

MANY FLOCK-TO MUSCLE SHOALS

"The South's Niagara" Expected to See Much Development in Near Future

(By Associated Press.)
FLORENCE, Apr. 3.—With the interest of the nation fixed for months on Muscle Shoals, an influx of people to the district has constituted a problem that has taxed the ingenuity of town and civic authorities. Agitation of the potential strength of "the South's Niagara" and the possibilities that were expected to be speedily fulfilled in event of development of the latent war project, turned a veritable stream of humanity in search of the El Dorado. Folks came on foot, in horse carts, in motor cars, in day coaches and in palatial drawing rooms. There were men with money seeking investments; men in overalls hunting work. There were adventurers looking for anything they might find. Some spent money lavishly; others were wards of the community and had to be fed.

The problem at once became so grave that the town authorities of Florence, Sheffield and Tusculum—municipalities composing the district—"tri-cities"—sent out a warning: "Stay away from Muscle Shoals unless you come on legitimate business and have an engagement in advance."

This stopped some of the fortune hunters, but yet they came.

The first offer for the government's property caused complete metamorphosis of the district. The community was stunned when war work was stopped the day the armistice was signed. Putting machinery in "stand-by" condition was a symbol of disappointed hopes. But the resultant somnolent condition was reawakened overnight when the word went forth: "Muscle Shoals is to be developed." Everybody in the district believed that a bid meant other bids and that competitors in the field would result in acknowledgedly by the government that Muscle Shoals would not be scrapped.

The people of the district formed the policy of extending a welcoming hand to builders and the real estate boards of the three cities declared that realty prices should not ascend beyond unreasonable levels. These boards, it is stated, have largely controlled prices of real estate. A few speculators edged in, however, and small tracts of undesirable land have been optioned and sold at figures not within bounds set by the realty associations. It is asserted, though, that actual cheating and faking has trapped but few persons. There are no swamp or low lands in the region, the realtors declare, but some of the property offered is situated many miles from the Tennessee river and the nitrate projects.

Much property is said to have changed hands over a stretch of territory along the river for a distance of twenty-five miles. The state of Michigan, it is said, has furnished more buyers than all the other states combined, with the possible exception of Alabama. Town lots have sold at from a few hundred dollars to \$10,000. Farm land contiguous to the towns has brought from \$50 to \$125 an acre. Many of these nearby farm tracts have been optioned or purchased with a view of subdividing in event of looked-for developments.

Authorities of the tri-cities say the three municipalities will constitute the hub from which will radiate one of the industrial miracles of the age, no matter who the successful bidder may be for the government property.

Extravagant stories circulated concerning conditions in the district brought out "The Muscle Shoals Book," indorsed by town and civic organizations and edited by one of the community's leading ministers. It sets forth authentic data for "those who have the vision and courage to build themselves into the certain de-

velopment of the Muscle Shoals territory."

The municipal woodpile at Sheffield has afforded scores of adventures the opportunity of a square meal.

The municipal woodpile at Sheffield has afforded scores of adventures the opportunity of a square meal.

So burdensome became the task of feeding the jobless that the town in co-operation with the Red Cross hit upon the no-work, no-soup plan and it worked. Every man who wanted food and shelter chopped wood. As a result many householders burned wood and scores of hungry men were fed.

The new population furnished work for the police. Sharks and flimflammers came with the honest folks, the authorities said. By a process of elimination these undesirable were weeded out slowly.

Town authorities have prevented overcharging on the part of the hotels and shop keepers, and visitors are surprised by normal price conditions.

STATION BUSIEST IN THE WORLD

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Apr. 3.—The Melbourne central station is the busiest railroad terminal in the world, according to the contention advanced today by the Victorian Railway authorities, who contend that more trains are handled there daily than at any of the other large stations.

In 1913 a count showed that 1,377 passenger, 114 freight trains, and 173 switch engines passed through the Melbourne station and recent electrification has raised the total number of trains to 1500 daily. These carry at least 600,000 passengers, it is said.

Prior to the war, the Liverpool street station in London was regarded as the busiest in the world, with 1380 passenger trains carrying between 180,000 and 190,000 persons daily.

The Victorian authorities contend that the Melbourne station handles more trains and more passengers than the St. Lazare station in France, the South Boston station in Boston, or the Grand Central terminal in New York City.

Nothing So Good for Cough or Cold, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

"Everyone who has used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy speaks well of it," writes Edward P. Miller, Abbottstown, Pa. People who once use this preparation are seldom satisfied with any other. It is excellent to allay a cough or break up a cold.—adv.

THE Oregon Nursery Co., Geo. Ball, Agt. 1212 Wash. Ave. Phone 146-M. 3-7-22

READ THE WANT ADS!

ARCADE
3 Days—Starting
THURSDAY



"THE SHEIK"
A GEORGE MEEFORD PRODUCTION

DEPRESSION IS WELL OVER NOW

Unemployment Conference Presents Figures Showing That Change Has Come.

Some very definite figures to prove that the tide of business depression has turned and that the worst is over were made public today by the President's Conference on Unemployment. Reports from the United States Employment Service bureaus showing the trend of unemployment in the entire country have been charted and indicate a distinct gain.

The mass of statistics dealing with the hundreds of thousands of applicants and the jobs available for them, have been figured on a percentage basis, and it comes out that for every 100 jobs available at the various employment bureaus, there were 236 applicants in January, 205 in February, and 194 for the first ten days in March, showing a gradual drop. In other words, there were only jobs in January for 44 per cent of the applicants, while in March the number had gone up to 51 per cent. Assuming that 3,500,000 were jobless in January, this shows work for 245,000 persons, or more than the population of Delaware.

For every 100 registrations, 38 found jobs in January, 41 in February, and 43 in March. With the falling off in applicants there has been a corresponding gradual increase in the number for whom work is found, which figures out at a 5 per cent gain.

Officials of the Conference are now a good deal concerned as to the best methods to bring about the salvage of the many men who, during the winter, have been forced from the independent into the dependent class.

"There is no doubt, I am afraid," said Arthur Woods, Chairman of the Emergency Committee of the Conference, "but that there are a great many thousands of men who have been en-

tirely self-respecting and self-supporting but who have been driven through the stress of the times, without fault of their own, to become public dependents. From points of view Lindsey, former stock broker, accused both of humanity and of the conservation of man power of the country, and others out of nearly \$1,000,000, these men must be helped back into the independent class. What are the best ways to do it is our problem today."

PLEADS GUILTY.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Apr. 1.—Alfred E. Lindsey, former stock broker, accused of swindling wealthy society women of man power of the country, and others out of nearly \$1,000,000, Friday pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with the largest sum of \$18,000 from Mrs. W. H. Arnold. Sentence was postponed.

TRIBUNE HELD UP.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Apr. 1.—Three bandits walked into the accounting room of the New York Tribune in Park Row across the street from City Hall po-

lice station, at 10:30 o'clock Friday night, held up two clerks and a watchman and escaped with \$1,000.

Ten pounds of lard \$1.50 at People's Market. Phone Main 747.

Made in La Grande

IF YOU WANT TO BE ASSURED
THAT QUALITY PRODUCTS
ARE MANUFACTURED AT
THE MACPHERSON BAKERY
LOOK IN PATTISON BROS.'
WINDOW

PATTISON BROTHERS GROCERY

Call Main 80

LA GRANDE IRON WORKS

MACHINE SHOP AND FOUNDRY

All kinds of machinery, automobiles and tractors repaired, overhauled and rebuilt.

Acetylene welding of all kinds.

Cylinder boring and oversize pistons.

Cranks, shafts, Pistons and Piston Pins reground.

Give us a trial

D. FITZGERALD, Prop.

INSURANCE

LA GRANDE INVESTMENT COMPANY

Reliable Agents for Reliable Insurance Companies
1113 Adams Ave. Phone Main 752

LA GRANDE CONSTRUCTION & SUPPLY CO.

General Contractors and Builders

Screen Doors, Windows and all kinds of Mill and Cabinet Work. Estimates on Plate Glass and Store Fronts

Phone 428-J Cor. Greenwood and Madison
La Grande, Oregon

H. P. Neilson and Chas. E. Harris, Props.

SPECIAL

Strip Bacon, per lb. 18c
Smoked Shoulder, per lb. 18c
Pienies, per lb. 18c

We Wholesale and Retail

If you want the best in meats, trade with us.

The Grande Ronde Meat Co.

La Grande, Oregon

Tuesday We Sell--

4 lbs. Head Rice for 30c
4 lbs. Mexican Red Beans 30c
In your next order include a can of green Lima beans, 25c
Large, fancy Onions, 2 lbs. 25c
Remember the new location
Fancy Sandridge Potatoes
\$2.00 cwt.
Turn the corner and save a dollar

J. G. HOLM

GROCER

Quality and Service

—FREE DELIVERY—

CALL MAIN 43

READ THEM REGULARLY—FOLLOW
THEIR GUIDANCE—IT PAYS

WORKERS in the woods frequently find the trail blazed by the axes of those who have gone before. guided by these marks, they easily find their way.

Advertisements perform a similar duty for you in the important business of spending your money. They point the way to values of which you would never know if they were not there to guide you.

Do you read them? Wise shoppers do. They are the economical buyers—the ones who keep themselves strictly up-to-date on the best opportunity for saving money, or spending it judiciously, which is one and the same thing.

Read the advertisements in this paper. Read them to know what's what in the shopping district. Read them because they place before your eyes a panorama of business progress. Read them to save money—to save steps—to save disappointments. Read them because they blaze your trail to satisfaction in your every-day buying.