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ATLANTIC FLEET ORDERED TO SAIL IMMEDIATELY TO TAMPICO; CRISIS AT HAND

**Transports Rushed South With Marines
While Hampton Roads Is Emptied of
War Vessels--Salute Demands Must
Be Complied With Says Wilson**

Washington, April 14.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels this afternoon ordered Admiral Badger, commanding the Atlantic fleet, to proceed immediately with all of his ships to Tampico. The fleet is now in Hampton Roads. Simultaneously the transport Hancock was directed to sail from New Orleans to Tampico with 800 marines. The battleship South Carolina bound Northward from Santo Domingo was intercepted and ordered to Tampico. Orders to go to the same destination were given to the cruiser Nashville, now in Santo Domingo and the cruiser Tacoma, now at Boston. The entire torpedo fleet now at Pensacola has been ordered to stand by for orders preparatory to making the Tampico voyage.

Washington, April 14.—The President and Secretary Bryan are still determined to avoid war with Mexico if it can be honorably done. This was determined after a cabinet meeting this morning. They have begun to realize however, that the recent incidents have increased the difficulty of the task. Their advisers told them, that unless they uphold Admiral Mayo in his demands that the Federals salute the American flag as reparation for the arrest of the navy paymaster and his bluejackets, national prestige will suffer in the eyes of the world. It is not denied that the situation is grave, and the only statement that was given out is the one that the President is backing the admiral in his demands that the Mexican Feder-

als salute the American flag. So far the salute has not been rendered. The order to the fleet was not accompanied by any explanation. "I am making this important public announcement," said Daniels, in giving out the news. "It is self explanatory and must not be interrogated concerning it. The statement speaks for itself."

The only explanation placed on the development was that the Tampico Federals must salute the American flag. The administration officials openly declared that as far as Huerta is concerned there will be no temporizing. The fleet will be ready to leave tonight or tomorrow morning.

PRESBYTERY WILL MEET.

La Grande Delegates Expected to Attend Services at Sumpter.

Baker, April 14.—(Special)—The Grande Ronde Presbytery of the Presbyterian church meets with the Sumpter church Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. Rev. Ward MacHenry, pastor of the local church and Dr. J. W. Huff, delegate from the session of Baker church, will go to Sumpter tomorrow to be at the opening session. The delegates from Baker to the Presbytery, the women's auxiliary of the Presbytery, will go up on Wednesday morning's train. They are as follows: Mrs. Dora T. Bell, Mrs. E. G. Stevenson, Mrs. McPherson and Mrs. Honeyman. They will be joined here by the delegates from La Grande, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Kirk and Mrs. Hanna, and possibly by delegates from Elgin and Wallowa county. A number of ministers of the Presbyterian faith are expected to be in attendance, and a full program for each day has been planned.

DINNER COMMITTEE NAMED.

Two Ladies Appear on the Committee for Club Function.

A. A. Wenzel, E. E. Bragg, Colon A. Eberhard, Mrs. Vincent Palmer and Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe make up the committee of commercial club boosters to arrange for the next monthly dinner by the club members and their ladies. For the first time ladies appear on the committee, and Chairman Wenzel is expected to announce in a day or two just when the dinner will be held and something about the program.

BOSTON FIRE CLAIMS SEVEN

KITCHENETTE DEPARTMENTS IMPRISONED.

Flames Cut Off Retreat—One Missing Believed to Be Dead.

Boston, April 14.—Seven dead have been accounted for, one is missing and several are injured through a fire that destroyed the fashionable hotel Melvine, in the suburbs of Allston. The building included thirty kitchenette departments. Many of the occupants were trapped in their rooms, on account of the rapidity with which the flames spread to all parts of the building. No one had time to save belongings, and all were glad to escape with their lives. The dead are: Mrs. E. G. Bemis, her sister, Mrs. F. C. Beharrell, J. Raymond Power, his wife and infant son, Mrs. Alice Shackford and an unidentified woman. Miss Irene Haze is believed to have perished in the flames as she has not been seen since the fire.

When the guests of the upper stories rushed to the stairways, they found their escape cut off. They found temporary refuge in the balconies, and the firemen reached many of them with the scaling ladders. Some of them jumped. The loss is a hundred thousand.

Harry Thaw's Fight For Release Won In Federal Court

SCENES FROM THE HARRY KENDALL THAW DRAMA OF RECENT MONTHS HAVING CLIMAX IN DECIDED VICTORY FOR HIM TODAY.



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THESE pictures illustrate two interesting scenes in the Harry K. Thaw Canadian drama. One of them shows the little Grand Trunk railroad station at Cootescook, Canada, showing the crowds in front waiting to catch a glimpse of Thaw. He was held by the immigration authorities in a cellroom in the upper part of the station, the barred windows of which are indicated by an arrow in the picture. The other view shows Thaw being taken from the courthouse at Sherbrooke, Canada, by a Dominion policeman and an immigration official after he had been ordered turned over to the immigration authorities. From Cootescook Thaw was taken to Vermont.

Mrs. William Thaw, mother of the famous Harry, is shown to the left.



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Concord, N. H., April 14.—Harry Kendall Thaw's demand for release under habeas corpus proceedings, were upheld today in a 30-page opinion by Federal Judge Aldrich. Most of the opinion is devoted to criticism of the New York authorities for the method used in trying to secure Thaw's return to Matteawan by extradition.

The court held that the state's right to extradite for crime does not apply to insanity or alleged insanity.

No formal order was made discharging Thaw as it was desired to give the New York authorities time to perfect the appeal in the United States Supreme Court.

Thaw's friends are jubilant as they foresee speedy release of the prisoner. If the state cannot extradite him he has but to keep away from its borders.

ed their efforts to prevent the flames from spreading.

The plant was located on the southwest corner of the log pool of the Oregon Lumber company, but the wind was from the north and while menaced for a time, the big mill was undamaged, as were the lumber yards, except a small pile of slab wood on the south side. The sawdust pile extends back for several hundred yards and will smoulder for many days. The inefficiency of the fire protection for this part of the city was evidenced by the low water pressure, but fortunately the wind was in the right direction to prevent greater loss and the firemen were able thereby to successfully cope with the situation. Had the wind been from the south instead of the north, the chances are that the big plant of the Oregon Lumber company, its yards with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of lumber and other lumber plants in close proximity, together with scores of houses would have been in ruins.

The fire short circuited the city power line for a short time and cut off light and power for a few minutes, until the other power lines were cut in.

The plant was in operation yesterday while some repairs were being made to the transmission line to the city from the Rock Creek plant. It was closed down at 4:30 o'clock, and when the engineer left at 7 all seemed to be well, but in a few moments the whole place was in flames. The fire spread with great rapidity and the sky was soon lighted up, and when the lights in the city went out it seemed the whole of South Baker was burning.

Mr. Harmon stated last evening that the plant would probably be rebuilt at once. The destroyed plant was maintained for use in emergencies, when for reason of destruction by the elements or other cause the other plants were put out of commission.

EXPERT FINDS MUCH OF MERIT IN NEW CHARTER

MUNICIPAL RESEARCH BUREAU
EXPERT COMPLIES REPORT
UPON LA GRANDE.

REMEDIES FOR SOME
WEAKNESSES SHOWN

Don C. Sowers Commends Progressive Spirit of La Grande Citizenship—Railroad Commission Form of Book-keeping for Water Department Urged—Refund Bonds Needed.

Meritorious features of the La Grande method of city government, and such points in the new system as could be remedied, are contained in an extensive and elaborate report compiled by Don C. Sowers, municipality expert, who came to La Grande some time ago for detail study of local government methods. Mr. Sowers is at the head of the bureau of municipal research at the University of Oregon, and is admitted to be one of the foremost authorities on municipal government in the country.

He prefaces his lengthy report by praising La Grande citizenship in the highest terms for its progressive steps in evolving a charter which had about five similar ones in the country at the time of its conception. Since then some 10 or 15 have been added in various parts of the nation, but in Oregon, La Grande stands alone.

Mr. Sowers finds much in the details of office work, that he commends very highly, and some things which he can better he asserts. Page after page is given over to the budget classification.

Among the recommendations, comments and suggestions contained in the report, are:

Needs of refund bond issue of serial type urgent.

Weekly reports to manager now in vogue splendid innovation.

Budget classification needs slight changes, though present ordinance is quoted as being big advancement toward perfection.

Requisition system used is good and necessary. Slight changes suggested. Publicity to a rigid set of rules to merchants is regard to requisitions urged.

Card system needed for keeping inventory of city property. Each article of any description owned by the city to have separate card for ready reference showing cost, valuation etc.

Better police blotter suggested. (Manager Lafky has perfected a system since the Sower inspection.)

Fire department admitted to be exceptionally efficient, but needs of fire prevention pointed out.

Amalgamation of street and engineering department called business stroke of much merit.

Records in engineering department exceptionally perfect.

Need of daily time reports in preference to the present labor certificate plan pointed out.

State railroad commission forms for keeping water department books recommended.

Able to Leave Hospital.

After several days' confinement to the hospital for a minor operation, Mrs. John Girdler has so far recovered that she is able to be at her home again.

Bad Egg Wave Hits La Grande

MERCHANTS FORCED TO TAKE
BACK BIG STACKS.

INCUBATOR IS SUSPECTED

Trade Journals Tell of Similar Practices Around California.

Close to 100 dozen eggs shipped into La Grande from Union county poultry raisers, the past month, have been destroyed by La Grande grocers during the past few weeks. The city has been flooded with eggs which bear the ear marks of the incubator, though

(Continued on Page Seven.)

New Yorkers In City.

Mr. and Mrs. Magin and children, of Rochester, N. Y., who have been visiting at the Stackland home in Cove, for a few days, are in the city today on business. They may locate here, or at Cove.

Will Attend Conclave.

John Girdler, superintendent of schools, leaves tonight for Spokane where he will attend the Inland Empire Teachers' convention. He expects to be gone much of the week.

FIRE WRECKS BAKER PLANT

LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY
HEAVY LOSERS.

Big Sawmill Threatened but Escapes Baker Flames.

Baker, April 14.—The steam auxiliary power plant of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company at South Baker was totally destroyed by fire last evening, entailing a loss estimated by General Manager F. A. Harmon at \$60,000 to \$65,000. This loss is covered by insurance of about 50 percent of the value of the property. In addition to the destruction of the power plant, an immense pile of sawdust, valuable as fuel, was destroyed, part of the Oregon Lumber company tramway and two cook outfit cars of the Sumpter Valley railway, on a switch in close proximity to the burning building, caught fire and were badly damaged before an engine was hooked on to pull them from the siding.

There is no explanation whatever of the origin of the blaze. C. S. Bennett, the night watchman, discovered it at 7:10 p. m. The first intimation he had was a crackling sound, and looking around saw that the sawdust bin was ablaze. He turned in the alarm and the fire department was soon on the job. It was useless to attempt to save the building and the fire fighters direct-