

FEWER HURT IN MILL

Safety Campaign Reduces Number of Accidents.

MEN WARNED TO REST

Mr. Evans at Crown Willamette's Plant Tells Employees Danger Lies in Going to Sleep at Post—Signs Are Heeded.

OREGON CITY, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The success of the safety-first doctrine in reducing accidents is shown by figures prepared by B. T. McBain, of the Crown Willamette Paper Company, pioneer among the big industrial plants of the Pacific Coast in the safety-first movement. In its mills here the company employs more than 200 men, yet Mr. McBain's figures show that the average number of accidents in a month is only 23, although a slight cut or scratch is counted.

In October there were 32 accidents in the mills, in November 28 and in this month, to date, 24. There was only one man injured on a three months' construction job along the dock, a piece of work in which 665,539 feet of timber were used.

Mr. Evans Warns Careless. The company conducts a continuous campaign against accidents by means of warning signs about the plant, safeguards on machinery and meetings, when the employees hear talks by prominent men. Walter Evans, District Attorney of Multnomah County, spoke yesterday.

"One of our most undestorable citizens is a negligent workman," said Mr. Evans. "Men of that class not only endanger their own lives, but those of their fellow workmen as well. In most cases where a fellow workman is injured by the careless operative the injured man has no recourse at law against the employer, except where he can show that the employer knew that the man causing the injury was careless, inattentive, unreliable and inefficient, or not at the time in proper physical or mental condition."

Rest Necessary for Safety. "Such a man endangers the life, limb, happiness and future of not only his neighbor, but also of himself. Above all things, keep wide awake. Don't go to sleep at your post. Remember that the full knowledge of danger does not stimulate you. Physical and mental rest are absolutely necessary for safety."

F. J. Lonergan, a Portland attorney, declared that any effort on the part of Legislatures or mill managers to cut down industrial accidents was useless unless the co-operation of employees was obtained. "Let every man keep his eye on the gun," he said. "Safety first is a necessity from an economic and from a humane point of view."

PASCO'S SUIT IS HEARD

Case Against Casualty Company Is Taken Under Advisement.

PASCO, Wash., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The case of City of Pasco vs. Pacific Coast Casualty Company, for default on A. H. Garey, the contractor's bond has been completed and taken under advisement by Judge Linn.

The city claims \$3400 due from the surety company, for which amount they had secured judgment against Garey, while the surety company contends that they were relieved from liability on the grounds that the contract was substantially and materially changed, and that the city overpaid Garey when it paid to the contractor the 15 per cent which they were obliged to hold under the contract.

The City Hall has been in litigation since its erection in 1911.

IDAHO BOYS ARE EXPECTED

Elaborate Preparations Made at Boise for Returning Soldiers.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Elaborate plans are under way here for the reception of the Idaho troops expected to arrive tomorrow or Saturday. The city will be gaily decorated and extensive harbor provided, while the mobilization is going on. This will require 10 days. All cities and towns having companies in the regiment have been asked to appoint committees to work with those in Boise for the reception of the troops.

Major J. B. Burns and Captain Max B. Garber have returned from Nogales, where they checked the regimental property. No shortage was discovered, they report, and the property will check.

PRICES OF PELTS RISE

Grays Harbor Hunters Get \$5 to \$7 for Coyote Furs.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—War prices have hit the poor coyote. His pelt a year ago was bringing from \$1 to \$1.50, and now furriers are offering Harbor hunters from \$5 to \$7 for coyote skins. This is making the hunting of coyotes more profitable and spurring the hunters on.

The State Legislature will be asked by the Grays Harbor Rod and Gun Club to provide funds for the paying of bounties of \$2.50 on coyotes; \$20 for cougars, and \$5 for wildcats. The bounty law was in force the past year, but through lack of funds no bounties have been paid.

ARTHUR COACH ACQUITTED

Marshfield Man Freed of Charge of Threatening Lives of Three.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Arthur Coach, indicted on a charge of threatening to kill A. J. Sherwood, District Attorney Lillquist and Leo J. Cary, his brother-in-law, was acquitted today after 15 minutes' deliberation by a Circuit Court jury. The trial lasted four hours.

Vera Clink and Pearl Vernon were tried yesterday, and the jury deliberating on their cases has been out for 24 hours. The women were charged and indicted for maintaining a nuisance.

Linn High Schools to Debate.

ALBANY, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—The first debate of the season in this section will take place tomorrow night when the Albany, Scio and Lebanon High Schools will meet in a triangular contest. Albany will debate Scio at Albany; Lebanon will debate Albany at Lebanon; and Scio will debate Lebanon at Scio. The teams which are meeting in Albany will be composed of Mabel Anderson and Velma Kizer representing Albany, and Lovina Bauman and Florence Smith representing Scio.

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ISLAND SALE RATIFIED

DANISH UPPER HOUSE COMPLETES ACTION ON TREATY.

United States Senate Already Has Taken Favorable Action—Naval Base for Large Fleet Planned.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 21, via London.—Both houses of the Danish parliament now have approved the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States.

The Landthing, or upper house, voted favorably upon the proposition today, 40 to 12. The bill for ratification of the treaty providing for the sale was adopted by the Folkething yesterday. The treaty fixes the price at \$25,000,000.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Approval by Denmark's Parliament of the treaty by which the United States will acquire the Danish West Indies opens the way for a prompt exchange of ratifications between the two governments and consummation of negotiations that have been in progress intermittently since the Civil War.

The United States Senate already has given its approval and as soon as the formal exchanges have taken place the Administration will press measures in Congress appropriating the purchase price, \$25,000,000, and providing for the institution of an American territorial government on the islands. American naval strategists for years have regarded possession of this little archipelago, lying 50 miles east of Porto Rico, as absolutely necessary to prevent any European power from acquiring it and moreover to establish there a great naval base and coaling station for United States fleets. Commercially the islands are regarded as of comparatively little value. There are three of them, St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix, and on their 142 square miles live some 23,000 people, nine-tenths of whom are negroes employed on sugar-cane plantations.

MAN KILLED BY LIVE WIRE

George Oulles, of Pasco, Lives Only Three Minutes After Shock.

PASCO, Wash., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—George Oulles, a foreman at the roundhouse here, was electrocuted Tuesday when he came in contact with a high-tension wire of the Pacific Power & Light Company. Oulles was assisting in unloading a car of coal at the stationary power-house, and was in the

act of handing a pinch bar to a fellow-employee, when the bar came in contact with a 6000-bolt wire. He lived about three minutes after receiving the shock.

Mr. Oulles has been a resident of Pasco for several years, and owned valuable business property in this city and also in Portland. He was 35 years old and is survived by a brother and cousin in Pasco. The body was sent to Portland.

LINN WANTS LOOP HIGHWAY

Petitioners Ask Legislators to Work for Government Aid.

LEBANON, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—A petition is being circulated in this county asking the Linn County delegation in the Oregon Legislature to work to route one of the state highways which will get Federal aid from The Dalles to Bend and to the Willamette Valley by way of the Santiam Pass, Cascade, Lebanon and Albany to connect with the Pacific Highway.

The trip from Portland to The Dalles gives the Columbia River Highway about The Dalles to Bend a glimpse of the Inland Empire; from Bend to Lebanon a mountain route and streams of rare beauty; and from Lebanon to Portland the best of the Willamette Valley can be seen.

FOREST GROVE HAS TICKET

Citizens Nominate Men for Municipal Election January 8.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Thus far there is but one ticket in the field for municipal officers here. At a mass meeting of the citizens the following were nominated for the election to be held Monday, January 8: For Mayor, George G. Paterson; Councilmen for Recorder, W. P. Dyke; for Treasurer, Edwin S. Sparks; Councilmen for one year, Dr. S. E. Todd and C. W. Mertz; Councilmen for two years, Dr. C. E. Hawke, Dr. Charles Hines and Frank Gordon.

Seattle Slayer Convicted.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 21.—John Soudas, proprietor of a cigar store, on trial for the murder of Mrs. Blanche Coleman in a Gowatown hotel June 16 was convicted today. The woman was stabbed to death with a knife. She was formerly Miss Blanche Grosvenor, of Council Bluffs, Ia., where her father is a street railway employe.

Federal Food Inquiry Started.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 21.—The Federal grand jury today began to investigate alleged combinations to increase the prices of food products. A number of produce dealers testified.

Those delightful Hawaiians, also—new songs, new novelties today and tomorrow.

The Star

Made-in-Oregon; crammed with thrills—all new

1916 Pendleton Round-Up

The greatest Wild West picture ever made—"let 'er buck"