps up when I be-
hold
A rainbow in the sky.
So was it when my life began,
So is it now I am a man,
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!
The child is father of the man,
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural
piety.
—Wordsworth.

YOUNG EDUCATOR HERE.

Well Known Wallowa County Instruct-
or On Way to Enterprise.

Prof. R. F. Dickerson, recently com-
pleting a course in school supervisor
work at the State University at Eu-
gene, was in the city yesterday the
guest of Mr. and Mrs. U. G. Geenan
while on his way to Enterprise, where
he becomes general supervisor of in-
structions in Wallowa county. Prof.
Dickerson has been connected with the
Joseph schools for two years and is
well known to Eastern Oregon educa-
tors. He is a graduate of Drain nor-
mal.

Cafeteria and Delicatessen.

The object of the delicatessen is to
furnish ready to serve home cooked
products of every description. Any
eatable that you may desire for the
family table, for your lunches, or for
parties or clubs, can be had cooked
to order. Special attention to family
trade; picnics, parties and all kinds of
lunches. Adv. 8-7 6t.

Beach Excursion Discussed.

Officials of the O-W. are contem-
plating a beach excursion from Eastern
Oregon such as was held annually for
the past few years. No definite dates
have been fixed but if Local Agent J.
H. Keeney is convinced that local peo-
ple are anxious for such a plan, it will
be run sometime this month.

Stung by a Bee.

C. E. Cummings, at 1903 Adams
was stung by a honey bee yesterday
and as a result he is nursing one hand
today and refuses to eulogize the busy
bee.

Fruitmen Consult Court.

Nothing definite has yet been de-
cided in the matter of an appropria-
tion from the county to the fund for
fighting blight in this valley, although
at a late hour this afternoon word
from the county judge was to the ef-
fect that a committee was in confer-
ence on the matter.

McKenna Still Very Low.

Word from Saint Vincent's hospital
at Portland is to the effect that no
improvement is noted in John McKen-
na's condition. Mr. McKenna is criti-
cally ill as the result of an operation
for cancer.

MAYOR SIFTS AUTHORITY

(Continued from Page One.)

tion stopped men with the request
that they sign a petition to keep Mr.
Hall in office when it was really the
recall. These men found out the du-
plicity later and had their names re-
moved.

"This man Crane also would stop at
residences and inquire if the lady of
the house knew Dr. Hall. If answered
in the affirmative, he would go on. If
in the negative he would proceed to
tell these damnable lies. It gives me
no opportunity to deny them to the
individuals and such falsehoods hurt
my reputation and my business."

Mayor Hall left the council leaving
the councilmen free to discuss the
matter. Councilman Davis defended
his action saying that if he wanted to
employ a man to circulate a petition
his privilege was such, but he denied
having prompted the circulation of
falsehoods. There was no disposi-
tion to amend any action taken by the
individuals and only some scattering
discussion as to calling an investiga-
tion on Chief Benham.

The situation is now up to George
Crane who circulated the petition origi-
nally and which petition is now some-
where in hiding. The evidence of two
score men, to the effect that he said
four councilmen were paying his wages,
on one hand, the denial of the
councilmen on the other hand
all lean against Mr. Crane and if the
matter is pushed forward and into
the courts as friends of Dr. Hall urge
him to do, a considerable amount of
explaining will, it seems, be necessary.

German Services Sunday.

On Sunday at 10 a. m. there will
again be a German service at the
Lutheran church opposite the high
school. These services have been well
attended and will henceforth be held
at 10 a. m. on the second Sunday of
each month.

WANTED—Young man to learn bak-
er's trade; first-class proposition to
right party, chance for advancement
from start. Apply Model Bakery.
Adv. 8-7 3t p.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Merry go
round, 804 Fir street. Adv 8-7 6t

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