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ST. HELENS SAWMILL IS DESTROYED

Columbia County Lumber Company's Plant Swept By Flames.

LOSS ESTIMATED NEAR \$300,000.00

St. Helen's Creosoting Company's Plant Menaced By Flames; Wind Shift Saves Further Loss.

(By Associated Press)
ST. HELENS, Ore., Apr. 23.—Fire today destroyed the sawmill of the Columbia County Lumber company, one mile above here on the Willamette Slough, wiped out the trestle, a pile of lumber and several box cars for Spokane, Portland and Seattle.

The aggregate loss is estimated at \$300,000.

The St. Helen's Creosoting company plant was menaced by flames, but was saved by a shift of the wind, when the mill pump house was put out of commission by a fire nearby, residents and workers helped to fight the fire with buckets.

PROGRESSIVES BOOSTING FORD

Idaho Leaders Want Auto Maker to Adopt Party; Urge Ford for Presidency

(By Associated Press)
BOISE, Idaho, Apr. 23.—Henry Ford, celebrated automobile manufacturer, may find comfort in the fact that some of the third or progressive party leaders in Idaho look upon his nomination for the presidency with favor. Twenty-five of them gathered in Boise this week and unequivocally declared themselves for Ford. They called upon the Detroit manufacturer, who is supposed to be a democrat, to accept the nomination for the presidency on the progressive party ticket in 1924.

The conference was held in response to a call issued by Frank E. Johnstone, chairman of the progressive party state central committee for Idaho. Leaders of that party in various parts of the state received the call, but comparatively few of them responded.

Resolution Is Adopted.

The conference adopted the following resolution:

"Be it resolved by the state central committee of the progressive party, that, though we admire Henry Ford as a great industrial leader and as an example well worth following in his management of his railroad and coal mines, his fair treatment of labor and his determined stand against Wall Street monopoly, and doubtless as a successful business man would make a successful president of the United States, we believe any presidential honor is premature; we do not know any candidate on our platform or upon what platform Mr. Ford would be a candidate. To elect a presidential candidate is not within the jurisdiction of the state central committee, but in accordance with progressive principles the people must speak through a legally called state convention in 1924."

Spring Supreme Court Jury Venire Is Drawn

PORTLAND, Apr. 23.—The federal court jury panel for the spring term at Pendleton was drawn by the court here yesterday. The eastern Oregon court term, which usually convenes on the first Tuesday in April, was postponed until May 1. Of the 29 included in the panel, there are 25 farmers. The list of names follows:

John M. Banister, Weston; Charles H. Bartholomew, Echo; George C. Bear, Pendleton; T. H. Bedwell, Enterprise; Herman Bailke, Pilot Rock; Douglas Belts, Pendleton; Thomas Campbell, Hermiston; Clarence E. Coles, Baker; George Craig, Enterprise; W. S. Fitzpatrick, Enterprise; A. C. Funk, Pendleton; W. H. Gleason, Sumpter; Frank Grantham, Elgin; E. E. Groat, La Grande; Jonathan Haas, Enterprise; Jesse Hales, Adams; Joe Hallgarth, Elgin; T. E. Hendrick, Boardman; Charles Henry, Union; James Harvey, Pendleton; Elijah Hixson, Pleasant Valley; Jas. H. Hoag, Blakely; John H. Horner, Enterprise; Brady Howdyshell, Pendleton; Howard J. Jackson, Pilot Rock; John Jackson, Condon; Frank Kerman, Joseph; E. J. King, Helix; Chauncey L. Kirkpatrick, Baker; W. H. Leary, Keating; L. L. Lamellon, Athena; S. C. McIntyre, Athena; H. C. Marshall, Baker; G. M. Morrison, Adams; H. C. Nelson, Condon; Albert O'Hara, Weston; Aaron L. Olmsted, Enterprise; John Peter, Pendleton; W. F. Putman, Milton; Roy Runnell, Primeville; Claude Rice, Prairie City; L. Rogers, Adams; Theodore Shell, Wallawa; W. L. Smock, Weston; A. K. Smythe, Arlington; Sheldon Taylor, Athena; Sam Waite, Enterprise; Fred Weis, Baker; D. W. Yeakum, Baker; Wiley L. Van Slyke, Milton.

Weather Forecast

Portland, Apr. 23.—Fair tonight and Tuesday. Light to heavy frost to night, excepting near the coast.

Farmers Pleased With Weather; Grain Crop Reported As Thriving

Weather conditions are meeting with favor among the Union county farmers, according to the statements of several who were visitors in La Grande Saturday afternoon and Sunday. That the agriculturists of this country are optimistic and that fine signs for the future in regard to hay and grain crops exist, is the consensus of opinion among the visitors.

"Fall sown grain is doing well," stated one farmer, "and everything points to a good yield. Cattle and sheep are looking good and range grass is coming along fine."

Reports from Baker county are also on the same trend, indicating that conditions in Eastern Oregon are very satisfactory from the farmers' standpoint.

DAUGHERTY IS SCORED TODAY BY MARSHALL

That the Attorney General Is Usurping Power of Indictment for Political Purposes.

PITTSBURGH, Apr. 23.—Attorney General Daugherty was accused today by R. C. Marshall, Jr., chief of the construction division of the army during the war, of usurping the power of indictment in the war contract cases for a political purpose and of besmirching reputations without evidence to "even decently" support the charges, in a speech here today by R. C. Marshall, Jr., chief of the construction division of the army during the war.

SUMMERVILLE GRANGE MEETS

A large crowd gathered at the Pleasant Grove school house Saturday evening, April 21, to attend the regular meeting of the grange. Three present granges had representatives of the work of the grange, J. E. Witherspoon of Elgin, and W. R. Gekeler spoke on the referendum of the income tax and the filled milk bill and explained the movement being set on foot by farmers in some parts of the state to refuse to buy goods manufactured by firms connected with the Associated Industries of Oregon for their fight against the filled milk bill. D. H. Snider of Telocast grange, F. M. Huffman of the Mountain grange and James Gekeler of Elgin, secretary of the Union County Pomona grange also gave short talks on the work of the grange. The ladies of the home economic committee had the school house excellently arranged and decorated with wild flowers and greenery and after the meeting furnished refreshments of ice cream and cake. The members of the Pleasant Grove grange are planning on building themselves a permanent home in the near future and expect to erect it on the site of the present building. The Summerville community so as to accommodate a larger number of farmers. Some members are also advocating an old-time Fourth of July celebration.

POSTAL CHIEFS AT BAKER

BAKER, Apr. 23.—General Superintendent Hiddell, of Washington, D. C., Chief Clerk Lawrence, of Portland and Superintendent Vanderport, of the 13th division, with headquarters in Seattle, yesterday visited the local clerks of the postal service at a banquet given Saturday evening. An inspection tour was made today by the postal chiefs.

U. S. To Play Leading Part in Lausanne Meet

LAUSANNE, Apr. 23.—The Near Eastern peace conference, which was so dramatically ended last February, will reconvene Monday and conference circles anticipate that the United States may play the leading role before the curtain falls on the last act, with the final scene either the signing of a peace compact or the renewal of war.

The importance of the United States in the present conference is ascribed to the Turkish parliament's recent ratification of the Chester concession, granting extensive rights for the construction of railroads throughout Turkey and the exploitation of mineral properties in a zone within 20 kilometers on either side of the projected railways.

France and Great Britain are looking at this concession with questioning eyes and, as economic subjects will form one of the chief issues in the dispute between the Turks and the allies, both these countries may oppose it here.

France contends that the Chester concession conflicts with the railroad concessions received from the old Ottoman government in 1914 on which France already has advanced 17,000,000 Turkish pounds. Great Britain says if the Chester concession affects the mandated accounts say it does, then Great Britain will regard this concession as non-existent, so far as it affects Mosul or any other part of the Iraq territory, which is under the British mandate.

The American official attitude, as it is understood here, will be to take the traditional policy of the open door and equal opportunity for all nations.

Warrants Issued

(By Associated Press)
ST. LOUIS, Apr. 23.—Federal warrants, accusing five men in connection with the \$2,303,367.00 mail robbery here April 2, were issued today.

JURY LOCKED, SIX ALL, IN SIEMENS CASE

(By Associated Press)
KILMATH FALLS, April 23.—The second jury, which tried J. W. Siemens and John Siemens, Jr., on the charge of misapplication of funds of the Forest State and Savings bank, was discharged after reporting a hopeless deadlock of six to six.

The first jury disagreed and was discharged April 11.

BERLIN TO MAKE OFFER TO ALLIES

(By Associated Press)
LONDON, April 23.—The Berlin correspondent of the Central News says that the German government is preparing a positive offer to the allies, declaring that readings to negotiate and discuss reparations and guarantees are being formulated.

DR. W. T. PHY ON STATE BOARD

SALEM, April 23.—Four appointments to positions on the state board of health and the state board of medical examiners were announced by Governor Pierce Saturday.

Dr. W. T. Phy of Portland was named to succeed Dr. C. M. Brooks of Portland and Dr. W. T. Phy of Hot Lake was named to succeed Dr. C. G. Sabin of Portland. The terms of Brooks and Sabin expired January 15. Dr. M. K. Hall of Portland was appointed a member of the state board of medical examiners to succeed Dr. Frank E. Smith of Portland, whose term expired February 20th.

160-ACRE FARM SOLD

MRS. BERTHA HORN

Auctioneer Erickson located near the farm of 160 acres, located near the lower schoolhouse, to Mrs. Bertha Horn, of Union, the consideration being \$12,000.

Mrs. Horn will take immediate possession, but Mr. Erickson will remain at his home until school is out, at which time he will move to La Grande.

The sale was made through the Pyramid Land company.

AD CLUB MEETS AT ISLAND CITY

In addition to the program to be held tomorrow noon at the weekly Ad Club luncheon, as was outlined in Saturday's Observer, which will be at Island City, with the Ladies' Aid of Island City serving and Merton Kiddo presiding as chairman, announcement was made today that Reverend Hall Kellgren Wallis would make a short talk. The Ad Club quartet will also sing some selections.

Cars will leave for Island City for the luncheon at 11:45 o'clock from Ad Club headquarters in the La Grande National Bank building, and those who have no means of going to the luncheon are asked to meet at that point before the time set for the departure.

Seniors Win In Mascot Fight; An Annual Event

In a yearly event, staged between the Junior and Senior classes of the La Grande High school, called the "mascot" fight, the graduates emerged victorious, keeping their mascot, represented by a rubber hose, against the onslaught of the Juniors.

The mascot fight was held today at 12:30 o'clock and continued for five minutes. Both classes, or rather the male section of the classes, were considerably the worse for wear when it was over with, but of course, no casualties were reported.

With the Seniors keeping their mascot in today's scrap they now have one day in which to hide it from the Juniors. Whichever class has it in their possession next Monday will again defend it from the other class, and the final winner will parade it at the Junior-Senior banquet, May 5th, to the "disgust of the losers."

BARKENTINE BADLY DAMAGED IN SMASH

SEATTLE, April 23.—The coast guard cutter Snohomish today took into tow the barkentine Mary Windkelman, damaged in a collision with the tanker Lapurisma in the straits of Juan de Fuca.

The barkentine is reported badly damaged and leaking.

The tanker was undamaged.

ELECTION POSTPONED

The student body election, which was scheduled for today, has been postponed until tomorrow noon, due to the Junior-Senior mascot fight.

GETTING MIGHTY UNCOMFORTABLE



POLITE SINS ARE SCORED BY M'ELVEEN

Declares That Pride Is As Stealing; That Covetousness Is As Low As Adultery.

PORTLAND, April 23.—With the sensational announcement that it is no worse to get drunk than it is to be surly, no more a sin to be morally unclear than to be "mean and small," Rev. W. T. McElveen electrified his hearers at the First Congregational church yesterday morning when he delivered a sermon on the prodigal son. He took as his text the parable of the prodigal son, but the jealous and heartless elder brother who remained at home.

"It is no worse to get drunk than it is to be surly tempered," he said. "It is no more a sin to be morally unclear than it is to be chronically mean and small. As sin is to be vulgarly, pride, envy, avarice and other subtle forms of selfishness that do not shock are just as debasing as the rougher sins. Literature knows no story that contains the artistic quality of this story, Jesus was an artist with words. In 12 brief verses he presents three perfectly depicted and varietously contrasted types of character; that of the gracious, selfless, forgiving father; that of the foolish, self-willed, egotistic prodigal; and that of the narrow-minded, hard hearted elder brother who remained at home."

Industrial trade in softwoods is excellent, being featured by a big demand for railroad and oil well materials. Business in hardwoods is reported comparatively dull, but excepting some weakness in gum and oak the market remains very strong. Dry stocks are scarce, and green lumber is so largely covered with orders for immediate or deferred shipment, that there is no likelihood of a material weakening in the hardwood market even should demand be considerably reduced as compared with its volume during the early weeks of this year.

Chicago, Apr. 23.—While dancing marathons have spread from coast to coast and records have been falling daily, almost hourly, health authorities here and in other cities casting about for law and arguments against the craze have been led to wonder if dance history is to repeat itself.

In the book entitled "The Dancing Mania of the Middle Ages," F. D. Armstrong, some of them died, and others were affected by a permanent tremor. St. Vitus dance—according to the chronicler.

RECORDS FALLING

DALLAS, Tex., Apr. 23.—R. J. Newman, Dallas, has danced for 98 hours at 6 o'clock Sunday night and doctors declared that his physical condition may permit him to reach a dancing record of 125 hours which Newman has set up as his goal.

Newman dances with apparent ease following his long grind and he occasionally furnishes fun to spectators by turning a handspike. Newman started dancing last Wednesday afternoon.

Dancing Mania Is 400 Years Old, Says Hecker

CHICAGO, Apr. 23.—While dancing marathons have spread from coast to coast and records have been falling daily, almost hourly, health authorities here and in other cities casting about for law and arguments against the craze have been led to wonder if dance history is to repeat itself.

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WASHINGTON TO BE G. O. P. CANDIDATE

Thomas W. Miller Issues A Formal Statement After Conference.

SAYS PRESIDENT PARTY'S CHOICE

Miller Declares That It Is "Certain That President Will Be Nominated at the Next Convention."

(Special to Observer)
WASHINGTON, Apr. 23.—Thomas W. Miller, alien property custodian, who recently toured the west, issued a formal statement today after a conference with President Harding, saying it was "certain that the Republican Party, in their next national convention, will renominate President Harding."

Miller said his statement was not laid before the executive

LUMBER MARKET SHOWS FIRMFNESS

The approach of warmer weather, bringing an increase in outdoor activities, has resulted in a general firming up of the lumber market, says the American Lumberman, Chicago. The larger mills hold strongly to their lists and refuse the many offers of orders at lower prices now being made. The smaller mills, which recently shaded the market somewhat, are reported to be waiting into line. Good transit cars are selling readily and have strengthened in price. However, few transits offered on the present market contain desirable assortments of staples, their make up explaining the sacrifices which some dealers are making when the cars reach demurrage points.

Country retailers are coming into the market on a larger scale, but trade with the city yards as a whole remains dull. One reason is that many of them are overloaded with stock, much of which is sold, to be delivered as soon as fair weather permits the different jobs to get underway. Unsold stock on hand is low nearly everywhere, and retailers admit that after they have begun delivering their sold material they will have to buy extensively for replenishment. Another reason is that many dealers have enough material for immediate needs and, while they realize that they will have to have much for additional stock this spring, they do not expect lower nor materially higher prices and are therefore not in a hurry to buy at mill quotations. Meanwhile they are watching the market keenly for bargains. The conviction among distributors is strong that a few days of better weather will cause a considerable spurt in retail demand.

Industrial trade in softwoods is excellent, being featured by a big demand for railroad and oil well materials. Business in hardwoods is reported comparatively dull, but excepting some weakness in gum and oak the market remains very strong. Dry stocks are scarce, and green lumber is so largely covered with orders for immediate or deferred shipment, that there is no likelihood of a material weakening in the hardwood market even should demand be considerably reduced as compared with its volume during the early weeks of this year.

Two Dollar Bills Believed Bad Omens, "Jonah Jack"

Is there a man or woman in La Grande so superstitious that he or she would refuse a tender of 100 "she notes"—otherwise \$2 bills? Such an individual, if any, need not despair, however. The treasury department plans to discontinue issuance of \$2 currency as an unnecessary denomination. And, besides, no one has announced an intention of giving away 100 \$2 bills.

Even those who disclaim superstitious belief have always suspected the twin-dollar note of being a bad omen and have hastened to be rid of it. Some go so far as to tear off a corner to stave off bad luck. More currency of this denomination is required to the treasury in a multiplied condition than of any other.

As a class, rambles are unanimous in shunning the "Jonah Jack." Women alone, it is said, are not averse to accepting the unpopular currency. So this denomination is often referred to as a "she note."

Local bankers say they have considerable difficulty in giving out this currency. Treasury officials say the \$2 note is easier to raise than any other. Approval of the decision to do away with the hybrid seems to be general.