

PILOT ROCK WAREHOUSE DESTROYED

LOSS OF YESTERDAY MORNING'S FIRE IS ESTIMATED AT 140,000.

CHANGE OF WIND SAVES NEARBY STRUCTURES

Difficulty is Found When Hose of the Pilot Rock Fire Company Failed to Reach the Scene of the Blaze—Part of the Grain May be Salvaged.

PENDLETON, Jan. 24.—Fire of an undetermined origin yesterday morning destroyed the Pilot Rock Elevator company's warehouse, containing more than 100,000 bushels of grain and similar merchandise, at an estimated total damage of 140,000. The warehouse and its contents were owned by the Pilot Rock Elevator company, a co-operative organization composed of practically all the farmers of the Pilot Rock district. The grain, part of which may be salvaged, was valued at \$125,000; the warehouse, totally destroyed, at \$10,000, and the other destroyed merchandise at \$4,000 to \$5,000.

The warehouse was well covered by insurance and practically all of the grain was insured.

Great difficulty was experienced in fighting the fire, as the warehouse was located on the outskirts of Pilot Rock and the fire department of that city did not have enough hose to reach from the city limits to the scene of the fire. The flames were well under way when the fire was discovered at 6:30 Sunday morning. Pilot Rock citizens turned out en masse to combat the fire, as did farmers from many miles around.

The Pendleton fire department sent its apparatus equipped with chemicals and hose to the scene early in the morning, and the Pilot Rock citizens, aided by the equipment, were able to save two other large warehouses in the vicinity.

The Pilot Rock elevator warehouse was in ruins by 10 o'clock. Pilot Rock people declared that changes in the wind at that hour was all that saved the Pacific Coast Elevator company's warehouse, and the Henry W. Collins warehouse, which are located close to the one which was destroyed.

The Pacific Coast Elevator company's structure, containing thousands of bushels of grain, was damaged to a small extent.

Workmen had just finished installing a \$1500 gasoline engine in the warehouse Saturday evening which was to furnish power for a chopping machine. This was destroyed by the flames. The fire also interrupted telephone communication between Pendleton and Pilot Rock.

BAKER STOCKMEN SHIP CATTLE AND HORSES SATURDAY

This past weekend, six carloads of cattle and one carload of horses, all from Baker, passed through the city on their way to Portland. Walter Fiske shipped four carloads of cattle to the market at Portland, and Perry Blackburn shipped two carloads to the same place. H. F. Kelly shipped one carload of horses to Ankey Washington.

APPRAISEMENT WORK IS BEGUN

BAKER, Jan. 24.—A farmer's jury, composed of Charles Windt, Johnson Bond and Gus Perkins, and accompanied by county Judge Dodson, Saturday started the appraisal work on the Oregon Trail between Huntington and Baker. The jury is beginning its work at the Huntington end, and is interviewing farmers and owners of land through which the proposed road will be made.

Judge Dodson, who returned from Huntington yesterday by train, said the jury was going well and the men were doing the way, and summer camp foodstuffs. The jury is not expected to finish the appraisal work until June 17, and will be run to camp to appraise the large number of

MEETING IN PARIS IS TO BE IMPORTANT

REPRESENTATIVES FROM MANY NATIONS ARE PRESENT

Conference May Be Second Only In Importance to That Preceding Versailles Treaty.

PARIS, Jan. 24.—Representatives from Great Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, and Japan, gathered here today for a conference which seemed today in importance only to that preceding the signing of the Versailles treaty. The settlement of long pending questions is expected to take place at this conference.

LIBRARIANS HOLD MEETING

COVE, UNION, AND LA GRANDE ARE REPRESENTED.

County Library is Discussed Considerably at the Meeting Held Saturday Evening.

The various town librarians of the Grande Ronde valley met at the La Grande public library Saturday night. Those who were present were, Mrs. Willis, from Elgin; Mrs. Walter Cook, from Union; Miss Ruth Scribner, and Mrs. Grace, from Cove, and Mrs. Lilly R. Slater, of Cove, besides Miss Nichols, of the La Grande library. Considerable discussion was made on the county library that apparently is a thing of the past and other library questions were brought up in the course of the evening. No definite action was taken, however, and the affair may be summed up as a successful get-together party of the Grande Ronde valley librarians.

MINSTREL WINS MUCH PRAISE

FOUR ACTS OF LAUGHING COMEDY GIVEN BY GLEE CLUBS.

Said to be Very Successful—Miss Birney Has Been Asked to Have Show Repeated.

The Glee Club boys of the Greenwood and Riviera schools are the heroes of this hour since Saturday night. The minstrel that was pulled off at the High School auditorium was a wonderful success. The curtain went up on time and the laugh began, which lasted throughout the entire performance.

Cake walks were in order, and such skill as the boys showed in the old dancing step, has never heretofore been shown. Then the voices of the boys carried out the old saying that the men from Alabama can surely sing. The jokes were all new and very well put across. While this is the first attempt at impersonating the negro, it is said to be one of the best performances of its kind that has taken place in this city for many years.

The house was packed, people stood up in the aisles and in the doorways and some of the late comers did not even get a peep at the young actors. No admission was charged and the public showed by its attendance and interest in many ways that this fact, while it is an unusual one, was appreciated. Home made candy was another feature of the evening. This was gone very soon after the show was started, however. Proceeds from this will go toward paying for the numerous small expenses incurred by giving the show.

Much praise has been given Miss Frances Birney, director of the affair. It has been suggested that the minstrel show be given once more in order that the people who could not attend Saturday night, might at a later date.

Summer Camp Is Already Attracting Number of Students

CORVALLIS, Jan. 24.—Summer camp has attracted the attention of a great many students. Eighty-two have been signed up for field artillery and summer camp foodstuffs. The prospect of the military department is not expected to finish the appraisal work until June 17, and will be run to camp to appraise the large number of

PORTLAND RADICALS ARRESTED

THIRTEEN ALLEGED REDS ARE ARRESTED AND QUANTITIES OF LITERATURE SEIZED

MEETING WILL BE PROHIBITED HEREAFTER

Meeting Which Was Scheduled For Last Evening and Advertised as "In Memoriam" of the "Bloody Sunday" in Petrograd in 1905, Was Prohibited.

PORTLAND, Jan. 24.—The police arrested thirteen alleged radicals and seized a quantity of radical literature and prohibited a meeting which was scheduled for last night and advertised as "in memoriam" of "Bloody Sunday" in Petrograd on January 22, 1905. Those under arrest are charged with violating the state criminal syndicalism act. Mayor Baker has announced that all meetings of the alleged radical organizations would be prohibited hereafter.

NEW SHIPPING BOARD MEMBER HAS RESIGNED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Chester Rowell, of California, has resigned as a member of the new shipping board, to become a member of the California railroad commission.

Oregon Grain Men Form Organization

THE DALLES, Jan. 24.—The Oregon State Grain Growers' association, a co-operative non-profit organization, designed to control the marketing of the major portion of the wheat grown in the state, was formed Saturday at a meeting in The Dalles of representatives from Wasco, Sherman, Moro, Gilliam, Umatilla and Walla Walla counties.

The new organization is state-wide in scope and is said to be the largest attempt at co-operative marketing yet tried in Oregon. It was designed to eliminate speculation in an orderly manner and prevent violent fluctuation in the wheat market; control enough of the wheat grown in the state so that the co-operative organization can sell the wheat direct from the grower to the consuming mills, cutting out grain dealers' profits, including the profits now being realized by dealers from "blending" the wheat.

In the plan of organization, which is modeled after those in use by California, Idaho and Washington co-operative associations, the state will be divided into nine districts, each district representing from 1,500,000 to 5,000,000 bushels of wheat. Each district will have one delegate, plus additional delegates for every 500,000 bushels of wheat signed up in that district. The total number of delegates is not to exceed 30, however.

From these delegates, eight directors will be elected, one more director being chosen by the president of Oregon Agricultural College to represent the interests of the people.

The directors will appoint a manager for the association, and also an executive committee of three from their members, who will keep check on the various operations of the organization.

The plan of organization includes a six-year contract with the farmers, under the terms of which all wheat is to be delivered and sold through the association. A fine of 25 cents a bushel will be levied against any member who sells wheat outside of the association.

The co-operative wheat marketing movement in Oregon had its inception at the meeting of the farmers' union, assembled at Dallas, Ore., last October.



COUNT TOLSTOI THINKS REFUGEE MIGHT BE SON

NEPHEW OF NOVELIST TOLSTOI MENTIONED IN DISPATCHES.

Count Tolstoi, on Lecture Tour, Now in Portland, Makes Public His Idea.

PORTLAND, Jan. 24.—Count Ilya Tolstoi, who is here on a lecture tour, said that he believed a nephew of the novelist Tolstoi, who was mentioned in the Associated Press dispatches from Salonika as among the 30,000 refugees from Crimea who are facing starvation, was his son, Andrew, a Russian officer.

STATE BALLOTS MAY NOT COUNT

PORTLAND, Jan. 24.—A Washington special dispatch to the Portland Telegram says that the Oregon electoral votes may not be counted unless the messenger arrives before midnight tonight. The vote was received by mail, but a tested ballot of the state electors must be deposited today.

The elector designated to take the vote is still in Portland, having planned to reach Washington February 9, when the ballots were to be counted.

WEATHER FORECAST.
Tonight and Tuesday, rain in west, rain or snow in the south portion of the state, and warm tonight in the east portion.

GASOLINE EXPLOSION STARTS FIRE

SPARK FROM WORKMAN'S CHISEL CAUSES GASOLINE CAR TO EXPLODE.

TWENTY-FIVE ARE REPORTED KILLED

Explosion Set Fire To a Row of Small Buildings Which Were Mostly Occupied by Negroes—Over Fifty Persons Were Injured As Result of Memphis Disaster.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 24.—An explosion of a tank car filled with gasoline set fire to a row of small buildings which were mostly occupied by negroes, in the north end of Memphis today. A number of persons are missing, and the police estimated early this morning that as many as twenty-five were dead and fifty injured.

The cause of the explosion is reported to have been a spark from a workman's chisel.

JOSEPH BEATS LA GRANDE TEAM

ANDREWS HAVING SMALLPOX CRIPPLES TEAM.

Score is 28 to 30—Last Five Minutes of Hard Play Hurts La Grande Score.

The La Grande basketball team came home from their Wallawa county trip lacking two of the score they had set as the limit. Joseph carried off the honors Saturday and bounced La Grande, 28 to 30. This was not due to the lack of team work or that the local men would have been ordinarily out-played, for La Grande was handicapped by the fact that only two of the old stand-by players, who were on the team, were in working order. Andrews, who usually carries the title of Center, took the smallpox on the road to the Wallawa country and, of course, could not play. Two others cannot play in the La Grande team because they have not made the grade mark set for the players.

The game showed a great deal of speed, and thrills were in order. Both teams were equally matched and played their level best. The score ran even and, as the whistle blew to end the game, the score stood 28 to 28. Five minutes more of mad play were added and thus Joseph added the final 2, making the score in her favor.

THE CARNEY'S RETURN

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Pitcock and Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Carney arrived home this morning from Portland where they spent a few days on pleasure.

RED ARMY IS DISCOVERED IN GERMANY

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCH IS MADE FOR EVIDENCE.

Army Is Said To Possess Vast Supply of Light and Heavy Arms and Other War Material.

BERLIN, Jan. 24.—A semi-official report issued today says that evidence of the creation of a red army had been found in several cities by a house to house search. The army is said to possess a vast supply of light and heavy arms and other war material. The general is reported to have been arrested at Dusseldorf.

COVE WOMAN IS CHOSEN

IS NAMED ASSISTANT CASHIER OF COVE BANK.

Miss Eunice Ramsdell Will Take Place of John D. Dean, Who Is Visiting in Nebraska.

COVE, Jan. 24.—Miss Eunice Ramsdell was elected assistant cashier of Cove State Bank recently. The young woman is the youngest daughter of Dr. C. M. Ramsdell and was bookkeeper at the bank prior to election in place of John P. Dean, who is visiting with relatives in Nebraska. The bank has re-elected E. C. Reed president; J. P. Conley, vice-president and elected Grover Duffey, cashier. R. S. French and C. M. Ramsdell, directors.

Cove elected at the November general election two women, Mrs. J. W. L. Kaufman and Miss M. Stearns, for the city council, but neither were present to take oath of office. Men will be appointed in their places.

HOWARD GIVEN DEATH PENALTY

MALHEUR COUNTY MURDERER TO HANG FEBRUARY 5.

Condemned Man Violently Refuses to See Minister Before He Is Taken to Salem.

VALE, Jan. 24.—"I have nothing to say," said George Howard, 23 years old, in the same cool voice and with the same composed demeanor he maintained throughout his trial for the murder of George R. Sweeney, before Judge Dalton Biggs passed sentence upon him.

The prisoner staggered slightly, however, and was assisted from the room by Deputy Sheriff High when taken back to the jail. Howard's father broke down and was assisted from the room during the sentence.

Sheriff Now left immediately with the condemned man for Salem to turn him over to the superintendent of the state penitentiary. Date of execution was fixed by Judge Biggs for Friday, February 25.

Howard refused to permit a minister of the gospel to see him and used strong language in voicing his refusal. His nerve and calmness during the trial has caused wonder among court officials, who have taken part in the trials of some of the really bad men of eastern Oregon in the old and wilder days. Only once did Howard show any sign of breaking down and that was on his way to the jail after the verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree had been read Thursday night. But he calmed down quickly and played calmly with an inmate of the jail until a 14-hour that night.

He has been a model prisoner, according to Sheriff Noe, and during the month and a half he was in jail gained three pounds in weight eating "hardtack" all the time and apparently not having a worry in the world. The details of Howard's crime have made it the most cold-blooded homicide ever committed in eastern Oregon according to court officials.

New Feeding Test is Started at the Experiment Station

Experimental feeding tests with 70 head of two-year-old steer calves and 112 sheep, have just been started at the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Union. Former tests have shown the value of silage in fattening steers, and some of the economical feeds and are practices of fattening or wintering cattle, sheep and hogs.

PENALTY OF DEATH PROPOSED

BILL IS INTRODUCED MAKING HOLD-UP MEN LIABLE TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

WOULD EXTEND OFFICE OF PRESIDENT TO 8 YEARS

Joint Resolution is Introduced by Representative Lee of Multnomah, Asking to Change Length of Office Term from Four to Eight Years.

SALEM, Jan. 24.—A bill proposing capital punishment for hold-up men has been proposed by Senator Hunt. The bill would make it an offense punishable by hanging to assault with intent to kill or place a person in jeopardy in a robbery or attempted robbery.

The Oregon members of Congress will be urged to support a constitutional amendment, extending the term of office of the President of the United States to eight years, in a joint resolution which has been introduced by Representative Lee of Multnomah.

County Unit System Proposed.
The county unit system of taxation for school districts is to be embraced in a bill prepared by the committee of the county superintendents Association of Oregon. The object is said to be to eliminate inequalities now existing among the districts, which have long been a target of criticism. Under the proposed bill, the districts would be divided into three classes, city districts, village districts, having from 500 to 100 pupils, and county districts.

Four educational bills which were before the house committee on education today, provide for free text books in elementary schools, to make school election conform with general elections; to fix the terms of school directors in certain districts, and remove property restrictions on voters at school elections.

Senate Adjourns Without Vote

The senate, after an acrimonious debate on the motion that the committee be ordered to report immediately on the Portland port consolidation bill, adjourned until 2 o'clock, without a vote.

Senator Norblad and Representative Miles introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Cremona loan fund to assist districts created by the owner of logged-off land in clearing land, would be submitted to the people. This would authorize bonds not exceeding two per cent of the state valuation.

Would Enable Veterans To Purchase Homes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Commander-in-Chief Robert G. Woodside, and E. H. Dale, Chairman of the National Legislative Committee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars appeared before the Finance Committee of the United States Senate and urged the passage of Adjusted Compensation for the veterans of the war with Germany.

In presenting their arguments to the Senate Committee the representatives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars urged immediate action and asked that, in addition to the Land Settlement Provisions of the Adjusted Compensation Bill as passed by the House of Representatives that some means be devised to enable veterans to purchase homes in cities or towns if they did not elect to take up a farm unit.

UNEMPLOYMENT WILL BE TOPIC

The best methods to prevent unemployment in La Grande in the face of a general business stagnation throughout the country, will be discussed at tomorrow's weekly luncheon of the members of the Union County Ad Club at the Polo Hotel. Attorney H. E. Dixon will be chairman for the luncheon, and, besides the unemployment situation, there will be other matters of importance to be considered at this meeting.

PORTLAND MARKETS.
PORTLAND, Jan. 24.—The price of cattle was 0.05 on the local market today. Hogs 0.08 higher, selling for \$11 and \$11.25. Sheep were steady and eggs and butter were weak.