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LAVA STREAM IS BECOMING LESS INTENSE

Unless New Eruption Occurs, Linguassosa Is Safe From Destruction.

PREMIER MUSSOLINI BRINGS MUCH CHEER

Mount Etna Changes Smiling Land to Dead Waste; Orchards, Gardens and Homes Destroyed.

CATANIA, June 21.—Reports from the Etna region early today said there had been a slight decrease in the intensity of the eruption while explosions within the crater were less frequent.

With the arrival of Premier Mussolini in prospect, peasants who have hourly expected destruction of their homes by the lava flow became more cheerful for such is the prestige of the Premier that many of the ignorant and superstitious peasants literally believe he will have only to bring his will to bear on the volcano—Etna to them is almost a living person—for the eruption to decrease or even stop.

Unless there is a new, strong emission of lava, Linguassosa is almost safe from destruction.

Destruction Widespread.

CATANIA, June 21.—The smiling, fruitful and thickly populated slope of Mount Etna and the surrounding country, as the correspondent of the Associated Press saw them in the past, have now become, with ghastly suddenness, the "land of dreadful night."

Through the thick darkness, which can almost be felt, glows the crimson of the lava fire flowing from the broken lip of the crater, extending for miles and gradually growing darker, as the molten mass cools and hardens, until cracks and crevices appear on the surface through which can be seen bubbling up the boiling lava from beneath.

The fields of Fiume, Freddo, Diana, (Continued on Page Five.)

PLACE BOISE ON MAIN LINE

Commission Authorizes the Building of a Main Line of the U. P. to Boise.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—A certificate of public convenience and necessity was granted by the interstate commerce commission Wednesday to the Oregon Short Line railroad company for construction of the road which will put Boise on the main line of the Union Pacific system.

BOISE, June 21.—Notification of the action of the interstate commerce commission Wednesday was followed by wires to President Carl Gray, of the Union Pacific system, asking for a definite date as to when the construction will be started on the 26 and a quarter miles of main line track between Orchard and Perkins stations will be started. At a late hour Wednesday night they were still unanswered.

Authorization of construction make the securing of a few outstanding right of way options and the "rounding up" of delinquents to the subscription list of the \$400,000 rail fund the next steps to the actual construction of the line.

Twenty-two hundred subscribers are represented on the list of "spike drivers" as a result of a campaign waged some time ago when it was announced by the rail system that such a line, classed as a "double track" would be built, providing the \$400,000 fund was realized to provide a right of way and a trust fund to meet taxes on this line, should they go above \$1000 a mile.

By this arrangement \$325,000, as the trust fund, is to be invested for 25 years in 5 per cent securities to be used to meet taxes. The remaining part of the \$400,000, or as much as necessary, will go to the purchase of the right of way. If the interest from the \$325,000 is not paid for taxes, as specified, it is to be prorated back to the subscribers at the end of the 25-year period.

Weather Forecast

Portland, June 21—Showers tonight with moderate southwest wind.

Tenement Fire Takes 10 Lives

(By Associated Press) CHICAGO, June 21.—Ten persons, nine of them negroes and one a white man, were burned to death and about thirty negroes injured when fire swept through a three story tenement occupied by 160 tenants early today.

The firemen suspect that the fire started from a moonshine still in the basement.

Makes Confession.

CHICAGO, June 21.—Joseph Smith, furniture dealer in the building, was taken into custody for questioning and admitted, according to the police, that he had operated a still in the basement and had left the gas jet burning. He said the gas flame was about four inches from a plaster ceiling.

COMMISSIONERS HOLD MEETING

Street Improvements Occupy Executives' Attention During Greater Part of Session.

A petition for the improvement of Second street from O to Pennsylvania avenue by the laying of 30 feet width pavement and from Pennsylvania to Spring avenue by the laying of 40 feet pavement, signed by a number of property holders in the affected district, was submitted to the city commission, composed of President Sherwood Williams and Commissioners C. J. Black and Dr. H. S. Brownlow last evening at the regular weekly session held in the city hall.

Investigation into the district by the city manager and the commissioners resulted in a vote being taken to lay definite action on the petition over until next week, pending further investigation.

Protests House-Moving.

A committee, of four, two representing the light and power company and two representing the telephone company, as a whole representing the utility companies, appeared before the executives of the city with a grievance concerning the moving of houses without recompense to the public utilities for damages resulting from cutting wires to permit passage and loss in labor and time.

The matter was discussed at length several times during the week brought into the discussion, with the final decision to lay the matter over until further consideration and investigation could be made.

To Police Park.

Commissioner C. J. Black, acting as the speaker of the Chautauqua board, stated that it was his wish that body to have the Riverside Park property patrolled by city policemen during chautauqua week. The matter was referred to City Manager P. H. Hayes with authority to act as he saw fit.

No Remonstrances.

Last evening was the time set for hearing of grievances and remonstrances on Improvement District No. 124. Several interested property owners were present but no remonstrances of importance were made and the district was ordered to proceed and to advertise for bids to be received July 6, on construction.

The district in question will consist of grading to the proper subgrade and constructing thereon hard surface pavement fifty-six (56) feet in width between curb lines on Greenwood Street from the north property line of Adams Avenue to the north property line of Madison Avenue (excepting the O. W. R. & N. Company's right of way and Jefferson Avenue street intersection) and including one full street intersection at Madison Avenue; also by constructing concrete sidewalks where same are not in place, combination curb and gutter where not in place, concrete gutters, where curbs are in place, catch basins, etc., and by laying sewer pipes, monument frames and covers, on the above named street, all located in "Thomas Addition, in the City of La Grande, Union County, Oregon." The above named improvements are to be made at the expense of the property in said Improvement District that will be especially benefited thereby, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor adopted and now on file in the office of the City Recorder of said City.

Three resolutions were passed for improvement in the vicinity of the old fairgrounds as a matter of encouragement to the Mt. Emily lumber company to locate its proposed plant at that place, subject to the final location of that plant in this city.

Several matters of less importance were attended to before adjournment.

Scholastic Honors Are Shared by Oregon Boy

(By Associated Press) SEABRIDGE, June 21.—The highest scholastic distinction in Harvard college, that of winning a degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science, "Summa Cum Laude," was shared today by 11 men, including Arthur Sellwood Vesburg, of Wheeler.

Wheat Quotations. PORTLAND, June 21.—Hard Wheat \$1.12; Western Red \$1.05.

FIVE ESCAPE FROM IDAHO PENITENTIARY

Smuggled Saws Aided Convicts in Procure Freedom.

BOISE, June 21.—Sawing through the iron bars of their cells and binding and gagging two of the prison guards, five prisoners made their escape from the Idaho penitentiary Wednesday night at 7 o'clock. At a late hour they were still at large although prison guards were patrolling every avenue of escape.

The escape was effected by means of placing a plank from the roof of the newly constructed shirt factory to the prison wall and down the other side.

All the escaped prisoners were in solitary confinement at the time they made their escape. With the aid of saws, that had been smuggled to them they cut the bars, climbed out of the cell house into the prison yard. After getting out of their cell the men got over the wall by placing a plank from the roof of the new shirt factory to the wall.

Walter Smith, 1 to 14 years, forgery. No. 2366, age 24, white, height 5 feet 9 and one half inches, complexion medium, weight 145, hair light brown, blue eyes, scar on left arm, large scar on front of upper part of left leg, scar on left ankle, tattoo on left forearm, scar under right eye.

Clarence Rousch, 1 to 14 years, grand larceny, No. 2367, age 29, white, height 5 feet 4 and one half inches, complexion dark, weight 130.

(Continued on Page Five.)

FOREIGN SHIPS TO TEST U. S. LIQUOR RULES, IS REPORT

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Secretary Mellon announced today that it had been decided to seize all ships liquor brought into American waters even though it was aboard foreign ships and under the seal of foreign governments.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Actual entry into American territorial waters of foreign ships with sealed stores of beverage liquor aboard probably will be awaited by the United States government before announcement is made as to any course of action on its part.

The new snarl which has developed in the ship liquor tangle by the apparent determination of some French and British ship owners for a test of strength, puzzles treasury officials, they said frankly Wednesday night. At the state department the inclination was to turn over the whole problem to the treasury which will begin Thursday to ascertain what it may or may not do.

Special Train Service.

BAKER, June 21.—Guy L. Leonard, traveling freight and passenger agent of the Union Pacific System was in the city yesterday arranging special train service from Baker to the Top O' Blue Mountains on the occasion of the Old Oregon Trail pageant, July 3 and 4.

President's First Talk Is Laconic; Just 2 Words

State Convention of Elks On at The Dalles Today

(By Associated Press) THE DALLES, June 21.—Delegates and visitors to the Sixth Annual State convention of Elks were arriving today preparatory to the opening session which is being held this afternoon.

Registration of delegates and informal receptions will occupy their time until evening when the pageant of Wascopam will be held.

K. P. CAUCUS TO BE MONDAY

Wallowa Lake to Be Site of Annual District Convention of the Knights of Pythias of Two Counties.

Monday afternoon at 1 p. m. all members of the Knights of Pythias of Union and Wallowa counties will meet on the shores of the Wallowa for their annual district convention. All knights are invited to bring their wife or lady friend. The lodges that will be represented at the convention are: La Grande, Elgin, Imbler, Wallowa and Enterprise. Grand Chancellor M. P. Hardesty of Seaside and Grand Keeper of Records and Seal Walter G. Gleason of Portland will be present at the convention.

The program has been arranged by the committee and it is assured that every delegate will have a glorious time. The program is as planned: At 1 o'clock the delegates are to meet at the head of the lake, from 2 to 4 will be regular meeting which the grand officers, assisted by delegates from the different lodges will hold initiation in the rank of page. From 4 to 6 there will be games, races and other amusements. At 6, the dinner hour will be held—a big picnic dinner together under the pines. At 7.30 there will be a short program and social evening and from 8 until midnight dancing will be in order.

SPENT THE DAY 'LOGGING' ROAD

Believing that the road from La Grande to Joseph should be "logged" so that detailed information could be given tourists who wish to visit the great scenic country, yesterday afternoon Bud Lynch in his new Durant car took William Heughan, photographer, and Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce Earl Reynolds and wife from this city to Joseph. Mr. Heughan photographed much of the highway and its choicest scenes. They found the road good except a short stretch between Lostine and Enterprise where rains had caused mud during the process of construction.

MOSQUITO TIME



Many Attend Park Picnic

Although the representation from La Grande was not entirely up to expectations, the Farmers' Picnic held yesterday at Riverside Park, found a large number of people present. The weather, which started out early in the day anything but promising, cleared up in the afternoon for a short time, practically ideal for such an affair.

A splendid dinner was served at noon by the wives of the farmers present and in the evening a program was rendered, which was well attended. Musical numbers and speeches by several present made up the program.

BAND DANCE IS TONIGHT

La Grande Band to Give Concert and Dance This Evening; Concert Begins at 8:30 O'clock.

Zuber hall will this evening be the scene of a dance given by the La Grande municipal band to be preceded by a concert and a few selections rendered in front of the dance hall. Cancelling of expenses incurred in the purchase of needed equipment is the object for giving the dance but the worthiness of this organization's efforts toward the general public is so apparent and so well appreciated, that, aside from the splendid dance which is assured, there will be a lot of support given from the standpoint of civic pride. La Grande's band holds an enviable position in northwestern musical circles.

Dancing will begin at 9 o'clock and the concert will begin at about 8:30 o'clock, the latter in open air provided the weather permits.

RED CROSS GETS NEW QUARTERS

Through efforts of Congressman N. J. Sinnott, who was appealed to by Postmaster Huron, the La Grande chapter of the Red Cross has been given a room in the Federal building by the United States government, where hereafter the work of that institution will be conducted.

"The government looks upon the Red Cross as almost a governmental branch," said Postmaster Huron today. "Its work in taking care of the soldier claims and looking the service men in so important that the government is very anxious to have every going chapter closely associated with the other departments of the federal work."

This movement will relieve the Red Cross of the monthly rental and place the chapter in the Federal building in La Grande where all duties of the chapter will be attended in connection with the service men and the war department. While this does not in any way have connection with the local charity work that the chapter constantly carries on it is nevertheless, considerable assistance in the way of rentals at this time when the Red Cross work is badly in need of support.

Child Portland Authorities.

PORTLAND, June 21.—Sheriff Christman and District Attorney Galloway of Wasco county, who left last night with Mrs. Margaret Leno, who said yesterday she believed her husband killed Peter Agidius, an Orelles farmer, last week, arrived at The Dalles without the woman. They maintained an official silence. Both officers chief and authorities for detaining the woman.

The Market.

PORTLAND, June 21. (AP)—Live stock unchanged. Cattle and hogs steady, sheep strong. Eggs strong but unchanged, butter easy but unchanged.

Sizzling Heat In East Is Cause Of Numerous Deaths

CHICAGO, June 21.—No break in the heat wave which has held Chicago and its vicinity in a grip since Monday was seen in weather forecasts. Seventeen persons have died here since Monday from heat prostrations. The temperature yesterday was 83. Twenty-two deaths occurred in Ohio since Monday. Reports from New York state that the heat was responsible for five deaths yesterday.

COLUMBUS, O., June 21.—Prospects for relief from sweltering weather which has enveloped Ohio for the last 72 hours causing the death either directly or indirectly, of at least 18 persons, is not forecast for the remainder of this week, according to Observer W. H. Alexander of the local weather bureau. Maximum temperature here Wednesday was 92, equalling the high mark of the year.

Four additional deaths Wednesday, two resulting from heat prostrations,

CONFISCATE EVERY PLANT IN THE RUHR

All Industries to Be Taken Over by French; Decree Being Prepared.

TWO BELGIANS ARE KILLED BY GERMANS

Attempted to Search Two at Control Post Near Recklinghausen; One Private Wounded.

(By Associated Press) ESSEN, June 21.—A Belgian corporal and private were killed and one private wounded near Recklinghausen today when they endeavored to search two Germans at the control post.

DUSSELDORF, June 21.—A decree providing for confiscation of all Ruhr valley industries, the products of which are applicable to the reparations account and forced occupation of the plants by the Germans is being prepared by General Deput, commander of the occupation forces, it was announced Wednesday.

Plans for promulgation of the decree are going forward as rapidly as possible, but it was said, several days more would be needed to work out the details.

The decree will give the military authorities adequate power to take over all metal works, iron and steel plants, mines, coke ovens and virtually all other private industries in the Ruhr.

Will Jail Germans. In the event of the Germans refusing to operate the plants after the requisition, the decree provides for jail sentences up to 15 years and, in addition, heavy fines for the directors of the companies or others responsible for the resistance.

In cases of sabotage to hinder the work at any of the plants after requisition, those responsible will be tried before courts martial and, upon conviction will be subject to the death penalty.

The decree will be most sweeping, giving the military authorities, in collaboration with the French civil commission, the right to exploit the industries themselves or to lease the plants to concessionaries of this is deemed better to the interests of the occupational authorities in their plan to obtain reparations.

RODEO OPEN AT NORTH POWDER

The Powder River Rodeo opened today with hundreds in attendance. Visitors are flocking into the city from all points in Eastern Oregon and evidence of the first day point to a very successful three-day show.

Every available laborer has been employed at North Powder in completing the big grandstand and putting the race track and the arena in condition for the first annual rodeo to be given there on the three closing days of this week.

North Powder has been decorated in flags and bunting by a professional decorator and business men of the little city have added private decorations on the fronts of their stores and offices. The people of the town have made preparations to entertain from 6,000 to 10,000 visitors.