

La Grande Evening Observer

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ST. AUGUSTINE FLA. IS VISITED BY GREAT FIRE

MILLION DOLLAR BLAZE EATS
OUT HEART OF BUSINESS
SECTION.

WOMAN JUMPS AND BREAKS HER BACK

Federal Soldiers Are Held in Readiness to Prevent Looting and Will Shoot When Such Is Found—Fire Starts in Kitchen of Florida Hotel and Spreads Rapidly.

St. Augustine Fla., April 2.—Fire last night did over a million dollars worth of damage to property in the heart of the city, and for a time the complete destruction of the city seemed likely. Toward noon it was thought the flames were under control, but a roaring sea of fire is still sweeping the water front.

Federal troops were held in the barracks ready to act if looting begins. The burned area covers everything between Charlotte, Treasury, Hupolits and St. Georges street. The buildings destroyed include, the court house, The Clairmont, Vedder, Magnolia, Munson, Florida, The Central and Atlantic Hotels, the Lynn building, the Geneva Theater and the Joseph apartments.

The city light plant is out of commission. An unidentified woman jumped from the third story window of the Florida Hotel, broke her back and is reported dying.

The fire started in the kitchen of the Florida just after daylight and had gained considerable headway before the fire department which is inadequate could get its water directed on the blaze. All of the buildings destroyed lie in a cluster in the center of town and this is responsible for the great loss in property. Other than the person mentioned there were no fatalities.

BETTER CROWDS ATTEND.

Peter Better Man Than Judas Because He Repented.

Peter followed Christ into the chamber where later the Peter denial was made, out of Love for Christ and unlike Judas, was enough of a man to show his remorse by re-adopting allegiance to Christ, was the keynote of the noon-day address given by Rev. Upton H. Gibbs today noon at the Passion and Holy week services for workmen and citizens in general at Homan hall. The attendance today was much larger than any time before, for the citizens are just beginning to grasp the purpose and benefits of the meetings. Each day from 12:05 to 12:25 these services are held consisting of two songs prayer and a 15 minute address on subjects pertinent to the week. Following are the balance of the themes to be talked on:

Thursday, April 2.—He was denied.
Friday, April 3.—He was mocked, despised, rejected.
Saturday, April 4.—He drank the cup of sorrow.

Holy Week.
Monday, April 6.—The Cross, the revelation of man's sin.
Tuesday, April 7.—The Cross the revelation of God's love.

Wednesday, April 8.—The Cross our assurance of pardon.
Thursday, April 9.—The Cross our assurance of peace.

Good Friday, 12:05-1 P. M.
I.—"Behold the Lamb of God."
II.—"In the Cross of Christ is Glory."

Curfew Law In Effect April 6

PROBABLE THAT NO ALARM
WILL BE SOUNDED.

SLIGHT SHIFTS ORDERED

Plumbing Inspection Goes Back to the
Water Department.

After April 6th, La Grande will have a curfew law which is to be enforced to the letter. The ordinance establishing the hours of 10 o'clock in the summer time and 9 o'clock in the winter as the limit hours for minors to be on the streets without escort of guardian or parent, was passed at the commission meeting last evening. The original plan to have the fire bell toll the hour, has been temporarily dropped because it might conflict with a bonafide alarm at that particular hour of the night. In most cities the minors or parents themselves are held responsible without any signal and such may be the rule here.

Various matters of importance came up. The street superintendent and city engineer can no longer attend to the plumbing inspection because of added street duties and office demands, and the water superintendent has again been given these duties.

Beaver creek sinking funds are to be invested in salary warrants, according to action taken last night.

The city tax on the Y. M. C. A. was ordered cancelled.

Adams avenue in the vicinity of Cove avenue, is to be repaired with gravel or some similar kind of repair. The weekly report of City Manager, F. J. Lafky, was read as follows:

The Treasurer collected \$533.50 street assessments and interest thereon; collected \$34.05 water rent and received \$6,426.35 taxes from Court treasurer. Paid warrants and interest in the sum of \$4,288.84 and \$9.96 interest on improved bonds, mailed notices of assessments due.

The recorder collected \$55.00 in 6 cases where fines were paid, 7 worked out fines, collected \$49.48 Imp. Dist. \$68 and \$3.32 interest on same, \$3.00 for 5 building permits and \$3.00 for 3

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CHAUTAUQUA BOARD MEETS

BATHING FACILITIES ONE OF
THE PROBLEMS AGAIN.

Slight Change Made in Official Slate
at the First 1914 Meeting.

Active preparations for the 1914 chautauqua session commencing the first week in July, were taken last evening when the board of directors perfected the working organization for the coming year, so far as possible. Treasurer C. M. Humphreys tendered his resignation because of pressing business, and likewise retired from the directorate. George T. Cochran was chosen treasurer in his stead, William Miller and Dr. W. D. McMillan are president and secretary as before.

One of the questions which the park board and the chautauqua board has to meet again is the question of the destroyed dam which keeps the lagoons filled with water—when operative. Last summer the dam went out for the second time, in a very peculiar manner, and even swimming and bathing facilities are greatly impaired now. Various matters came up for consideration. The program is high grade in every respect and needs but little amendment or addition.

TWO HUNDRED NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERMEN DIE

BLIZZARD OVERTAKES SEARCHERS FOR WHALE AND ALL PERISH.

ICE FLOES IN CAPE RACE SCENE OF DISASTER

Overcome Before They Can Regain Vessel, Entire Crew Is Believed to Have Succumbed—News Comes by Wireless and Is Severe Shock to Fishermen.

St. Johns, New Foundland, April 2.—More than two hundred men from the steam whaler New Foundland are either dead or lost on the ice floes off Cape Race as the result of a blizzard Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday morning. The news reached here by wireless from the Red Cross ship Florizel, passing the straits of Belle Isle with fifty corpses aboard. The message didn't say definitely whether or not the steamer sank but the impression here is that when the men were out on the ice floes hunting whales a storm suddenly came up and prevented their gaining a ship in time to save themselves. An early account from St. Johns was interpreted to the effect that the New Foundland had reached port with nearly 170 of the crew of the Southern Cross, lost in the same storm, but the story proved erroneous. The Southern Cross is three days overdue.

The story of the disaster has created the profoundest sympathy, much of this hardy stock of people is accustomed to catastrophes of this nature.

SETH BAKER IMPROVES.

Ninety-year-old Citizen Improves
With the Arrival of Spring.

Friends of Seth Baker the South La Grande pioneer, who next November will be 90 years of age, are much pleased at the fact that the revered gentleman is improved in health. He is able to be about, can walk around the square readily and exercises in his garden daily. During the winter months he was not in good health.

BOWLERS TO GIVE DANCE.

Second Party to Be Next Saturday
Evening at New Hall.

Bowlers of the city who are soon to go to Portland to attend the big tournament, will give another dance at Danceland next Saturday night.

BIGGEST DREADNAUGHT AFLOAT READY TO TAKE CRUCIAL TEST

Greatest Ship-O-War Is Off.

New York, April 2.—Under the command of Captain T. S. Rogers, the super-dreadnaught New York, the largest and most formidable fighting vessel afloat, today is sailing to the Guantanamo, Cuba, testing grounds. There she will go through her paces before becoming the flagship of the great Atlantic Fleet. The New York sister ship of the Texas, still uncompleted, has ten fourteen-inch guns, the largest on any battleship in the world and capable of hurling seven tons of explosives encased in steel a distance of fourteen miles once every

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUGGESTED FOR ENGLAND BY FOREIGN SECRETARY.



Sir Edward Grey, foreign Secretary of the British cabinet who suggests the establishment of a federal system of government for the British Isles. Sir Edward Grey put forward a hint that the government was ready to go to the country for a general election if Parliament would enact its bill abolishing the system of plural voting, giving home rule to Ireland and dis-establishing the Welsh church.

INDUSTRIAL PLANT IS AIM

H. R. BLAUVELT LOOKING OVER
RESOURCES.

Wants Western Location and Looks
With Favor Upon Community.

With a desire to find out detailed information regarding the Grande Ronde valley to the end that he might probably establish an industrial plant here, H. R. Blauvelt of Kansas City, Mo., spent today in the city.

Mr. Blauvelt has had wide experience in building plants of different characters throughout the middle west and his contention is that the northwest should produce a number of articles in the manufactured form because of the abundance of raw material here and the high freight which are necessary to haul the raw material out. His aim is to reduce bulk on everything where it is possible thus making a higher grade at a greater value.

While his plans were not sufficiently matured to furnish detailed information it is understood he will be back to La Grande in a few days and make a further investigation.

RACE MATINEE COMING IN MAY

RACING IN NORTHWEST WILL
BEGIN IN LA GRANDE.

Horse Show in Union Follows Classic
in Latter Part of May.

The race matinee for the latter part of May on the La Grande track is an assured certainty. Dr. P. A. Charlton today received final communication from a number of horsemen stating they will be pleased to start the season with the matinee in La Grande as that will be the initial meet of the season. From here the horses will go to the Union stock show the first week in June and from Union they will go to Baker for a race meet, after the Baker meet La Grande will probably hold a second meet.

Horsemen of the northwest are well pleased with this plan. C. W. Todd of Portland will have his string of six harness horses here and will make La Grande his headquarters for some time during the early season. Charles Wilburn of Baker has also announced he will bring his horses here. The horses now in training at Union will be at the meet and everything points to fast events as the horses coming are the fastest in the northwest. Such horses as Harold, Welcome, Cantatrice, Bonnie Autrim, Aldine, Morris S., Rothada, Delmas and Amy McKinley will be in the list.

Anti-trust Bill by May.
Washington, April 2.—Members of the house judiciary committee promised to rush the proposed anti-trust legislation through the house, but did not believe the bills could be prepared before the middle of May.

Monster Trans-Atlantic Aeroplane.

Paris, April 2.—Alexander Dumas, famous engineer and aeroplane designer, today announced his plans for a machine which he says will be capable of crossing the Atlantic ocean. It will be the biggest ever attempted, being designed to carry a crew of 10, four motors of 200 horse power each; 10,000 pounds of oil and gasoline; 10,000 pounds of provisions and a wireless outfit carrying 700 miles. He thinks the journey would

WAREHOUSE AT NORTH POWDER COMPLETE LOSS

DAMAGE AMOUNTS TO ABOUT
30,000 AND BUT LITTLE INSURANCE EXISTS.

WHOLE SECTION OF THE TOWN IN MUCH DANGER

Conflagration at North Powder Yesterday Afternoon Destroyed Farmers' Warehouse With Heavy Losses—Residences Nearby Saved With Difficulty—Storage Goods Burned.

North Powder, April 2.—(Special)—The Farmers' Union warehouse burned to the ground late yesterday afternoon with all its contents. This fire was discovered about ten minutes after 2 o'clock and one wall and the roof fell in less than 20 minutes after the blaze was first seen. It is thought the fire was caused by a spark from a passing engine being blown into the hay through an open door. The warehouse contained 400 tons of hay and much grain belonging to farmers, some of which was uninsured. The loss is estimated at \$30,000, but an accurate estimate is impossible at this time. A quantity of flour was also destroyed.

A box car which was standing on the siding was also burned.

It was with only the utmost effort that houses on the opposite side of the street were saved. The horses were taken out of the livery stable as soon as the fire was seen, for it appeared as though the entire north part of the town might burn. Fortunately the wind was not high and the absence of wind saved a much larger loss.

A small warehouse at one side of the Farmers' Union building with all its contents was also burned. The loss on this building and contents is estimated at about \$6,000, with an insurance of only \$3,500.

Warehouse Nos. 1 and 2 belonged to the Farmers' Union of North Powder. The loss of the buildings and the products stored in them will be heavy and are only partially insured. At the time of the fire 400 tons of hay were stored in the warehouses, together with 400 tons of miscellaneous grain, and other articles such as scales, bags, twine, shovels, hooks and other articles usually found in a warehouse.

The O. W. sustained the loss of two box cars which were close to the warehouse, and but for the timely assistance of an engine in the yards more would have been destroyed.

The buildings were constructed of corrugated steel, both sides and roof and were said to be fireproof from sparks and any external agency. The supposition is that the building must have caught fire from carelessness on the part of some person in the building or from a smut explosion.

The loss will be heavy, running approximately in the vicinity of \$30,000 or \$40,000. Just what the farmers will do in the matter of reconstructing has not been learned. That it will be a hard blow for the community is certain inasmuch as the insurance will not cover more than about half of the actual loss.

Moving Old Trees to Fair Grounds.

San Jose, Cal., April 2.—Magnolias and shrubbery and Italian cypress trees, 50 years old, have been given by the Oak Hill cemetery here to be exhibited the grand court of the Panama Pacific exposition. The work of removing the trees to the fair ground started today.

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