

UNION HAS FIRE LOSS

GRANDE RONDE GARAGE AND CONTENTS DAMAGED

New Officers of W. O. W. Installed—Members of 1919 Council Take Oath of Office.

UNION, Jan. 11.—(Special)—About 6:15 Tuesday evening a fire broke out in the work room of the Grande Ronde garage, and resulted in a loss of approximately \$2000, including partial loss of two autos, a Grant belonging to U. S. Blacker and an Overland owned by Ed Wolf. The proprietors, Zeck and Brown, had closed the shop for the day and had gone home when the alarm was turned in.

J. W. C. Burwell of San Francisco and Mrs. Louise Goodred of this city were married in Santa Cruz, Cal., on January 5, 1919. Mr. Burwell was at one time a resident of this county and is remembered by some of the older residents. Mrs. Goodred had lived in Union a long time and has a host of friends here who wish them the best of luck and happiness.

Miss Alice Wright of Hot Lake visited here Tuesday with Miss Sylvia Hughes.

Mrs. Hilda Bullis, who has been visiting her sister in Endicott, Wash., arrived in this city Monday on a visit to relatives. Mr. Bullis is stationed at Camp Lewis.

Miss Lena Shaw, day operator for the Independent Telephone company, is very sick with pneumonia.

Mrs. W. W. Stevens gave a birthday surprise party for her husband Tuesday evening. The evening was spent in playing five hundred, with enough present for four tables. At a late hour lunch was served and after wishing Mr. Stevens many happy returns of the day the guests departed for their homes.

J. W. Patterson is reported ill at his home in South Union.

T. T. Coch and Family will occupy the Thompson place in North Union.

Saturday night the new councilmen took their oath of office at the city hall. The new officials are M. F. Davis, mayor; W. Wigglesworth, W. H. Vogel, G. A. Schird, M. S. Levy, Tony Smith, councilmen; D. A. Vanhouten, marshal; L. Z. Terrall, recorder; Ed Sherman, street commissioner.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Vogel and Roy Phillips returned to La Grande Tuesday on business.

King City Camp No. 86, W. O. W., of Union met January 6th and installed the following officers: C. C. John Reeves, adviser; W. W. Stevens, banker; N. A. Vancoster, clerk; L. A. Wright, escort; Russ Badger, sentry; John Donnan, guard; Geo. Brown, managers; D. A. Vanhouten and W. O. Miller. Refreshments were served after the installation.

CAPT. DOUGLAS E. DISMUKES



Capt. Douglas E. Dismukes, U. S. N., is commander of the United States transport Mount Vernon, formerly the Kronprinzessin Cecilie, which was torpedoed by a U-boat off the coast of France, losing 35 of the crew and repairing to a French port with all passengers safe.

Human Fructose.
Nature does not bear fruit for her self, but for man. The brain does not bear the rich clusters of its own wishful appetite. Our fructose must be for mankind. Your aim is a mistaken one if you are seeking spiritual comfort, quiet reflection, joy here and hereafter, just for your own little self. —Christian Herald.

ANNOUNCEMENT.
I wish to inform the public that I have purchased the furniture and lease of the Oregon hotel, 10 Depot street, and will conduct it in connection with the Harland hotel, and will be known as the Harland Hotel.
The rooms will be properly renovated and made as attractive and pleasant as possible.
Two apartments for light house-keeping will be furnished.
Special attention will be given to the week-end trade.
These interests are requested to

CALIFORNIA'S KELP INDUSTRY

Following storm disturbances at sea, quantities of kelp, seaweed, as it is more commonly known, wash up on beaches along the Southern California coast, having been torn loose from the numerous beds offshore from San Diego northward. These kelp beds are the basis of a new and important California industry, and the pieces that wash ashore are worth money—enough so that fishermen and others living in the south-coast towns and beach resorts gather them when the waves cast up sufficient quantities to make such employment seem worth while.

While a picturesque feature, the beach gleaner is of comparatively infinitesimal importance to kelp-harvesting; he does typify conservation in its best sense, however, in that he eliminates waste—saves from loss that which otherwise would be left to rot away. Admittedly, his activities, or those of the hand-pickers, who gather kelp from the beds in small boats, are negligible quantities when compared with the methods employed by the big operators in harvesting kelp; for this industry has resulted in the invention of one of the most interesting machines—the sea-going kelp harvester.

Lime, was, and only a few years ago, when practically the world's supply of potash came from German mines. The United States received about one-fifth of the entire output, more than half of the amount exported. Seeking a new source of supply for potash to meet new requirements for fertilizers and a growing market, the Bureau of Soils of the United States Department of Agriculture in 1910 directed the attention of the public to the kelp beds of our western coast, whose commercial possibilities had hitherto been ignored. Four years later activities had progressed so far that Californians began speaking with pride of the nation's new potash-kelp industry.

Several of the giant kelp fields, under certain treatments yield, besides potash acetone (used in the manufacture of smokeless powder), iodine, nitrogen and other by-products of value, grow in beds at numerous locations along the west coast of North America, clear up to Sitka, Alaska, but as yet it is only those off-shore from San Diego northward to Point Concepcion (San Barbara county) that are concerned in the California industry. Of these *Macrocystis pyrifera*, or ribbes, kelp, is the variety that so far has proved most important commercially. It has the widest distribution and grows in greatest quantity.

The California legislature at its most recent meeting placed these south coast *Macrocystis* beds under control of the Fish and Game Commission, which reports that during 1917 the amount of kelp used was nearly 400,000 tons wet, averaging about 1.5 per cent per ton of potash. The beds from San Diego to San Juan Point, and about San Clemente, San Nicholas and Santa Barbara islands, were harvested by the Hercules Company, Swift & Company, and numerous hand-pickers; the Long Beach and Wilmington beds (Los Angeles County) were used by the Diamond Match Company, the Pacific Products Company; in the Summerland region (off Santa Barbara county) the United States Experimental Plant, the Lorned Manufacturing Company, and the California Chemical company were operating.

It is interesting to note that potash is not the chief aim of the largest of the works, that of the Hercules Powder company, at Potash, near San Diego, erected in 1916; acetone was the main reason for establishing this plant, while potash and many of the chemicals that are produced may be classed as subsidiary products, although large in tonnage, according to Metallurgical and Chemical Engineering, which appears to speak authoritatively. Over \$5,000,000 is said to have been spent by the Hercules Powder Company at its Potash plant. It covers about thirty acres and employs approximately one thousand men, including one hundred who work on the harvesters at sea.

Over a hundred patents have been taken out by inventors of kelp-cutters and harvesters. The general scheme of operation of the successful ones is about the same, and is similar to that of the more familiar grain-harvester. The knives or reciprocals of the kelp-harvester cut the plants from two to six feet below the water's surface and traveling screens bring it up and deposit it on the harvester vessel or barge. Thereafter this sea harvest crop is subjected to either one of two treatments, according to whether it is to go through the "wet" or "dry" process to obtain its constituents of commercial value. The "dry" process is the simpler, and is followed when the plan is to make fertilizer; the kelp, in long lengths, or ground into bits, is dried for fertilizer, or burned and the ash used for the same purpose. This is the chief work of the plant operated by Swift & Company at San Diego. The "wet" process is more complex and is employed at the great plant of the Hercules Powder Company, where the raw product, ground to a pulp, is mixed with certain chemicals, permitted to ferment, and then broken up into various products by process of evaporation, crystallization and fractionalization. The perfected harvesters of the Hercules company, each of which cost approximately \$75,000 and has a daily capacity of 1000 wet tons, prepare the kelp for this process, machinery abroad the craft grinding the kelp into a pulp before it is deposited in the hold of the craft, to be transferred later to barges, and from them pumped into the fermentation tanks located on the shore. Relative to the finished products of the Hercules plant, a writer in Metallurgical and Chemical Engineering says: "A feature of singular interest is the purity of these kelp products. The potash is all used for chemical purposes, owing to its unique purity, and there is not enough of it to supply this demand. The total quantity of the pure product is not great enough to be considered seriously for fertilizer purposes. There are, however, a number of residues produced which contain potash amounting to quite a tonnage, and these offer interesting and attractive possibilities in which fertilizers are to be considered."

THE MEN IN CLASS A1

A sound, healthy man is never a back-number. A man can be as vigorous and able at seventy as at twenty. Condition, not years, puts you in the discard. A system weakened by overwork and careless living brings old age prematurely. The bodily functions are impaired and important symptoms appear. The weak spot is generally the kidneys. Keep them clean and in proper working condition and you will generally find yourself in Class A1. Take GOLD MEDAL HAZELDEN OIL Capsules, periodically and your system will always be in working order. Your spirits will be revived, your muscles supple, your mind active, and your body capable of hard work. Don't wait until you have been rejected. Commence to be a first-class man now. Get a trial box of GOLD MEDAL HAZELDEN OIL Capsules. They are made of the pure, original, imported Hazelden Oil—the kind recognized by grandfathers and great-grandfathers. They will keep you top-dog and feeling fine. Money refunded if they do not help you. Remember to ask for the imported

process to obtain its constituents of commercial value. The "dry" process is the simpler, and is followed when the plan is to make fertilizer; the kelp, in long lengths, or ground into bits, is dried for fertilizer, or burned and the ash used for the same purpose. This is the chief work of the plant operated by Swift & Company at San Diego. The "wet" process is more complex and is employed at the great plant of the Hercules Powder Company, where the raw product, ground to a pulp, is mixed with certain chemicals, permitted to ferment, and then broken up into various products by process of evaporation, crystallization and fractionalization. The perfected harvesters of the Hercules company, each of which cost approximately \$75,000 and has a daily capacity of 1000 wet tons, prepare the kelp for this process, machinery abroad the craft grinding the kelp into a pulp before it is deposited in the hold of the craft, to be transferred later to barges, and from them pumped into the fermentation tanks located on the shore. Relative to the finished products of the Hercules plant, a writer in Metallurgical and Chemical Engineering says: "A feature of singular interest is the purity of these kelp products. The potash is all used for chemical purposes, owing to its unique purity, and there is not enough of it to supply this demand. The total quantity of the pure product is not great enough to be considered seriously for fertilizer purposes. There are, however, a number of residues produced which contain potash amounting to quite a tonnage, and these offer interesting and attractive possibilities in which fertilizers are to be considered."

According to the writer above quoted, the Hercules plant at Potash, Cal., developed as the result of a demand for acetone for use in munitions. Presumably the business outlook in this regard has been altered by the cessation of the war, with the prospect of this plant's becoming more prominently identified with the chemical industry along different lines than those resulted in it being established.

As previously stated, the California kelp beds are now under the jurisdiction of the state's Fish and Game Commission, and the scientific study of the plant is in the hands of the Scripps Institution for Biological Research of the University of California. A system of opening and closing the beds has been worked out; it is planned that one of California's newest industries shall not be literally "nipped in the bud." Official reports state that the beds recuperate in about ninety days after a cutting, and that with proper conservation regulations observed the basis of this industry promises to remain as permanent as anything that grows.

CALL FOR CITY WARRANTS
Notice is hereby given that all warrants issued on the general fund of the city of La Grande, Oregon, and endorsed December 21, 1917, or prior thereto, are now called for payment and interest on said warrants ceases from this date, January 10, 1919.

AGNES M. RUSK,
Treasurer City of La Grande.
1-11-19.

A WANT AD will do it

Wilson's Fourteen Points

For the next few weeks President Wilson's "Fourteen Points Essential to a Lasting Peace" will be the subject of world-wide discussion. For the convenience of readers of The Observer who may not have these points clearly in mind, the fourteen points, as outlined by the President in his address of January 9th, 1918, and as accepted by Germany and Austria before the signing of the armistice, are herewith reprinted in full:

1. Open covenants of peace, openly arrived at, which shall be no private international understandings of any kind, but diplomacy shall proceed always frankly and in the public view.
2. Absolute freedom of navigation upon the seas, outside territorial waters, alike in peace and in war, except as may be closed in whole or in part by international action for the enforcement of international covenants.
3. The removal, so far as possible, of all economic barriers and the establishment of an equality of trade conditions among all the nations consenting to the peace and associating themselves for its maintenance.
4. Adequate guarantees given and taken that national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety.
5. A free, open-minded and absolutely impartial adjustment of all colonial claims, based upon a strict observance of the principle that in determining all such questions of sovereignty the interests of the populations concerned must have equal weight with the equitable claims of the government whose title is to be determined.
6. The evacuation of all Russian territory and such a settlement of all questions affecting Russia as will secure the best and freest co-operation of the other nations of the world in obtaining for her an unhampered and unembarrassed opportunity for the independent determination of her own political development and national policy, and insure her of a sincere and welcome into the society of free nations, under institutions of her own choosing; and, more than a welcome, assistance also of every kind that she may need and may herself desire. The treatment accorded Russia by her sister nations in the months to come will be the acid test of their good will, of their comprehension of her needs as distinguished from their own interests, and of their intelligent and unselfish sympathy.
7. Belgium, the whole world will agree, must be evacuated and restored, without any attempt to limit the sovereignty which she enjoys, in common with all other free nations. No other single act will serve as this will serve to restore confidence among the nations in the laws which they themselves have set and determined for the

CATTLE STRAYED
From pasture near Hot Lake, three yearlings and one cow. Branded B&X on left ribs, split in left ear and upper bit in right. Reward for information. A. J. Elliott, Union, Ore. 1-9-19

We Know How

Now

TO CLEAN YOUR SUITS, OVERCOATS AND ALL WOOLEN GARMENTS.

IS A GOOD TIME TO SEND THEM IN AND HAVE THEM THOROUGHLY RENOVATED

PHONE MAIN 56 AND WE WILL CALL FOR THEM.

STANDARD LAUNDRY CO.

INCREASE IN CHILD LABOR

Child labor, according to statistics gathered by the Children's Bureau, has enormously increased during the war. In Wilmington, Delaware, sixty-one per cent more children have taken out working permits than last year. In some places in Massachusetts the number has doubled.

Observer advertising pays.

Pay Cash and Pay Less!

We just received a shipment of choice Head Rice, Tapioca, Golden Marshmallow Syrup and Preferred Stock Jellies and Preserves.

Cheese, per lb.	40c
Sego Milk, large can	15c
Borden's Milk, large can	15c
Tomato Sauce, per can	10c
Del Monte Catsup, 18-oz. bottle	24c
Pork and Beans, medium can	20c
King's Dried Fruits and Vegetables, pkg	24c
Dried Prunes, per lb.	10c
Dried Peaches, per lb.	30c
5-lb. pail Pure Lard	\$1.50
10-lb. pail Pure Lard	\$3.00
SOAPS - Sunny Monday, Bob White, Ben Hur, Silk Soap	5c

PHONE MAIN 35

Hug's Modern Grocery

'PAY CASH AND PAY LESS'

Sawyer-Holmes Mercantile Co.

PHONE Main 17

Coal, Wood, Hay, Grain, Lard
Cement, Storage