

Coos Bay Times

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The policy of The Coos Bay Times will be Republican in politics, with the independence of which President Roosevelt is the leading exponent.

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FIRE STATISTICS.

Statistics, recently gathered, as to fires in college buildings, show the number of these fires to be surprisingly large, and the result may be an advance in the rate by insurance companies. "Insurance Engineering" devotes its entire May issue to an analysis of conditions in schools and colleges. It received reports from 322 institutions in reply to a list of questions. "We learn the lesson from the colleges and universities," writes the editor, "that precautions against fire have been neglected generally."

According to a compilation made for fire underwriters, 784 fires in college buildings in the United States in eighteen years caused a loss of \$10,500,000, besides several human lives. The average money loss exceeded \$13,000.

Prominent underwriters were asked by "Insurance Engineering" to give opinions upon the average college building as a "risk." Nearly all agreed that it was a poor risk. "There can be no question," said one underwriter, "as to the unprofitability of this class, especially the dormitories." Another said: "For the last fifteen years this department of the company shows a loss and expense experience of 100 per cent on colleges and schools."

Summing up his opinion an underwriter in one of the big insurance companies says:

"College buildings should all be of fireproof construction—hollow brick interior walls and floors, iron or stone stairways, and equipped with some approved fire extinguishers."

F. W. Fitzpatrick, secretary of the International Society of Building Inspectors, says:

"In no case is fireproof construction more necessary than in the case of college dormitories. Like hotels, they should be absolutely fireproof. It is a great deal more economical, in the long run, to put up a building that won't burn than to maintain an elaborate fire-fighting service—especially as the latter often proves useless. The best way to stop college fires is to use no wood in the structural parts of buildings. Most modern dormitories now are stone or brick on the outside; the inside should be just as fireproof. The ordinary brick building, with wood inside, is easy prey for the flames. But hollow terra cotta blocks, an inexpensive material, make floors and partitions unburnable."

Disastrous fires within the last year or so have emphasized the need

of better interior construction to protect the life of students. The burning of the main building at Dartmouth College is still fresh in the public memory.

Last December the Chi Psi Fraternity House at Cornell University caught fire in the night, and three students were burned to death. In the attempt to save them three volunteer firemen also perished; five students were injured and the property loss was \$300,000.

In Montreal, Canada, on February 30, the cry of "Fire!" was raised in Hochelaga School while it was in session. The only stairway, four feet wide, was made impassable by smoke. The kindergarten teacher on the second floor stayed in the building to help her pupils. She and nine of the children lost their lives. Two brick buildings of the Roman Catholic Seminary at Marleville, Canada, were destroyed in the same month by a fire that burned for ten hours. A seven-story brick building of the St. Stanislaus School in Chicago was practically destroyed by fire on December 22. Five days before that fifteen girls were killed or fatally injured in Nashville, Tenn., by a fire that gutted a four-story brick building in about one hour. Here there were no fire escapes.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

Every additional detail which tends to throw light upon the Southern Pacific line to Coos Bay will be received gladly by Coos Bay people, for all realize the inestimable good that will result to the country as a result of the roads coming. Rich dairy, timber, and agricultural lands that have hitherto suffered because of lack of transportation will be thrown open and the growth and development of the country will receive a wonderful impetus.

There is still, however, a certain amount of wonder as to just where this line is going in relation to Coos Bay. The location of the route seems wrapped in deep impenetrable mystery after it leaves the Umpqua river above Gardiner. It is certain that the cities on the bay will have connection with the road. It is also obvious that the strategic point between Portland and San Francisco is Coos Bay because of its deep water facilities. It is practically assured that the bay will not be bridged. Therefore the Southern Pacific must long before this have purchased its route, which it appears must parallel the eastern side of the lower bay. There could be no better plan followed than for that road to pass down that side of the bay.

It is admittedly a freight road. It has for its chief aim the handling of the enormous volume of freight which its coming will nurture. Freight roads are not wanted on the peninsula of Coos Bay. They should all run down the mainland across the bay. We have a very small peninsula here and cannot afford to let it be taken up by more than our terminal tracks and local electric railroad.

**ANNIVERSARIES
NOTABLE EVENTS**

Being A Reminder Of Some Noteworthy Happenings That Everybody Doesn't Remember

The following noteworthy events will have their first annual anniversary this month:

June 1. American miners were killed at Colonel W. C. Greene's mines at Cananea, Mexico.

June 4. The Governor of Kansas appointed A. W. Benson (Rep.) United States Senator, to succeed Joseph R. Burton (Rep.), resigned.

June 4. Oregon State Election, George E. Chamberlain (Dem.) was elected Governor, while the Republicans carried the Legislature. Jonathan Bourne, Representative, was nominated for United States Senator. An amendment to the State Constitution to extend the initiative and referendum to local, special and municipal laws was adopted by the people by a vote of 47,678, to 16,735. An amendment providing for Woman Suffrage was defeated by a vote of 47,075 to 36,902.

June 6. Pennsylvania Republican State Convention at Harrisburg nominated Edwin S. Stuart for Governor by acclamation, with a State ticket.

June 7. Indiana Democratic State Convention, at Indianapolis, nominated James L. Cox for Secretary of State with State ticket.

June 11. Delaware Republican legislative caucus nominated Henry A. Du Pont for United States Senator, the vote being: Du Pont, 20; J. Edward Addicks, 10; H. H. Ward, 1.

June 11. Vice-Presidents Granniss and Gillette, of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, were indicted at New York for forgery and perjury.

June 11. Public schools with half a million pupils, were opened in the Philippines.

June 12. Delaware Legislature elected Henry A. Du Pont (Rep.), United States Senator to fill vacancy. There was one vote for J. Edward

Addicks, and the Democrats voted blanks.

June 16.—The President signed the Oklahoma and Arizona Statehood bills.

June 18. Governor Pattison, of Ohio, died.

June 21. The United States Senate approved of the lock canal for Panama.

June 23. King Haakon VII. and Queen Maud of Norway were crowned.

June 25. Harry K. Thaw assassinated Stanford White at New York.

June 28. National Committee of the People's Party in conference at St. Louis issued an address to the people.

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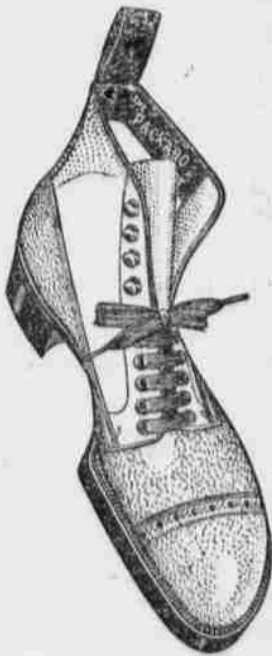
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