

IDEALS MADE BY BOISE

Grows to Be City of Wealth and Culture in Twenty Years.

HER MERCHANTS ARE BUSY

New Buildings Are Going Up and Millions of Dollars Are Being Expended in Municipal Improvements and Progress.

J. B. Huntington, of Portland, who has just returned from Boise gives an enthusiastic account of the growth and progress of that city. Talking to an Oregonian reporter yesterday, he said:

"To one who knew Boise in the early days and has not been here for 20 years a visit to the capital city, the county seat of Ada County, is a revelation. To most strangers the city is surprisingly beautiful."

Boise was the commercial, social and political center of a vast region of the great inland Empire. Here were the headquarters of the great stage lines traversing the country from Kelson, Utah, and Winnemucca, Nev., to Walla Walla, Umatilla and The Dalles. Here also was the famous Overland Hotel, through which all through passengers "laid over" for the next coach. This was the Mecca for all commercial travelers who were always glad to reach Boise after the tedious journey of days, through dust and heat or mud and cold. Boise became widely known as a half-way "resting place" for weary travelers. In summer the green foliage of the orange trees and the orchards their luscious fruit, in winter there was always diversion enough for people of all ages to enjoy. It was gathered for the winter a large number of miners, stockmen, freighters and cowboys, and the town was always lively in winter. In those days all the immense stocks of goods carried by the merchants were transported from Kelson, Winnemucca or Umatilla by pack trains or wagons, and in those days the merchants were packed from here to the neighboring mining camps and stock ranges. This freighting business alone was one of the chief factors of Boise's prosperity in those days. Freighters with "prairie schooners" must needs patronize the merchant, the blacksmith, the saddler, the farmer and the grower of horses and mules. In those days not only was Boise a beautiful residential place, but also a desirable place of residence. It was also a civilized town. The people there were self-respecting, public spirited, well dressed, hospitable people and in this regard, one notices little change unless in the greater thrift, energy and pride of her citizens.



SCENE AT THE F. E. BEACH & CO. FIRE.

and for a town of Boise's size at that time it was considered far ahead of the times. It seats comfortably 3000 people; its stage is 32x50 feet, and it is one of the prettiest theaters in the West.

There are a number of good hotels here, the Elmhurst being the largest and the most modern. The building is of brick and stone and six stories high. It is well managed and said to be one of the most comfortable hotels in the West.

Many Substantial Banks.

There are five banks in Boise, all substantial, thriving institutions. Each has a capital stock of \$100,000, and each has a considerable surplus fund, besides the undivided profits. The aggregate deposits are about \$3,000,000.

There are \$11,500,000 worth of property in Boise, and it is said that one out of the wealthiest cities in the United States, per capita.

The public schools are excellent, and the buildings are conveniently located in different parts of the city. They are substantial and comfortable. All the public buildings reflect credit upon the city. The Capitol, the City Hall, the Courthouse, the United States Assay Office, the Fire Headquarters, Penitentiary, Soldiers Home and the Carnegie Library are all well-built, expensive buildings.

The commercial business of the city is rapidly increasing. While the territory tributary to this place is not so great in area as it was at one time, the development of the resources of the country nearer at hand has greatly increased the volume of business. Many mines near the city have been developed, many thousands of acres of land have been brought under irrigation systems which were before the very desert, and now are granary under the great wealth of their productive, and which have been turned from wilderness to great expanses of smiling farms, where dwell in comfortable homes an industrious, happy people—the kind of people who insure the permanent growth and stability of a city.

Merchants Are Busy.

The merchants here receive 30 carloads of freight per day, and had it not been for the good fortune of the writer, through the courtesy of ex-Mayor Hon. James A. Pinney, to enjoy a drive about the city and to witness the evidences of its rapid growth, he would have wondered where the consumers are, notwithstanding the fact that large quantities of this merchandise is sold to merchants of interior towns and mining camps.

Much of the remarkable beauty and attractiveness of this city lies in the substantial, stately homes, spacious, well-kept lawns, profusion of shade and orchard trees, and the general air of order and cleanliness noticeable everywhere.

While there are but few millionaires here, there are a number of citizens who are beyond the one-half million post, and many \$100,000 people. But the people who are not wealthy seem to believe in having their own homes and comfortable ones, and hence Boise may be said to be a beautiful city of beautiful homes, peopled by a thrifty, prosperous, hospitable, happy people. It is a place destined to become one of the leading commercial inland centers of the Northwest, and when a great transcontinental railway shall pass its doors Boise will spring into greater prominence and soon record her 40,000 population.

FATHER FINDS LOST SON.

Missing Boy Located in Portland After Many Years.

Alfred Shepard and wife reached Portland yesterday from their home in Battle Creek, Mich., in a search for their son, Fred D. Shepard. He had been lost to them for 20 years, and they had thought him dead until he communicated with them recently, giving them his address in this city.

The folks had never been in Portland before, and did not know where 3204 Alder street is. They called upon Chief of Police Hunt for an officer to accompany them to the number given, and the Chief assigned Detective Day to the case.

The father and mother found the son where he had written them he was living, and there was a reunion of the relatives.

Australia Sending an Exhibit.

Australia is sending an independent exhibit of woods to the Exposition. The exhibits department was advised yesterday that six cases of fine woods from the Australian forests had been shipped last month on the steamer Ventura and should reach Portland soon. Australia has not participated in former expositions, having declined to send exhibits. The invitation to send an exhibit to Portland was extended to the Marquis of Lansdowne by Joseph H. Choate, American Ambassador at London.

FACE DEATH IN FIERCE FLAMES

Woman and Little Daughter Are Rescued From Burning Building.

CONFLAGRATION AT NOON

Fire in Beach's Paint Store, First and Alder Streets, Causes Damage of \$10,000—Origin of Flames Not Known.

Damage to the extent of approximately \$10,000 was wrought by fire of unknown origin in the paint store of F. E. Beach, First and Alder streets, at noon yesterday.

While the flames crackled and smoke curled skyward, Ed Rabour and James Muller, members of Truck No. 1, rescued Mrs. W. E. Grunow and her little daughter, Florence Deane, from the third story of the building amid cheers from the spectators. Other tenants in rooms above were roused by Detective Reeling and Police Officer Price, and escaped unhurt.

Roy White, a lad who was but recently employed at the store, was working in the basement when the flames burst out. He ran up through the fire, his hair was singed, but he was otherwise unhurt. He considers himself very fortunate.

By some he was blamed for the fire, as it was said he carried a lighted lantern, and was seen to throw it into the street as the firemen arrived. He denies this, and Mr. Beach does not place any credence in it.

The fire, while it was very hot and the smoke dense, was not so destructive as was at first thought. The basement was not injured, and no damage except by water and smoke resulted to the floors above. Several canaries were taken from rooms, and one bird died from suffocation.

Firemen Delayed.

After the fire was discovered, a short delay occurred because an employee who was seen to turn to an alarm clock to the wrong box, and called the firemen to Third and Washington streets. Several crews were soon playing on the flames. Men from the fireboat, late in, and did good work. In an hour the fire was out.

"Our principal loss lies in suspension of business," said F. E. Beach, proprietor of the paint store in which the fire started. "It is a place destined to become one of our stock will exceed \$5000, and it is all insured. We do not know how the fire started. It originated in the rear of the establishment and was very hot, and the smoke made it far worse. We will ship from our East Side warehouse tomorrow, and will repair this place immediately."

Adolph Demko's furniture store, next door north of the paint establishment, was damaged by water and smoke to the extent of about \$2000, and damage to the rooms and fixtures above the stores will bring the total loss from the fire up to about \$10,000.

Police and firemen worked hard, and the dense throngs of people who gathered made matters worse. It became necessary to stretch ropes and to call for reserve policemen to keep the surging crowd back. Traffic on First street was stopped during the fire.

STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION

Executive Committee of Open River Association Makes Good Moves.

When the executive committee of the Open-River Association adjourned yesterday afternoon, a long step had been taken toward the object for which this organization stands, namely, an open Columbia River.

The great obstacle in the uninterrupted commerce of the river is the falls at Celilo, but with the construction of the portage railway this difficulty is removed pending the full relief to be furnished by the Government canal. With the portage road assured and actually under completion, the next matter of importance was and is yet the establishment of boats on the upper river to aid commerce. Many projects have been suggested, and even the Idaho and up-country people have

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WOMAN FACES MURDER CHARGE

Blanche Thompkins Arraigned for Causing Death of Nora Stone.

SHE PLEADS NOT GUILTY

Woman Who Threw Burning Lamp at Victim Reported to Be Wife of Millionaire's Son and Daughter of Judge.

Blanche Thompkins, who caused the death of Nora Stone by throwing a lamp at her on March 25, was arraigned before Judge Frazer yesterday on a charge of murder in the second degree. She pleaded not guilty, through her attorney, John F. Watts, and her trial was set for May 3. The witnesses who were examined in the case by District Attorney Manning include Detective L. G. Carpenter and a number of men and women who live in the house where the crime was committed.

Blanche Thompkins, the accused, was at one time an inmate of the insane asylum at Salem. She denies having thrown a lamp at Nora Stone, but says she pushed her, causing her to fall against the lamp, which exploded and set fire to Nora Stone's clothing.

A story is told that Mrs. Thompkins is the niece of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California, and that her husband, Walter Henry Thompkins, is the son of a Pittsburgh millionaire. But these statements lack confirmation.

As told by Mrs. Thompkins, who is a native of California, 25 years old, she met Thompkins, who came here from Pennsylvania about a year ago on pleasure and they were married. Soon after he went to China on a business trip, and returned here on receipt of a cablegram telling him of the trouble.

Mrs. Thompkins is a woman of good education, and while she was once in the insane asylum, she does not show any signs of mental derangement at the present time.

\$10,000 DAMAGES FOR OBERG

Victim of Elks' Train Wreck Wins Suit Against Northern Pacific.

Charles Oberg, who was injured in the railway wreck of the Elks' special, in August, 1903, and who brought suit against the Northern Pacific Company for \$20,000 damages, was allowed \$10,000 by Judge Bellinger yesterday. This decision was rendered upon the report of six disinterested physicians, five out of the six giving the opinion that Oberg was suffering from traumatic neurasthenia, or hysteria, as a result of the accident.

Judge Bellinger also granted yesterday a new trial in the case of Litchell Brown, vs. J. R. Cartwright. This was a hotly contested suit, the decision of the former trial being in favor of the defendant.

Decision in Smith Case.

A decision on the motion entered by the defendants for a new trial in the case of Henry Smith vs. J. G. and L. N. Day was rendered by Judge Bellinger yesterday, and was partially in favor of the petitioner.

"This case, brought to recover damages for injuries received by Smith occasioned by blasting at the Cascade Locks, has been on the court docket several times, and at its last hearing before Judge Bellinger resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff of \$10,000. Upon the motion for a rehearing Judge Bellinger found that the damages allowed were excessive considering the present condition of the plaintiff, and rendered the opinion that if the plaintiff will consent to remit the balance of damages allowed over \$3000 the motion be granted."

Bakers May Ask for Rehearing.

NEW YORK, April 18.—A call has been issued by the executive committee of the Journeymen Bakers' and Confectioners' International Union for a meeting in Chicago next Saturday to act on the decision of the United States Supreme Court declaring the bakers' ten-hour law unconstitutional. The board will take up the question of asking the Supreme Court for a rehearing in the case.

The Denver & Rio Grande scenery is even more beautiful in winter than Summer. Travel East via that line and spend a day in Salt Lake City.

Admitted to Probate.

The will of Joseph John Johnston, Cleland, who died at Spokane on March 12, was admitted to probate yesterday by Judge Webster. The property is valued at \$5000, and is bequeathed to Henry Cooke Cleland, Gavin Shaw Cleland, brother of the testator, and Sarah Elizabeth Climes, a sister, all of whom reside in Toronto, Canada.

The will of Martha A. Lent, deceased, was admitted to probate in the County Court yesterday. The property is valued at \$22,000, and is distributed among the children, George F. Lent, Oscar E. Lent, F. L. Lent, Emma L. McGrew, Lizzie Wood, Rose Giddings, Ella Whitlock and Oliver W. Lent.

Answers Divorce Charge.

Elsie Palmer, whose husband, George E. Palmer, has sued her for a divorce, has forwarded an answer from Woodstock, Canada, denying his charges of cruel treatment or that she drove him from their home, and she admits that she has declined to follow him to Oregon, and gives as a reason that he drank and was abusive, and she was afraid to leave her family, friends and children in Canada and come here to live.

Charges Habitual Drunkenness.

Emma Smith has sued Henry Smith for a divorce because of habitual drunkenness and cruel treatment. She alleges that whenever he has money he drinks until it is all gone. She says he struck her with a chair and threatened to kill her. They were married in Portland 15 years ago and have no children.

Demurrer to Complaint.

Edward Flouten, whose wife, Kate Flouten, recently sued him for a divorce, yesterday filed a demurrer to her complaint, and she claims that she does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action.

CAUGHT IN A WAREHOUSE

S. W. Back Again in the Hands of the Police.

Three weeks ago S. W. Back was dragged from under a barn at Twenty-fourth and Thurman streets by Police-man Christie, and charged that he had gone in to starve himself to death. At an early hour yesterday morning he was caught in a warehouse in North Portland by Patrolmen Courtney and Jones, and locked up on a charge of burglary.

"I was looking for something to eat," was Back's explanation, when questioned by the policemen at headquarters.

Back is a Finn, and claims he cannot speak or understand much English. Of this the arresting officers are not so positive.

"I think Back is a good deal wiser than he pretends to be," said Patrolman Jones. "It's a peculiar thing that he is always found either in or under some other person's property."

Judge Hogue hardly knows what to do with Back. He studied over the case a while, and finally decided to continue it until this morning, and in the meantime communicate with the head officers of the Finnish Aid Society. They are to be in court today and will be asked if they can do anything for Back.

Burn to Death in Effort to Escape.

NEW ORLEANS, April 19.—In an attempt to escape, three prisoners today set on fire the parish jail at Poncha Toula, La., 48 miles from New Orleans, two of them being cremated and a third fatally burned. The dead: Henry Taylor and James Kelly. Fatally burned: Lucien George Delias.

Questions Rousseau's Sanity.

NEW YORK, April 18.—Recorder Goff, in the Court of General Sessions today, announced that he had appointed a commission to determine the mental condition of Gessler Rousseau, convicted of sending an explosive contrivance to the steamship Umbria in 1898.

City Offenders Before Judge Hogue

No one was present in the Municipal Court yesterday morning to represent District Attorney Manning's office when the case of contempt of court, preferred against W. T. Vaughn by Judge Hogue, was called. This, in spite of the fact that just before it was to be heard, Judge Hogue had Clerk Fred Olson telephone to the District Attorney's office requesting that a deputy be sent over to assist in the prosecution of the charge. Mr. Manning refuses to have anything to do with the case.

Attorneys Oglesby Young and Thomas G. Green, appearing for the defendant, Vaughn, presented their argument supporting a motion for a change of venue, and submitted an affidavit of their client, charging the court with prejudice in the case.

After hearing arguments of the defendant's counsel favoring their motion for a change of venue to a justice court, Judge Hogue took the matter under advisement, and at a later date is to serve notice upon the attorneys as to his decision.

The point is as to whether the alleged act of contempt, if committed at all, was done in the presence of the court. As

WHY argue about a certainty? Apply this to your hat buying and your new Spring hat will be a Gordon (soft or stiff). One who has worn a Gordon Hat, knows that there is no better hat made than a Gordon.

Gordon Hats \$3