

LUMBER TRADE IS STEADILY IMPROVING

Dealers Are Not Too Optimistic, but Note Situation Is Much Brighter.

BANKS FINANCE LOGGING

Mills Are Shipping Surplus Material to East and Middle West and Getting Ready to Resume Operations if Demand Lasts.

LUMBER BUSINESS IN PORTLAND AND VICINITY IS BEGINNING TO IMPROVE

In fact it has been improving for the last few weeks. Lumbermen, bankers and railroad officials, who are accustomed to deal with lumber, anticipate a steady and continued improvement until the trade reaches its normal basis.

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rooms of the Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club is scheduled for November 2, at 8 o'clock. Professor Hastings is head of the department of applied economics at Reed College, and comes to Portland from Harvard College. The subject of the third lecture will be "Government and Municipal Bonds."

C. W. BRYANT PASSES

PIONEER, WHO INTRODUCED CLOVER IN OREGON, DIES AT 88.

First Bushel of Seeds Received in State Sent by Mail to Clackamas Nomenclator for Tests.

Charles Wesley Bryant, a pioneer of 1853, died early yesterday morning at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. E. Lane, 1749 Wayland street, after a prolonged illness, at the age of 88 years and seven months.

Mr. Bryant was born in Allegany County, New York, March 28, 1827, of Irish and English ancestry. He married Miss Mary Elvira Fay on January 29, 1848. The young couple with two children left their early home on April 12, 1853, crossed the plains from St. Joseph, Mo., with ox teams, arrived at Portland October 3 of the same year, and at once located on a donation land claim at the head of Walluga Lake (Oswego Lake) in Clackamas County.

While Mr. Bryant cleared up considerable land and cultivated the soil, his chief business for many years was that of millwrighting.

In the fall of his first year in Oregon Mr. Bryant noticed the absence of clover in the country and inquired why it was not raised in Oregon.

"It will not grow in the Willamette Valley," he was informed, "but I will prove that it will grow here," he said.

Suited the action to the word he sent by way of the isthmus to New York, Mr. Bryant secured a bushel of clover seed, and it was sent in packets through the mail. It arrived in time to be sown upon his place in the latter part of April, 1864. From that time there was no further question raised about the growing of clover in almost all localities in western Oregon.

Mr. Bryant died several years ago, and was the mother of seven children, as follows: Mrs. Alta B. Young and Mrs. Mary D. Young, both of New York; Mrs. E. C. Durbin, Charles P. Bryant, Mrs. E. L. Lane and Mrs. James Bell. Hale D. Bryant, born in Oregon, Lee Bryant, Mrs. D. M. D. Bryant, and Mrs. E. L. Lane, all of Oregon, and Mrs. E. L. Lane, all of Oregon.

Five children survive the father and mother, as follows: Mrs. Young, Mrs. D. M. D. Bryant, Mrs. E. L. Lane, Hale D. Bryant, and Mrs. E. L. Lane. In addition there are 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

The funeral will take place at Finley's tomorrow at 1 o'clock.

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VERSION OF NURSE'S EXECUTION DENIED

Berlin Semi-Officially Says Empty Promises Were Not Made to Whitlock.

BELGIAN ADVISER BLAMED

Important Events Declared to Have Been Inaccurately Reproduced. London Says Papers Were Published Without Change.

BRUSSELS, via Amsterdam to London, Oct. 27.—A semi-official statement has been issued here relative to the case of Miss Edith Cavell, the English nurse who was executed by the German authorities. It reads as follows:

"The American Ambassador at London has placed at the disposal of the British government documents regarding the Cavell case. The documents contain statements regarding the exchange of letters between the American legation at Brussels and the German authorities at Brussels about the trial. The British government promptly handed the documents to the press and had them distributed abroad by Reuter (Reuter's Telegram Company)."

Promise to Whitlock Denied. "In these documents most of the important events are inaccurately reproduced. Particularly is the impression created that the German authorities with empty promises put off the American Minister (Brand Whitlock) in order to conceal from him the announcement of the death sentence and deprive him, by speedily carrying out the sentence, the possibility of intervention in Miss Cavell's behalf."

"Such a promise was never given by the German authorities and could not therefore have been received. This was admitted by the American Minister in Brussels when the matter was discussed with the German authorities."

"That the American Ambassador in London was wrongly informed can be explained by the fact that the Belgian advocate, who as attorney for the American Legation, played a part in the case, misled the American Minister to be placed on his reports."

Whitlock Declared Pained. "In any case, the American Minister at Brussels was painfully affected by the report as made public. He intended to inform his London colleagues and his Government at once of the difference between the written report of the Belgian attorney for the legation and the facts."

LONDON, Oct. 28.—It is officially declared in London that the papers relating to the case of Miss Cavell, published exactly as they were received from the American Embassy and of course, after the consent of the American Embassy had been obtained.

WOMAN SENTENCED AT LIEGE. Death Penalty Ordered for Nine Belgians for Espionage.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Oct. 27.—Anna Benzet, of Verviers, Belgium, was sentenced to death by a German court here on Monday.

This woman was one of nine persons convicted by the court martial. Seven were Belgians, and the others French. Four were sentenced to death, and others were condemned to terms of 10 to 15 years in prison. The charge brought against them was of having collected information useful to the French government, for which it was intended.

The sentences of death have not yet been carried out.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—Acting on representations of the Belgian Minister to the United States, Secretary Lansing has instructed Ambassador Gerard at Berlin to use his good offices in the circumstances of the case to help of the 30 or more persons sentenced to death by the German court martial at Liege for espionage and other offenses. The appeal in behalf of the condemned persons was made directly to Secretary Lansing.

MERCY TO WOMEN RUMORED. Spanish Minister Hears Sentences Will Be Commuted.

MADRID, via Paris, Oct. 27.—The Madrid correspondent of the Associated Press, announces that he has received information which leads him to believe that death sentences imposed on women in Brussels will be commuted.

Aside from Miss Edith Cavell, the British nurse who was shot recently in Belgium, the names of only two other women who were condemned to death have become known. They are the Countess de Beloville, a Belgian, and Miss Louise Thullier, a French school teacher. A dispatch from London on October 27 said Emperor Ferdinand had notified King Alfonso of Spain that he had pardoned these two women.

PERSONAL MENTION.

R. S. Neal, of Mosier, is at the Oregon.

J. W. Fleet, of Seattle, is at the Oregon.

A. West, of Eugene, is at the Perkins.

A. Johnson, of Winlock, is at the Imperial.

R. M. Smith, of Roseburg, is at the Seward.

J. W. Briedwell, of Amity, is at the Seward.

R. H. Lewis, of Pendleton, is at the Carlton.

O. M. Johnson, of Millville, is at the Carlton.

J. C. Vanaken, of Albany, is at the Perkins.

F. J. Berger, of Eugene, is at the Imperial.

Glen Storie, of Pendleton, is at the Imperial.

Benjamin Brick, of Salem, is at the Portland.

H. M. Crooks, of Albany, is at the Cornelius.

C. E. Cummings, of Seattle, is at the Multnomah.

B. E. Borah, of Moscow, Idaho, is at the Oregon.

C. H. Stockwell, of Clatskanie, is at the Seward.

J. P. McGoldrick, of Spokane, is at the Portland.

C. W. Ramsey, of Goldendale, is at the Cornelius.

J. B. Galfrey and family, of Bend, are at the Oregon.

Dr. J. E. Callaway, of Hillsdale, is at the Perkins.

Don E. Saunimilch, of Roseburg, is at the Carlton.

R. D. Craig, of Vancouver, B. C., is at the Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Piper, of Clatskanie, are at the Carlton.

Wersville, Washington, are at the Carlton.

George Van Buren, of San Francisco, is at the Seward.

W. T. Hovey, of Seattle, is registered at the Multnomah.

Mr. and Mrs. William, of Spokane, are at the Perkins.

S. G. Runner is registered at the Nortonia at Chicago.

Mrs. George B. Schaefer, of Eugene, is at the Multnomah.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hansen, of Seattle, are at the Cornelius.

William, title, of Prince Rupert, B. C., is at the Nortonia.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hacker, of Tacoma, is at the Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan J. Moore, of Seattle, are at the Multnomah.

H. L. Paulsund, of Minneapolis, is registered at the Nortonia.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kauffman, of Ann Arbor, are at the Cornelius.

W. J. Keag, president of Oregon Agricultural College, is at the Imperial.

Mr. and Mrs. William Stewart, of Armstrong, Iowa, are registered at the Nortonia.

Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Moore left Thursday evening for California, to be gone about two weeks.

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—(Special.)—From Portland today at the Congress was registered E. J. Brannan.

SATURDAY IS BIG NIGHT

HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES TO BE CALLED DRUIDIC HISTORY.

Ancient Ceremonies Consisted of Lighting Bonfires and Belief General Ghosts Walked Aboard.

Halloween, or All-Hallows eve, will be observed generally in Portland on Saturday night, instead of the day following, because the last day of the month falls on Sunday this year. There will be innumerable parties throughout the city, dances and merry-making in honor of the festival, which is an established event in social life here as elsewhere.

Halloween festivities date back to the time of the Druids, the ancient ceremonies consisting in the lighting of bonfires and the belief was general that night ghosts and witches walked abroad. On or about November 1 the Druids held their Autumn festival and lighted fires in honor of the sun god as a sign of thanksgiving for the harvest.

On the eve of this harvest it was thought that Satan, lord of death, called together the wicked souls that during the past twelvemonth had been condemned to inhabit the bodies of animals.

Onto