

FIRE BREAKS OUT ON MAIN STREET

Fire broke out in the rooms over Oliver Smith's pool hall last night at five o'clock and it took considerable time for the local fire company to conquer the blaze which seemed to consist of ninety per cent smoke and ten per cent flame. Smith's stock of goods below was considerably damaged by water and now awaits the judgment of the fire insurance company as to the amount.

The building was part of the Whiteaker estate and is owned by Mrs. Vivian Honeyman.

County Library Boards Meet, Eat and Talk "Shop"

The first annual meeting of the county and branch library boards was held in Dallas last Tuesday. Under the supervision of Miss Syron and Miss Hout an elaborate luncheon was prepared for the occasion. W. S. Muir, chairman of the Dallas board, presided over the meeting. A report of the county system and the work accomplished was given by Miss Hout. Brief talks were made by Ira C. Powell of Monmouth, Wm. Bohle of Hoskins and Mrs. Clyde Ecker of Independence.

Miss Cornelia Marion, state librarian gave an interesting and instructive talk on how to create interest in the proper books. The occasion as a whole was thoroughly enjoyable and profitable to those present.

Dallas was represented by W. S. Muir, president; Robert Van Orsdell, Frank James, E. Koen, Mrs. G. P. McGregor, Mrs. Ida Mawston, The Misses Haut and Syron. Those from Independence were, H. Hirschberg, C. A. McLaughlin, Mrs. Charles Caibreat, Mrs. Alice Skinner, Mrs.

F. A. Spurr, Mrs. Claude Skinner and Mrs. Clyde Ecker. From Monmouth were, Miss Jessie Todd, Dean of Women of the Monmouth Normal; E. B. Pace, I. C. Powell and R. B. Swenson. West Salem and Perrydale were not represented the branch libraries have been established at both places.

BY NO MEANS A BAD IDEA

Possibly Many of Us Would Find
Pleasure in Entertaining Child-
ish Unfortunates.

The other day little Mary Ellen was five years old and her mother let her have a little party, at which the guests were five little girls from the town orphanage. At first Mary Ellen didn't like the idea of having strange children for her guests, but after the party was over she was much in love with the children and the idea of entertaining the little ones who didn't have parties and homes of their own.

But still it was a surprise to her mother when a few days before her grandfather's birthday the little girl began to make preparation for the return of her little guests, and some more like them—one, in fact, for every year of grandfather's age. But grandfather was equal to the occasion, and entertained the entire orphanage. And now other members of the family are wondering whether she will demand that they do the same.—Indianapolis News.

BLIND TO READ NEWSPAPERS

Will Employ Sense of Hearing
Through Musical Invention
of Britisher.

London.—Blind persons will now be enabled to read their favorite daily newspaper along with the other members of the family, according to Archibald Barr, emeritus professor of engineering at Glasgow university, who in an address described the mechanism of a British invention for that purpose.

The lecturer explained that the reading was accomplished by producing in a telephone receiver a series of musical notes presenting the various letters as these were passed over by the instrument in traversing a line of printing. The sense of hearing, therefore, is employed instead of the sense of sight.

At present the cost of the device is almost prohibitive, but it is hoped soon to make it available to the thousands doomed to darkness through loss of sight.

Before Alaska's Future Can Be Planned There Must Be Central Control

By ALBERT B. FALL, Secretary of the Interior



The big questions in the development of Alaska are outside and above politics. They have to do with policies that will make Alaska more accessible, that will open the way to the development of resources now locked up and that will invite settlement. Between 1910 and 1920 the population of the territory decreased 15 per cent. The population today is only 55,000, against 65,000 in 1910, and the decline has been in the pioneering white settlers.

Difficulties of transportation form one of the biggest barriers against Alaska development. We are now dependent wholly on boats operating out of Seattle. Inside Alaska, transportation conditions are no better. We are building a railroad up there, but it begins nowhere and ends nowhere. In my judgment Alaska should be connected with the United States by an all-rail route through Canada.

One of the big possibilities for Alaska is the development of a paper industry. Properly safeguarded, Alaska could supply us indefinitely with an amount of paper equal to that which we now import from Canada. But there again the transportation barrier controls. Alaska's coal fields are another source of great possible wealth. We are now developing mines there for the production of coal for the Pacific fleet.

But perhaps the greatest barrier to getting anywhere with Alaska is the fact that at present half a dozen different government departments and bureaus have charge of various functions there, and there is no co-ordination and co-operation in plans for development.

Before Alaska's future can be planned for and effective steps taken to tap her rich resources and open them to the people, there must be some central authority in control. Personally, I believe that should be vested directly in the President.

Bride-Elect Honored At Pretty Reception

At a pretty tea and reception given last Saturday afternoon by Mrs. Clyde Ecker, the engagement of Miss Madeleine Kreamer and Wayne Hanna was announced. The rooms were festive with ferns, fir boughs and "mums." In the living room baskets of yellow "mums" added to the artistic effect. A yellow glow radiating from the lights.

The same effect was carried out in pink in the dining room and in the music room crimson was used. Misses Gretchen Kreamer and Beulah Bovington McCord of Medford, received the guests at the door. In an informal line with the hostess were Miss Madeleine Kreamer, the bride elect, her mother Mrs. O. A. Kreamer, Mrs. Hugh Hanna and Miss Frances Hodge of Salem. Miss Winnifred Plant of Salem gave a group of beautifully interpreted dances. Before the tea hour entering to Mendelssohn's Wedding March, Master Marlow Butler and dainty Virginia Mailie dressed as a bride and groom presented the guests with pretty corsages to which betrothal cards were attached. Miss Arbutnot, in her own characteristic manner gave some clever readings appropriate for prospective "brides and grooms." The tea table was done in pink and centered with pink carnations. Mrs. O. D. Butler cut the ices and Mrs. O. A. Kreamer poured. Mrs. Howard Morelan and Mrs. M. J. Butler assisted in serving.

Both Miss Kreamer and her fiancé are very popular and much entertaining is being planned for their pleasure. They graduated from the Independence high school in the same class and entered U.A.C. at the same time. Since their grade school days the star of romance has always followed them. Mr. Hanna has purchased the Haffley ranch and is having everything thoroughly modernized for his bride-to-be. The wedding will probably be celebrated early in January.

A GUEST.

BUILDERS DID WORK WELL

Roof of Westminster Hall, London, is
a Wonderful Piece of Expert
Carpentering.

A party of members of the Royal Institute of British Architects recently inspected the renovation of Westminster hall roof.

Sir Frank Baines of the office of works explained the progress of the renovation and pointed out the glories of the old roof, which he described as wonderful carpentry, agreeing with others who have written of the roof as remarkable alike for the beauty and the ingenuity of its construction, says the London Times. Apparently there was not a single nail used, nor a metal plate nor a bolt.

The ravages of the minute parasite called zestobium were explained. Such was the care exercised by the old builders, said Sir F. Baines, and the excellent quality of the oak selected that dry rot was practically nil, although there was much decay. Only the marvelous accuracy of the design in every detail enabled the enormous pressures to be resisted and saved the roof from falling.

For the benefit of posterity, it was added, many water-color drawings to scale have been made of the details of the roof. It was only natural that there should be requests for some of the old wood to be made into snuff boxes and other souvenirs. For various reasons these could not be gratified. The wood will be sent to great museums all over the world.

MINISTRY OF HUMOR.

P. McMahon Glynn, former minister for home and territories, will be much missed in the Australian house of representatives, which dearly loves its joke. Recently Mr. Glynn was giving evidence before the Northern Territory Royal commission. Noticing that the former minister was standing, and not seeing that the court orderly had omitted to place a chair in the witness box, Mr. Justice Ewing said courteously: "Take a chair, Mr. Glynn." Looking at the empty witness box, the former minister replied: "I have not got one, your honor. I lost it at the last election."

Special Sale Now On

Eddy & Carbray have begun a special sale at their department store in Independence by offering a general reduction of twenty per cent. The sale will continue until Christmas.

THAT SILVER LINING



The Gossip—I hear your store was robbed last night. Lose much? The Optimist—Some. But it would have been worse if the yeggs had got in the night before. You see, yesterday I just finished marking down everything 20 per cent.

JUSTICE AND THE JUDGE.

I wonder how the judge can learn
To hold the balance firm and straight;
He must be solemn, strong and stern
In ordering the sinner's fate;
He must not look beyond the mask
Of sullenness the culprit wears;
The judge's is a heavy task,
For sympathy spreads many snares.

I watch a little boy at play,
I hear him sing his little song;
His thought is pure, his spirit gay,
He has not learned that wrong is wrong.
How innocent his pleasures are!
His rosy cheeks I fondly pat.
And toss him high and swing him far—
The criminal was once like that.

The judge must wear a solemn frown,
And let his words like lashes sting;
He sees the culprit shrinking down,
A hated and degraded thing;
If I were judge I'd be too mild,
I fear, in finding punishment.
Or I'd be thinking of the child
That once was glad and innocent.
—By S. E. Kiser, in Good Housekeeping.

DENTISTRY IN OLD SIDON

Proof That Ancients Had Very Much
More Than a Crude Knowledge
of Their Work.

Almost exactly the same things the modern dentist does were done no less than 25 centuries ago. Excavations at a Phoenician necropolis at Sidon shows that the early nobles were concerned about their teeth as much as their present-day brothers.

Almost perfect specimens of "bridge" work, done by means of fine gold wires, have been unearthed. The teeth are well preserved, despite the fact that bones found in the same tombs have crumbled away.

Although the idea is carried out crudely, the "bridge" was effected in the mouth of a noble which proved unusually effective, according to investigations. The difference, say the investigators, between ancient and the present-day methods of forming "bridges" is that now artificial teeth are substituted, while in the Fourth and Fifth centuries before Christ molars many times were taken forcibly from persons in humble station in life to replenish the decayed teeth of nobles.

CUBANS STUDY THE HOME.

Cuba has established a school of the home. Students are required to be over fifteen years of age and under twenty-five. The school course lasts nine months, and the girls are taught the management of the home. Of the 30 students who have completed the course successfully, 18 were chosen to take up further studies to fit them to be assistant instructors in the school.

ANOTHER STORM HITS THE VALLEY

A violent wind and copious rain storm hit the Willamete valley the first of the week which threatened for a time to be as bad as the storm of the previous week, but it "let down" on the third day and the situation did not become as grave as it was last week.

The river rose four feet, the wind blew down some poles, and other objects that did not have a secure footing. The electric wires of the Southern Pacific were broken at Parker which necessitated the red cars being hauled by freight engines.

Today turned up bright and clear and in the opinion of local weather prophets means the beginning of a spell of agreeable weather.

Corn Show Being Held

Is a Good One

The Corn Show is being held in Independence today. It is a good one and you sure want to attend. Closes Saturday night. Music.

OREGON Theatre

—SALEM—

FRIDAY - SATURDAY
December 2 - 3

Norma Talma'ge

in

A Splendid Revival of

"POPPY"

SUN. MON. TUESDAY,
December 4 5 6

Wallace Reid

Gloria Swanson

Elliott Dexter

in

"Don't Tell Everything"

GOOD MUSIC



Keep Your
Feet Dry

Be prepared for all kinds of weather. You protect your shoes as well as your feet by wearing rubbers on rainy days. Wet shoes are likely to crack and lose their shape. So don't take any chances.

Rubbers and Boots

We carry a large line of rainy-day footwear at prices that make it profitable for you to buy here. We can supply waterproof shoes and hi-cuts, as well as outing shoes or slippers.

O. A. Kreamer

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