

PORT BLAKELEY MILLS ARE BURNED; NOTHING SAVED; DAMAGE IS \$500,000

Fire Started Late Last Night and This Morning the Largest Milling Plant On Pacific Coast is Total Loss ---Men Fight Fire to Save Home--Will Be Rebuilt

(Associated Press Special to Times.) Seattle, April 23.—3 a. m.—A fire which broke out at 10:45 last night in the planer room of the Port Blakeley Mill company's lumber mill at Port Blakeley wiped out the entire plant, the largest lumber manufacturing establishment on the coast and one of the largest in the world, entailing a loss of between \$300,000 and \$500,000. Of this 70 per cent is covered by insurance. The fire originated from a hot box, and from the moment of discovery there was no chance to save the mill. The flames shot up immediately, enveloping all that section of the plant. The night force was at work at the time, and 300 men were compelled to flee for their lives. All escaped. Helpless to check the flames in the mill proper, the men turned their attention to saving the houses in Port Blakeley, many of which were not more than 800 feet from the fire. Every hose in the town was pressed into service, and the flames were controlled. Within a few minutes 200 men with 20 hose were engaged in the work. The fire boat Snoqualmie, of Seattle, was sent for and put into service shortly after midnight, and with the Wyadda, which arrived twenty minutes later, have five two-inch streams of water playing on the flames. At this hour the mill is still burning.

LARGEST ON COAST. The Port Blakeley mill opposite Seattle is the largest on the Pacific coast. The capacity is about 750,000 feet of lumber in a day of two shifts. The ten-hour capacity of this mill compared to others follows:

PREDICTING A BIG FLOOD

Story Comes of Heavy Snows in Mountains in Eastern Oregon and Idaho.

SUCH CONDITIONS

Have Not Prevailed There During the Last Forty-seven Years.

The Dalles, Ore., April 22.—Each spring the same old story of high water is repeated o'er and o'er, and from the time the snows begin to melt and the streams to get out of bed until the month of June has passed, settlers all along the Snake and Columbia rivers are in constant apprehension of floods. While it is true that there is much snow in the mountains, the same condition is said to prevail each year, and yet since 1894 no serious floods have occurred. The height of the waters depends upon the weather. If it should turn real warm next month and the same atmosphere prevail all along the upper rivers, causing each to rise at the same time, then look out for a flood. The condition described by Mr. Kurtz, who came down from Idaho Monday, is also referred to in the following dispatch which comes from Lewiston: "Fear is being expressed here that the warm, showery weather of the past few days will cause the highest water ever recorded in the Snake and Clearwater rivers. The foundation for this belief lies in the great area of accumulated snow in the Snake and Clearwater watersheds, reaching

VESSEL NOT DAMAGED. Moji, April 22.—The Pacific Mail steamer Mongolia, which went ashore in Hayatomo strait this morning, was pulled off to night and proceeded on her way. She was not damaged.

back 250 miles into the Bitter Root range, which is reported to be rapidly melting under the influence of the warm rains. From present indications spring freshets will begin earlier this year, the usual period being the first of June.

"In the Thunder Mountain district from four to fourteen feet of snow covers the ground. The Buffalo Hump mining camp is buried under 15 feet of packed snow, and other mountainous sections of central Idaho are covered by from three to eight feet of solid snow.

"Never in the history of central Idaho, extending over a period of forty-seven years, has such a condition prevailed as late in the spring. Unless a cold spell intervenes this snow bids fair to go off with a rush, and should such a thing happen, Lewiston might again see rowboats paddling on her main streets, as in the spring of 1895.

"Weather reports show that the showery condition is prevailing all over the plateau, and if other sections of the Columbia basin are affected by snow in the same degree as the Lewiston country, it looks as if there might be a repetition of the floods of the nineties. Within the last few days the Snake river has risen several feet, and is now at the highest point of the year."

Mrs. May Worse. Mrs. Marshall May, who has been ill at her home in Ferndale for some months, took a sudden turn for the worse yesterday and owing to her age is not expected to recover.

OLD SETTLER IS BURIED

Funeral of Mrs. M. A. Jackson is Held Monday at Empire

ONE OF THE FIRST

White Settlers to Come to Coos County and Conducted Pioneer Hotel.

The funeral of the late Mrs. M. A. Jackson, who died Saturday, was held yesterday at 2 p. m. from the Pioneer hotel at Empire. The services were conducted by Rev. D. W. Thurston, pastor of the Baptist church of Marshfield, and were largely attended. The burial was at the old cemetery at Empire.

Mrs. Jackson was one of the oldest settlers. She was one of the first three white women in Coos county. She was 82 years old, was born in Tennessee, and came to Oregon in 1852. She lived in Jackson county and in 1853 came to Empire, and has lived here ever since except ten years, when she resided in Curry county. Mrs. Jackson was married twice, first to Curtis Noble, who died in 1857, and afterwards to A. J. Jackson, who died five years ago.

In 1867 Mrs. Jackson started the Pioneer hotel at Empire, which she conducted until four years ago, since which time it has been conducted as a lodging house.

Mrs. Jackson was the mother of eleven children, four of whom are dead. The survivors are Mrs. E. O. Sanders, who was the first white child born in Coos county, Mrs. Al Owens, William Noble, Charles Jackson, Andrew Jackson and George Jackson.

TIMES BUILDING HAS BEEN SOLD

Purchased by M. C. Horton, Who Also Owns the Adjoining Corner.

M. C. Horton, who purchased the corner 100 feet square at C and First streets, on which is located the Wheeler real estate office and several other buildings, has also bought the Coos Bay Times building, which adjoins. This gives Mr. Horton 100 feet on C street and 150 feet on First street.

The Times lot is 50 feet wide and the building is 40x60. The lower floor is occupied by the newspaper and there are offices on the second floor. The Times will continue to occupy the building for at least a year.

Mr. Horton with the purchases has made will have the finest business corner in the city.

CONDITION CRITICAL

Lafe Bonebrake is Seriously Ill at the Hospital.

Lafe Bonebrake is in a critical condition at the Marshfield general hospital. It was necessary for the doctors in charge to perform a surgical operation yesterday. His condition last evening at last report was much better than earlier in the day.

Plant is Here.

The steamer M. F. Plant arrived from San Francisco Sunday and will sail on her return trip with a full cargo of coal and general merchandise.

CHURCH IS DEDICATED

Members of Baptist Congregation of Marshfield Have An Important Service

PLACE IS IMPROVED

By Addition of New Chairs and General Remodeling of House of Worship.

The dedication exercises at the Baptist church Sunday were carried out exactly as planned, the program being given as announced Sunday morning. The exercises were important, inasmuch as they marked a goal toward which the members of the church have been faithfully working since last August. During that time something over \$1,000 has been raised and expended by the church in much needed improvements, and at the present time the church is entirely free from debt, which is highly complimentary for a church in a city of this size.

The improvements include the installing of new opera chairs throughout the edifice, the recovering of the floor and altar with carpet and the building of a three-room addition at the back of the church. Of these one room will be used by the pastor as a study, and another by the Sunday school and Young People's society. The third room will be used as a dressing room.

In addition to the improvements mentioned the church has been overhauled in general, two new chimneys being erected, and the platforms leading from the sidewalk having been rebuilt. In the near future the church will be repainted and papered.

The members of the congregation are very grateful to all those who have been so kind as to give their support by subscription and otherwise. At the close of the services, Sunday a collection of \$110 was taken up.

NOT THE LIBBY MINE.

Accident Was Not There, but at the Beaver Hill Plant.

An error was made in announcing that the Libby mine was not running at full capacity owing to an accident. It is the Beaver Hill mine and not the Libby mine that had the accident. The facts were correct, but there was a confusion of the names of the two mines. The Libby mine is all right and is running at full capacity.

Did Not Meet.

The Shakespeare club did not meet as usual last evening, owing to the fact that one of the members was out of the city.

Progress Club.

The Progress club will meet this afternoon at the residence of Mrs. P. C. Levar instead of with Mrs. I. Lando as had been planned.

Calling on Trade.

L. C. Collins, representing the Tillmann & Bendel wholesale grocery of San Francisco, is in the city calling on the trade.

Getting Better.

Charles Sneddon, who has been ill at the Marshfield general hospital for some time with typhoid fever, is progressing as well as could be expected. He is slightly better.

MARSHFIELD'S MAYOR WEDS MISS LAKEMAN

Dr. E. E. Straw Married to Former Resident of This City---Affair Takes Place at Santa Rosa, Cal.

Dr. E. E. Straw, mayor of Marshfield, and Miss Sara C. Lakeman have been married at Santa Rosa, California. Friends of the mayor expected that the event was to take place, but have not yet learned from him. The first news received was the following in the San Francisco Chronicle:

"Santa Rosa, April 18.—Mayor Edward E. Straw, of Marshfield, Oregon, arrived here today for the purpose of making Miss Sara C. Lakeman, of Mountain View, Cal., his bride. The wedding will take place here tomorrow morning, Rev. A. L. Burleson of the Episcopal church officiating.

According to this the wedding took place last Friday. When Dr. Straw went away he said he would be absent several weeks, so the couple is not expected back for a week at least.

The young lady whom the mayor of Marshfield has chosen for his bride is well known in this city, as she lived here until recently. Her home is at Mountain View, Cal., but for quite a while she owned and conducted the Marshfield General hospital. A few months ago she sold

the institution and went to her California home. She is a handsome young woman, and one who is held in the highest esteem in this city. While residing here she made a host of friends, who will be delighted that she is to return here to live.

Everybody in Marshfield knows Dr. Straw. He is a native of Missouri and attended college and gained his professional education in the east and came to Marshfield to practice. While a comparative newcomer, he was at the last city election chosen for mayor. He has taken a deep interest in the municipal affairs, and has put himself on record as an official standing for all that is progressive. Dr. Straw is a man who is easily met, and is known especially for his frank and outspoken way, which has stood him in good stead as a city executive. As physician and official and also personally, the mayor has won many warm friends in Marshfield and on Coos Bay.

It is learned here that the mayor has fitted up a house which he and his wife will occupy on returning from their wedding trip.

LOSES LIFE IN RIVER

Coroner Notified That Man is Drowned in the Coquille at Riverton

NO PARTICULARS

Could Be Learned, as the Telephone Line to That Place Was in Trouble.

Dr. Mingus, the coroner, was notified last night that a man was drowned in the Coquille river at Riverton. No name or particulars were given, and it was impossible to learn any details, as the telephone line to that place was in trouble.

Will Visit Spokane.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Kaufman have gone to Spokane, where they will visit for several weeks.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Western Oregon and western Washington, fair; eastern Oregon, eastern Washington and Idaho, cloudy and threatening, followed by fair and cooler weather.

LOCAL WEATHER.

The local weather, as reported by Dr. Mingus, the weather observer, for yesterday is as follows: Highest 60 degrees Lowest 49 degrees 6 p. m. 52 degrees Wind in northwest; clear.

COURT MILL IS STARTED

Six North Bend Men Fined For Allowing Gaming in Their Places.

LAW SUIT STARTS

Naturalization Papers Granted, and Grand Jury Makes Return to the Court.

(Times Special Service.) Coquille, Ore., April 22.—In the circuit court today the following defendants were arraigned on a charge of permitting unlawful gambling in places under their control: Fred Johnson, J. J. Curren, J. C. Wilcox, John Nasburg Jr., John Volty and Joe Shina, all of North Bend. All six defendants pleaded guilty and each was fined \$100 and costs.

Trial by Jury.

The case of Larson & Co. against the Bandon Manufacturing Co. was taken up today. It is an action at law to recover personal property, and embodies the title and possession of some 200 saw logs which were cut on Catching slough. Judge E. D. Sperry is the attorney for the plaintiff and C. R. Barrow is defending. The case will be submitted to the jury tomorrow.

Granted Papers.

Godfrey Strohm, Jacob Anderson and Patrick Daton were granted naturalization papers on the testimony of J. T. Hall, J. Wickman and Charles Rodin.

Two Indictments.

The grand jury returned a true bill against William Ferry for pointing a gun at another man; also a true bill against a man named McCosby for committing forgery.