

ASTORIA BURNS

Entire Business Part Of Astoria is Wiped Out By a Mammoth Fire

BLAZE BEGAN IN HEART OF COAST CITY

ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—Thirty blocks of the business district including the older residence section, leading business houses and banks, and buildings of both newspapers, were swept by fire at noon. The fire is spreading east at Seventeenth street, but it is generally checked in the west and north ends. It has spread some on the south side of the devastated area to Franklin between Eleventh and Twelfth.

Dynamiting broke windows of the courthouse, but that building is believed saved. The fire had practically burned itself out at noon. In addition to the death of Norris Staples, who dropped dead, an invalid man is reported to have jumped himself. The last estimate of the loss is between ten and fifteen millions.

(By Associated Press) ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—Early this afternoon the fire had practically burned itself out. Appraisers from Portland put six additional hose lines on the fire. W. A. Foster, president of the Astoria National Bank, estimated the loss at between ten and fifteen millions. Astoria business men have sent out word that the city needed cash, as all banks have been burned and money was locked in vaults. All bakeries were burned and bread is needed. Beds for the homeless are to be sent from the nearby hotel. The hotels will accommodate such as going there for shelter. Police are making efforts to patrol the burned district to prevent looting.

(By Associated Press) ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—Business district of Astoria was wiped out by fire early today. The fire is still raging. One death is reported. Loss estimated over \$10,000,000.

ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—The entire business section comprising 26 square blocks, was wiped out by a fire which started shortly after two o'clock this morning in a restaurant.

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Bonds For Cove Road To be Sold in January

A delegation of about twenty representative citizens of Cove, accompanied by their attorney, Jno. S. Hodgins, appeared before the county court of Union county yesterday afternoon and reviewed the conditions surrounding the Cove road which was voted in the road bond election.

Year has been expressed that since the enactment of road building is subsiding there might be a disposition to cut Cove short on her road program. There was indication of this at yesterday's meeting as the court assured the Cove people that sale of \$100,000 worth of bonds would be made in January and immediately the contracts for building the grading, draining and rock on the Cove road from Island City to Cove would be advertised.

At the same time the contracts for Hunter Lane and Hunter-Sumner road will be included. Representatives of the Hunter-Sumner road, the road representing the people living along the Hunter Lane and also along the Hunter-Sumner road.

Bids will be called for three different kinds of surfacing—concrete, black-top and macadam—all under state specifications, but the general

SEAT SALE FOR CONCERT BEGINS

Boys and Girls Will Make A Two-Hour Canvass of City Saturday Forenoon.

While the official seat sale for the Herbert concert to be given by the Neighborhood club in the L. D. S. Tabernacle on December 13th opens tomorrow (Saturday) afternoon at 1 o'clock p. m. at Silverthorne & Wright's drug store, there will be a two hour campaign of seat selling tomorrow morning starting at 10 o'clock by the boys and girls under direction of the Neighborhood club. Tickets purchased from the boys and girls can be exchanged at 1 o'clock for reserved seats at the selling place which will expedite matters and permit a better selection of seats, it is believed.

The interest in this concert as the extraordinary event for the winter season continues to grow and members of the Neighborhood club today express a satisfaction in the way the musical event is being welcomed by La Grande people.

Very rarely do such artists as Gottfried Herbert, violin soloist, orchestra conductor and professor of violin, come to the interior cities.

Dr. Ernst Kunwald, former conductor of Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra says of him: "Mr. Herbert proved himself to be an ambitious orchestra and concert violinist with good technique and masterly bowing."

PIONEER LADY PASSES AWAY

Grande Ronde Valley Loses Another of Its Revered Pioneers; Mrs. J. S. Mitchell Answers Call.

Mrs. J. S. Mitchell, pioneer lady of the Grande Ronde valley, passed away at the home of Mrs. Will Nibarger, her daughter, at 11:30 o'clock this morning.

Funeral arrangements have not been announced.

LIVESTOCK MARKET

PORTLAND, Dec. 8.—Cattle were steady, top hogs a quarter lower, other hogs steady. Prime lights selling for \$9 to \$9.25; sheep, eggs steady, and butter firm.

EXECUTION OF 4 IRISH REBELS IS HELD TODAY

DUBLIN, Dec. 8.—Rory Connors and Liam Mellows, together with two other Irish rebels, were executed at the Mount Joy prison today.

FUNERAL OF FROZEN MAN ON SUNDAY

Remains of Adolph Groupe, Frozen to Death in Catherine Creek Hills, Will Arrive Tonight.

Announcement was made today that the remains of Adolph Groupe, who was found yesterday morning in the Catherine Creek hills frozen to death, will arrive in La Grande this evening in care of Stedraas & Zimmermann, undertakers.

The funeral will be held next Sunday.

SPRAINED ANKLE

Adolph Walker, manager of the Island City Garage, seriously sprained his ankle while trying to hold down the crank of a large Marion car while the carburetor was being tuned up. The crank suddenly slipped out, throwing Mr. Walker's weight on his right ankle. The bruise did not seem serious at the moment but in a short time he was no longer able to bear his weight on the injured member.

WHEAT QUOTATIONS

PORTLAND, Dec. 8.—Wheat \$1.15 to \$1.45.

KESSLER IS ARRESTED BY THE SHERIFF

Hearing to Be Held Soon; Bail is Set at \$5,000; In Custody of the Sheriff.

William Kessler, charged with manslaughter of Arthur Cleaver, of Baker, was arrested last evening by the sheriff of Union county and appeared before Justice Arthur C. Williams this morning. Kessler asked for a Baker attorney and the hearing was postponed, probably to be held tomorrow or Monday.

Kessler is in the custody of the sheriff and his bail has been set at \$5,000.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLUB IS TO HELP

The Neighborhood Club is hoping to bring a little Christmas cheer into the lives of unfortunate girls and their babies in Oregon. The means of doing this will be in sending a Christmas donation to the Florence Children's Home in Portland. The attention of club ladies has been called to the great needs of this worthy institution, and it is hoped that the response will be generous. Donations in the way of money, new or used clothing, materials, or anything which might be used for babies or young mothers, will be thankfully received. Such donations may be brought to the club meeting next Tuesday afternoon, or left at the Y. M. C. A., in care of Mr. Preke.

BULLETINS

MAY UNITE RIVERS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The war department today introduced a bill to unite the Columbia river from Vancouver to Priest Rapids, Idaho, and the Snake river from the mouth to Asotin, Washington, to determine the practicability of the canalization of the two rivers for large traffic, irrigation and reclamation of lands along the rivers in the event of canalization and of development of hydro-electric power.

LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR A DERRICK



RECOMMEND TO ABOLISH LABOR BOARD

President Harding's Message Read By Himself Before Congress

SCORE OF SUBJECTS COVERED BY CHIEF

Prohibition Here to Stay, He Says, and He Urges Means to Enforce the Law All Over Nation.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—President Harding in his annual message delivered to congress today in person, deals with nearly a score of subjects including prohibition, farm credits, transportation, child labor, and immigration.

He made the announcement that he would call a conference of governors to adopt a definite policy for national and state co-operation in administering the prohibition laws. The president said the prohibition amendment was likely never to be repealed and the nation should adopt a course accordingly.

If the enforcement provisions are contrary to public opinion which he does not believe he said, the rigorous enforcement will concentrate public attention on any necessary modification.

He recommended that the present Labor Board be abolished with a substantial labor division in the Interstate Commerce commission, and he urged co-ordination of all transportation facilities.

The president opposed in his message the paralleling of railroads with motor truck lines.

More extensive credit to farmers was urged. He urged a constitutional amendment giving congress authority over child labor and also a constitutional amendment restricting tax exempt securities.

The proposed legislation for registration of aliens and a more thorough examination of immigrants were recommended.

EXTRA

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Railroad rates on classified freight from Portland, Medford and other jobbing centers in Oregon in consuming territory in Southern Oregon and Northern California were today decided by the Interstate Commerce commission to be unreasonably high and to constitute discrimination against Oregon cities in favor of San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Stockton and Marysville, California. The commission ordered a general reorganization of rates, applying to traffic on the general principle of reducing slightly the charges on classified freight moving from northern points and increasing slightly the rates to the same destinations on similar freight from California cities.

LARGE PAINTING FOR THE CHURCH

Ladies' Relief Society Will Install Beautiful Picture in L. D. S. Auditorium.

An occasion that should prove of unusual interest to non-members as well as members of the Latter Day Saints church, is in preparation.

The Ladies of the Relief Society have arranged to present the church with what will probably be the largest oil painting in this city to be installed in the auditorium of the Tabernacle.

The subject of a painting deals with an important incident in the early history of that church and is the conception and product of the brush of L. A. Ramsey, an artist of Salt Lake City.

The painting is six feet by nine feet in size and is now enroute to this city.

The framing, which will be an unusual job, will be entrusted to our local Art Man, Richardson, who is looking forward with considerable interest to tackling the largest single piece of framing that has come his way.

Plans as at present arranged, call for an "unveiling" of the painting on Saturday evening, the sixteenth of this month. In order that all the people may enjoy this occasion a program will be arranged and it is expected that a special speaker from Salt Lake City will also be there. There will be no charge or collection taken and a cordial invitation to the general public is extended to be present.

THE WEATHER

(By Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Dec. 8.—Rain in the west, snow in the eastern portion. Not so cold.

Conference Headquarters Confronted With Serious Problem; Ask Aid of City

With an influx of older boys arriving on each train, constantly swelling the total every few hours, the conference headquarters are confronted with a serious problem, that of providing rooming, and eating facilities for the boys. Due to the large number of delegates, it is necessary to provide for them in private homes and although the response has been generous, a great number of delegates still remain uncared for.

The boys must have lodging for three nights, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and meals for two days, Saturday and Sunday. The matter of the delegates' rooming, eating and their other facilities, including the transportation of the delegates, is being handled by the Y. M. C. A. headquarters. Those who can aid, should call Main 769, at Club headquarters, or Main 795, the Y. M. C. A. headquarters. The matter now rests upon the shoulders of the conference.

OLDER BOYS CONFERENCE OPENS TODAY

Delegates from All Eastern Oregon Arrive and Register.

BANQUET TONIGHT BIG ATTRACTION

Over Two Hundred Delegates are Expected to Register Before Books are Closed.

The Eastern Oregon Older Boys' Conference, under the auspices of the Interstate executive committee of the Young Men's Christian Association of Oregon and Idaho, opened this afternoon at four o'clock, with a song service and devotional service, led by J. W. Palmer, entertainer and song leader, of Portland, and Reverend William Crossby Ross, pastor of the Presbyterian church of La Grande, respectively.

Although the official opening came at four o'clock, headquarters were congested from two o'clock on with scores of boys registering, being assigned their roomings and completing other arrangements for the three-day conference.

Many of the delegates arrived in the city last evening, among them being Loring, Joseph, Haines and a few sprinkling from other towns.

Representatives of Unatilla county stepped off of No. 24 this morning and chanced La Grande, Union arrived this afternoon, and both morning trains brought many other delegates to the city. One of the finest gatherings of young men that were ever in any city—maybe not quite so large but individually, each and every one of them represents the finest of our American youth.

Day's Program.

Following the opening meeting, at 4:30 the members were introduced the meeting being termed "Who's Who," and at 4:45 a leaders meeting, addressed by W. W. Dillon, interstate secretary, began. The day's schedule showed that at 5:15 appointment of the nominating committee would take place and adjournment for the afternoon would come at 6:45.

Banquet at 6:15.

The big event of the evening, and one of the biggest events of the conference, will begin at 6:15 when the delegates from all Eastern Oregon will gather with the Fathers and Sons of La Grande in a mammoth banquet to be held in the L. D. S. Amusement hall, with seating capacity for 250 to 300. C. E. Short.

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