

BIG PLANT DAMAGED \$50,000 BY BLAZE

Willamette Iron & Steel Works Crippled.

MORE THAN 400 MEN IDLE

Fire Under Furnace Room of Shop Proves Hard One to Fight. Much Equipment Saved.

TWO HEADLINERS BILLED

ORPHEUM OFFERS 3-FEATURE PROGRAMME TOMORROW. Albertina Rasch, Danseuse; Thomas Duray and Hampton and Blake Star Players.

Valuable Equipment Saved. Plant equipment, machinery, materials and work under construction valued at thousands of dollars were saved from serious damage by strenuous work of the fire department...

Fire originating under the flange furnace in the shop of the boiler plant of the Willamette Iron & Steel works, at the foot of Seventeenth street, gutted the piling foundation and floor of the plant about 4:45 yesterday morning...

Both company officials and inspectors from the fire marshal's office traced the blaze to a flange furnace which had been in use till 11:30 P.M. Excessive heat from the furnace is thought to have penetrated through the protesting layer of brick between it and the floor and charred the boards till a blaze resulted.

Higher Light Rates Wanted. LEBANON, Or., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—The Lebanon Electric Light company has filed an application with the public service commission asking for an increase in rates for service in this city.

Investigation of four men arrested Thursday night as suspects in the holdup of the Gradon & Koehler drug store and the shooting of Ed Bostrom did not develop evidence of complicity against them.

Structure of the building and the location of the flames made an exceptionally difficult problem for the fire-fighters, but the construction of the main floor and the material stored upon it prevented the blaze from spreading before the firemen got it under control.

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At the fire broke through the floor into the main part of the building flames licked up the wooden walls and beams and destroyed windows and sashes in the upper part of the building.

Equipment summoned to the scene was the greatest called out in the city for a number of years, according to Fire Chief Young.

Foundation is weakened. The foundation of the building is greatly weakened, although the principal damage to the piling occurred at a point where there is not a great deal of heavy machinery or material.

Firemen remained about the plant all day yesterday checking the small fires which still smoldered in various places underneath the building. The great amount of sawdust and debris where the low ground had been filled in years before the present plant was built make a hazardous condition as long as fire smolders near it.

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past few days, Elizabeth Stewart, Pueblo, Colo., has scant faith in Postmaster-General Burleson's service. She has been penning epistles to the Portland Chamber of Commerce recently, the latest of which came to hand yesterday, and upon the inside flap of the envelope, where not even Burleson himself or his most expert inspector could detect it while it was making its way through the mails, she has written divers invectives.

"Dear God, guide this letter," was written on the flap of the letter which came yesterday and which was referred to by Mr. Vincent, publicity manager of the chamber, because Elizabeth Stewart sought certain information concerning Portland which his department could furnish.

"Take this to its destination," and "God, help this to the right place" were other "prayers" written by the sender.

"Unless some of her letters have not reached us, her prayers have been answered thus far," said Mr. Vincent. "Whether the Almighty or the postoffice department, or both, is or are responsible, I, of course, cannot say."

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PARTY AND TABLE FAVORS AND DECORATIONS FOR WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY, MAIN AND FIFTH FLOORS

Eastman Kodaks and Supplies. New Books. "Seeing the Far West," by John T. Paris. "Margot Anquith," an autobiography by Henry Watterson.

Meier & Frank Co. THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND. 1837. Fifth, Sixth, Morrison, Alder Sts. (Mail Orders Filled.)

Last Day of Our Annual Spring Sale. Notions and Dressmakers' Supplies. One of the most important events of the spring dressmaking season.

Good Luck Brings for Saturday

Men's and Young Men's All-Wool Suits

Just In! New Gingham Neckwear. These dainty new neckpieces are just the thing for wear with the new spring suits, dresses and sweaters.

Embroidered Sets. Other new arrivals include the popular new yarn embroidered sets—collars, cuffs and vests to match.

The Fruits of a Very Special Purchase to Be Sold in a Very Special Way. About Half the Former Price for Such Suits. \$32.85. All Models and Sizes Are to Be Had in the Sale.

Flower-Trimmed Hats. A Special Featuring. A Superb Collection of the Most Popular Styles for Early Spring Wear. \$15 \$7.50 \$10. Exceptional Values.

Special 35¢. Tab lace collar lengths in white and cream. Venise and tatting styles, 24 and 27 inches long.

An Investment. Men and young men who are in the market for a new suit and want to be sure that their money is placed to good advantage can take up this proposition with assurance.

Also in These Price Groups. One may choose from scores of other equally smart styles—the popular direttore pokes, the new sailors and other newest styles for spring.

\$3 Genuine "Heatherbloom" Petticoats. \$1.98. New—just received. Heatherbloom is a material that looks like silk, washes well and gives good service.

All Sizes. See two Morrison-Street windows. —Meier & Frank's: The Store for Men, Third Floor. (Mail Orders Filled.)

Ready With a Complete Line of New Tailored Suits for Spring \$35 to \$98.50

Suits which evidence in every detail the impress of superior quality and distinction may be chosen now at the lower prices for which our spring apparel assortments are noted. Featured garments are of navy tricotine, poiret twill and gabardine.

Fishermen! Attention! Now Is the Time to Get Ready for the Salmon Season. Salmon have already been sighted at "the Falls"—get your fishing tackle ready.

Good to Know That New Manhattan Shirts Are In. Better still to know that those we are showing exhibit in their price tickets pleasing evidences of the new lower costs which all of us are so glad to see.

Special Attention. Include in your next order for groceries SILVERILE for TOILET and DOMESTIC use. It is unexcelled for all toilet and household purposes.

Boys' Suits. Extra Special! Sale of 200 Boys' Suits. Formerly \$30, \$35, \$40 and \$45. \$14.85.

White Lambskin Gloves. 12-Button Length. \$3.59. Just the thing for Easter wear. Excellent quality 12-button length white lambskin gloves in sizes 5 3/4 to 7 1/2.

Leather Suitcases. All Our Genuine. Regularly Priced \$20 to \$60. 40% Off. Your unrestricted selection of our entire stocks of men's and women's genuine leather suitcases, regularly \$20 to \$60, at a saving of 40 per cent.

Sampeck Triple Service Suits. Less than half price for boys' suits regularly priced \$30 to \$45. Suits from standard makers, majority being but there is a good selection also of Woolwear garments as well as a number of suits from other makers.

Women's Low Shoes. Sale of \$12.00 to \$14.00. \$8.25. Fifteen styles to choose from—pumps and oxfords including the following: Patent, black kid and brown kid pumps; brown and black oxfords; bronze and black kid beaded tongue slippers; patent and mat kid pumps with beaded buckles.

Musical Instruments Sacrificed. Free Lessons Given. Removal Sale. McDougall Music Co. 333 Alder Street, Between Sixth and Broadway.

Sale of Hartmann Trunks. \$43.50 \$63.50. Were \$59.50. Steamer size Hartmann wardrobes of 3-ply basswood with solid metal reinforcements. Seven hangers, top drawer.

Envelope Bears Prayer. Woman Writer Seems to Have but Little Faith in Postoffice. Judging from evidence coming to hand from time to time during the