

Coos Bay Times

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

YOUR ADS CARRYING Your store-news, should appear as regularly as does this newspaper.

SOMEONE HAS SAID: "A store's advertising space in a newspaper, compared with the space used by other stores, should define its comparative importance in the community!"

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SEVENTY-THREE DEAD BODIES ARE TAKEN FROM SCRANTON MINE

Loss of Life In Pennsylvania Disaster Greater Than First Feared.

CAUSE OF FIRE NOT YET ASCERTAINED

Accident One of Worst Known In Anthracite Fields In Late Years.

DEAD NUMBER 74. (By Associated Press.) SCRANTON, Pa., April 8.—Officials late this afternoon announced the total of the deaths in the mine was seventy-four.

SCRANTON, Pa., April 8.—Seventy bodies have been recovered from the Pancost mine at Throop where a fire yesterday entombed many men. The indications are that many others will yet be found and the tragedy of the colliery will be far more fatal than was anticipated.

NO STATEMENT TO MAKE YET

J. M. Blake On Street Car Project—Not Part of Coos Bay and Boise.

"I have no public announcement to make regarding my plans for a street railway in Marshfield at this time." This was the gist of Jacob M. Blake's reply to a query yesterday as to what the status of the project was and when he expected to start construction.

Mr. Blake is known to have had the project up with a number of local parties but how much local capital he has interested in the project has not been given out.

There has been more or less speculation as to whether some railway or railroads were behind Mr. Blake's project but the interesting of local capital has rather put a quietus on this speculation.

Until this week, it was supposed by many that Mr. Blake's street car project was connected with the Coos Bay and Boise Railway project owing to intences given when the last extension was granted Mr. Blake on his franchise.

However, Francis H. Clarke, president of the Coos Bay project, this week emphatically stated that his company was not interested in any way whatsoever in Mr. Blake's project.

White River Flour, highest quality.

SEVEN BURNED BY EXPLOSION

Mother and Six Children Fatally Injured By Gasoline Stove Near Chicago.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) CHICAGO, Ill., April 8.—By the explosion of a kerosene stove, six children and their mother, Mrs. Luddie Podolk were fatally burned last night at Clyde, a suburb of Chicago.

LEAVE TODAY ON BREAKWATER

Steamship Sails For Portland This Morning With Good List.

The Breakwater sailed early this morning for Portland with a large passenger list and a fair cargo of freight.

Among those who sailed on her were the following: James R. Wall, John Wemer, Mrs. Baker, W. S. Marshall, Miss Bessie Marshall, O. S. Mish, John Riesback, Gus. Westland, S. W. Searls, A. B. Kirk, D. S. O'Callagan, Chas. Farrier, Mrs. J. A. Underwood, J. A. Underwood, Jack Wadkins, H. Foss, Mrs. Foss, Sadie Garoutte, Chas. Olsen, Martin Dahl, Chas. Averson, K. Hilteneess, W. R. Hicks, H. McPhelps, Mrs. A. S. Hammond, W. S. Henkel, Pete Brutt, Joe Brutt, D. M. Thomas, S. A. Montgomery, C. Ackerman, T. Blumat, Mrs. Blumat, Fred. Blumat, Annie Kermode, Wm. R. Kermode, S. R. Smith, Wesley Miller, E. Ahlquist, S. J. Kingrey, Mrs. Kingrey, Mrs. E. S. Bargelt, Ralph Matson, Mrs. C. F. Ray, C. J. Stienon, Mrs. D. D. Ambrosio, D. D. Ambrosio, John Messerle, Mrs. Messerle, May Messerle, Georgia Messerle, Rose Messerle, James Butts, Mrs. Butts, A. R. Cortua, H. Rousseau, W. H. Burkhangen, Wm. Richardson, Mrs. C. B. Selby, H. L. Ford, O. E. Nicholas, E. M. Rosenthal, Master Saunders, Mrs. Saunders, C. J. VanZile, Mrs. Groat, F. J. Michael, E. B. Michael, Mrs. Michael, B. Luplow, B. Poindexter.

ALL ABOARD LINER SAVED

Rescue 1,720 Passengers From Stranded Steamer Near New York.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) NEW YORK, April 8.—"All are safe ashore," was the message flashed by the commander of the steamer Prinz Friederich Wilhelm to the owners as the big liner with the 1,720 rescued passengers from the stranded Princess Irene swung into the North German Lloyd docks at Hoboken today.

Photo supplies and finishing at Walker Studio.

THE GALILEAN, sacred cantata at Baptist church Monday.

MISTLETOE Hams & Bacon Excell.

A Word With Mr. Bennett

IT IS with regret I note that Mr. J. W. Bennett does not accept in the proper spirit the efforts of the Marshfield and North Bend city councils, newspapers and citizens to secure a better and purer water supply. He characterizes the publication of the state Board of Health's analysis of the city water as an outrage. His whole attitude is one of injured innocence. He views the entire affair as one of financial expediency rather than the welfare of the community.

The fact is that we must settle this water question for the good of Coos Bay and furthermore must settle it right and permanently. The only way to do this is by discussion and presentation of the facts in the case. It is difficult to understand why Mr. Bennett should desire to block a movement so fraught with vital consequence to the people of this community. It is strange that a man of Mr. Bennett's intelligence should minimize thus the importance of a pure and proper supply of water.

It is almost unbelievable that Mr. Bennett should state as he does in his communication that "There is probably no other water shed in the state of Oregon as free from contamination from human excreta as the Coos Bay Water Co.'s water shed."

And expect Marshfield citizens to believe it. Too many citizens have waked over this shed and viewed the so-called reservoir. Within a week the wife of a well-known Marshfield business man stood near this reservoir and saw small boys throwing sticks into the reservoir while a dog would plunge into the water and bring them back in its mouth. This is the source of the water we are compelled to drink.

This is a condition that cannot endure. It will require more than Mr. Bennett's denial and intimation that the State Board of Health is not qualified to make a proper analysis of the water.

There has been too much in American life of placing private interests above public advantage. Business has too often allowed its action in public utilities to be decided by considerations of personal advantage instead of those of public welfare. It must be recognized now that human rights are superior to property rights. It must be recognized that the health, comfort, safety and happiness of the five thousand people of Marshfield and the three thousand people of North Bend are paramount to those of Mr. Bennett and his corporation.

Instead of placing himself in opposition to this movement Mr. Bennett should seek to lend his assistance and co-operation. By his present attitude he is taking chances that would be avoided by a sensible man. If disease and death come as a result of his attitude the responsibility will rest upon his shoulders. The time to protect the people from such a disaster is NOW, not after the epidemic is upon us.

Mr. Bennett writes with much looseness and a wreckless regard of facts for a gentleman of his legal attainments, when he states that Salem and other valley towns have not agitated the pure water question. The truth is that the two daily papers of Eugene for months kept up an incessant agitation and printed many pages of discussion pro and con in their efforts to secure a water supply. As a result the city purchased the old dilapidated system and rebuilt it with a new source of supply. The same is true of Medford and other Oregon cities. The Times is not seeking to create a sensation unless telling the truth and presenting facts may be called sensational. Doubtless the devil deplores the publicity of gospel truth and decries it as sensational but it in no measure minimizes the force of verity or disturbs its eternal qualities.

Salem, Albany and other Oregon cities are agitating for a purer water supply to prevent outbreaks of typhoid fever. In Eugene the agitation has resulted in an entirely new municipal system. Medford has the same. These people were wise to insist on pure water. Coos Bay people would also be wise if they concerned themselves more about their water supply. City building cannot go along successfully without proper attention to these things. Typhoid and other epidemics from city water are wholly preventable. Whether a water supply is pure or not can be determined with scientific certainty. Why, then, should a city have anything but pure water? Speaking recently on a city water supply, a prominent doctor said that every case of typhoid comes from somebody's ignorance or neglect. That being true, what excuse can the authorities of any enlightened, aggressive municipality give for not securing a water supply that is positively pure?

It is an old saying in the medical profession that for every case of typhoid some one ought to be hanged. That is putting it with exaggeration, of course, but speaking temperately and fairly, ignorance and neglect in matters pertaining to the public water supply are inexcusable.

I say this in all kindness, for Mr. Bennett occupies a prominent place in this community and has shown willingness in many ways to help in forwarding its interests. I say it merely to warn him against old tendencies, which seem to be reasserting themselves, and will interfere with that halo he is intending to get for himself some of these days.

Mr. Bennett cannot afford to oppose this movement for a pure water supply as he has opposed the improvement of the harbor. The water problem is too vitally interwoven with the lives and happiness of our people to be ignored or treated with indifference.

OREGON EXPLOSION PROVES FATAL

J. E. Thurman Killed and Geo. Shump and Wife Badly Injured Near Ashland.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.) ASHLAND, Ore., April 8.—A premature explosion of dynamite in Ash Falls.

White River Flour, highest quality.

FEAR SIXTY MINERS WERE KILLED IN ALABAMA SHAFT

WRITES ABOUT WATER SUPPLY

President J. W. Bennett of Water Company Gives Their View Of It.

Editor Times: No death or even a case of sickness has ever been attributed to the water of the Coos Bay Water company. Under such conditions is it not an outrage to the community to notify intending comers by advertising in the newspapers that the water supply here is bad.

The inhabitants at North Bend and Marshfield drank it freely since 1888; five thousand in Marshfield and three thousand in North Bend, and not one death or a case of sickness can be attributed to the water and then some one, in order to advertise himself in the community or out of sheer cussedness causes the people in the town uneasiness and frightens outsiders from locating here, as no one wants to live in a community where they cannot get pure water.

So far as the Coos Bay Water company is concerned, from a financial point of view, it is immaterial whether these statements are published or not, so far as the present residents are concerned as the only effect it will have will be the consumers will boil the drinking water as they do in nearly all the Valley towns, instead of drinking it straight from the faucets as they have for the last thirteen years, but it is an outrage under these conditions for any one to advertise results of an examination without understanding the requisites of an examination.

To get fair results, water should be examined the same day it is drawn, and not three days afterwards as in this case.

The containers must be thoroughly sterilized, which was not done in the North Bend matter.

"Bacteria can multiply from seven per c. c. to four hundred ninety-five thousands in three days at ordinary room temperature." (Miguel).

It does not necessarily mean that colon bacilli means typhoid or any other disease, or that it means human excreta.

Speaking of bacteria index of faecal pollution, Stoddard, says:

"Until we are able to single out a form specifically associated with faecal matter, and at least as easily recognizable as the tubercle or diphtheria bacillus, we shall do well to avoid such expressions as contain 'index faecal pollution. It is an assumption to say that bacterial pollution does not occur in abundance in organic matters, other than animal excreta."

But if the water contains anything, the stockholders of the Water company are just as anxious to have it remedied as anybody else as themselves, their relatives and friends use it continually and have for the last thirteen years; but it is not fair to have them alarmed simply because some one adopts that method of becoming noticed in the community where otherwise their presence would never have been known.

In one breath they say the water is positively not fit for use and in the next, which follows immediately, they say the Council advises the buying of the plant or force the company to sell. What do you think of that?

There is probably no other water shed in the State of Oregon as free of possible contamination from human excreta as the Coos Bay Water company's water shed. The water shed is completely covered with timber.

(Continued on page 8.)

Explosion in Shaft Near Littleton Endangers Nearly 200 Miners

MOST OF WORKMEN CONVICTS LABORERS

Large Number Injured—Rescuers Bring Out Many This Afternoon.

MAY BE 115 DEAD.

(By Associated Press.) LITTLETON, Ala., April 8.—At three o'clock this afternoon it was practically certain that 115 men had been killed in the Banner mine explosion that occurred this morning. Seven bodies were recovered and about thirty whites and eighty negroes are still in the shaft. Forty-five were rescued alive. There is small hope for the entombed men, all but five of whom are convicts.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

LITTLETON, Ala., April 8.—It is feared that sixty state and county convicts were killed in a mysterious explosion that occurred in the Banner coal mines here this morning. One hundred and seventy-five miners were underground working when the explosion occurred. Most of the miners were negroes. Rescuers have brought out between forty and fifty men, most of whom are injured. Two negroes were dead. Thirty whites are in the mine yet.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 8.—Scores of miners are reported to have been killed in an explosion at the Banner mines at Littleton, thirty miles from here. The Banner mines are owned by the Pratt Consolidated Coal company with offices here.

Convicts hired from various counties in the state are employed in the mines. Two hundred men are known to have been in the mines when the explosion occurred and only twenty thus far have come out alive and it is believed a majority of the remainder are dead. The cause of the explosion has not been ascertained.

TWO ROBBERS ARE WOUNDED

Man at Aurora, Mo., Thwarts Effort to Loot Bank There.

(By Associated Press to Coos Bay Times.)

AURORA, Mo., April 8.—Two robbers while attempting to force entrance to the Miners & Farmers bank in this city were shot and seriously wounded early today by Frank Ruppel, a butcher, who discovered the men at work. Ruppel was asleep across the street when he heard the noise. He raised the window with a revolver in his hand. He saw four men trying to pry open the front door of the bank. Ruppel shot five times and two men fell but their companions gathered them up and escaped before Ruppel could arouse the citizens. The robbers did not return Ruppel's fire.

Perfection in Preferred Stock Brands