

FIRE CAUSE NOT DECIDED

Much Speculation Still as to Origin of Blaze Here Sunday Night.

There is still much speculation as to what caused the fire that destroyed the Wm. Noble house and the home of C. A. Gabernache Sunday night. Mr. Gabernache is at a loss to account for it. That it originated from some kind of an explosion, every one agrees who has looked into it but whether it could have been some kind of an oil explosion or a strange gas explosion is the problem. Representatives of the gas company believe that the water tank exploded first, probably from too high steam pressure, and that this broke the gas connection and allowed the building to fill with gas.

Shows Appreciation.

This morning, Chief Traver of the Fire Department received a check for \$25 from Dr. Leslie with a note expressing his appreciation of the excellent work the Department did Sunday night in confining the fire to the one house. Dr. Leslie owns the house just south of the house burned. Chief Traver and the members of the Department greatly appreciate this. While their excellent work has often brought forth words of appreciation, it has not always been accompanied by such substantial recognition.

Water Was Low.

Fire Chief Traver attributes the delay in turning on the water after the firemen reached the scene to persons other than firemen trying to handle the hydrant.

When the water was first turned on, it was very muddy in appearance. This was due to the hydrant not having been flushed out for some time. Mr. Traver says that the hydrants should be flushed out at least once a month and that he instructed the engineer of the fire department to do so. However, the water company he says has been objecting to this as a waste of water and the flushing has been discontinued. The sediment and rust in the pipes leading to hydrants, aside from the possibility of choking the hydrant, is said to be detrimental to the purity of the water in the mains.

Mr. Traver said that the fire was another example of the necessity of providing a team to get out the fire engine. No team could be obtained and several members of the department hauled up the engine. They were worn out when they reached the scene.

Had it not been for the absence of wind, Mr. Traver says that the adjacent houses would undoubtedly have been set on fire.

Another peculiar phase of the escape of Mr. and Mrs. Gabernache by means of a rope from the second story window came to light today. Mr. Gabernache went through the San Francisco quake and fire and has a horror of fires. He insisted that the rope should be left in the bedroom for just such cases of emergency, while Mrs. Gabernache did not like to have it around. She threw it in the basement but he got it and brought it back up a few days ago. Had it not been for this, they would have had to jump from the window last night.

MARSHFIELD BOY SPEAKS.

CORVALLIS, Ore., Dec. 9.—The Jeffersonian Literary Society at the Agricultural College gave the following programme this afternoon: Extempore speech, A. Jordan, '15, Pendleton; a discussion of the value of literary societies, H. I. Smith, '12, Marshfield; parliamentary practice under the leadership of R. M. Rutledge, '15, Monroe, and a question box conducted by P. E. Freidig, '14, Sutherlin.

THE LADIES' AID OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

will make TAMALES Wednesday afternoon to be ON SALE after 4 O'CLOCK at the CHURCH.



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THE TOGGERY

GARRISON CASE IS POSTPONED

Opening of Murder Trial at Coquille Delayed Few Days—Calf Case Heard.

Owing to the attorneys in the case of Frank Perkins, charged with the murder of Roy Perkins, not having received certain exhibits, which were forwarded to be used in the presentation of the case to the Oregon supreme court, back, the trial which was to have opened today at Coquille was postponed until Thursday.

The trial promises to be a hard fought one and it is doubtful if a jury will be secured before Saturday evening if the case opens Thursday, as is now planned. In all, it is expected that the case will occupy the court's time for more than a week. Garrison was convicted on the first trial a year ago and was sentenced to be hung last January but the Oregon Supreme Court on an appeal ordered a new trial on the ground that Garrison's alleged confession should not have been admitted as evidence, claiming it was obtained by "third degree" methods.

Now the court is hearing the Chandler calf stealing case from Bandon. Mr. Chandler alleging that a calf was stolen from his ranch and sold to a Bandon meat market.

Gustafson Paroled.

Gus Gustafson, who was indicted for the theft of about \$50 from Martin Olson, a Marshfield fisherman, entered a plea of guilty. Judge Coke paroled him. The penalty would be a sentence from one to ten years for the crime but the imposing of it was postponed during good behavior. Gustafson returned to Marshfield today and left at once for Coos River where he will go to work.

FORTUNE SEEKS BRIDE

Letter Starts Young Man on Journey to Roseburg.

ROSEBURG, Ore., Dec. 12.—Geo. De Graf, from Illinois, who, according to his own statement, is worth in the neighborhood of \$30,000, is today speeding westward to claim a bride whom he has never seen.

The romance was begun four weeks ago, when Publicity Manager Schlosser, of Roseburg Commercial Club, received a letter from the young man, who said he desired to settle in Douglas County, Oregon, in the event he would be able to win a bride to share his home.

He said the Eastern girls were skeptical, and, in explanation, that they were afraid to leave the parental home. Besides giving a description of his general appearance, the young man said he never used tobacco or drank, and was free from all habits of the age.

Impressed with the letter, and desiring to add the young man to the list of newcomers, Mr. Schlosser published an item in a Roseburg paper, in which it was set out that the young woman would have to assume the burden of matrimony if Douglas County were to secure the \$30,000. In the course of a few days a letter was received in response to the article written, as the publicity manager thought, in a feminine hand. The message was immediately forwarded to the young man awaiting in the East.

Today Mr. Schlosser received a letter, in which the young man confided the name of his bride-to-be, as well as authorizing the publicity manager to call upon her at the first possible moment.

"Ask her if she is strong and of good disposition," said the writer, "and don't forget to notice her looks. Ascertain her age, and, above all, find out if she is respectable."

While Mr. Schlosser is not engaged in conducting a matrimonial bureau, he explains that Douglas County is entitled to the \$30,000, and for that reason he intends to see the game through to a successful termination. Mr. Schlosser refuses to divulge the name of the young woman, but says the wedding is certain.

GUNS TURNED ON RABBITS.

Eastern Palates Create Market for Idaho Prairie Pest.

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 12.—A demand for rabbits as a table delicacy in the East has caused firearms, ranging from the high-grade hammerless shotgun to the antiquated musket, to be resurrected by Jerome, Idaho, farmers who are now swarming into the fields in quest of the fleet jackrabbit.

Heretofore the animals have been regarded as a serious pest, but the announcement recently that Eastern commission merchants were paying six cents for the rabbits here has prompted hundreds of hunters to invade the prairie country. More than 5000 rabbits were shipped to Pittsburg one week.

CYRUS H. WALKER AGED 73

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 12.—Cyrus H. Walker, the oldest living white man born west of the Rocky Mountains, celebrated his 73d birthday anniversary at his home near Albany last Thursday.

He was born at Whitman's mission, near Walla Walla, Wash., December 7, 1838. Walker is a grand commander of the Indian War Veterans of the North Pacific Coast and a prominent officer in the Oregon Pioneer Association and State Grange. Since his 72d birthday he has organized 10 new granges in Oregon. During the past two years he has organized 30 granges in this state.

BIG AUDIENCE APPLAUDS PLAY

Raymond Teal Company Score Hit in Initial Performance in Marshfield.

The Masonic Opera House was comfortably filled last evening to see "Variety Isle," the initial performance of the Raymond Teal Musical Comedy company. The company as a whole gave excellent satisfaction and was far superior to what nineteenth parts of the crowd had anticipated. The audience was liberal in its applause.

Last evening's performance was far superior to the musical comedy companies that have played Marshfield in the past. There was nothing risqué about the performance.

The chorus is a hard working one and what it lacked in vocal ability it attempted to make up in dancing and variety of costumes. With the exception of possibly one or two numbers, the new music did not strike a particularly responsive popular chord.

Geo. Chesbro and Margaret Davis were generally the credited stars of the performance although Grace Wolf by her dancing won the greatest applause. Corinne Carkeek as "Mrs. Gable who wants to meet a man so bad" probably had the most difficult part in the bill but got away with it in good shape.

Raymond Teal, as Helntz, a soldier of misfortune and Cash Knight, as Louie Krautmeyer, were comedians far above the average and by their clever work won their way to hearts of Coos Bay amusement lovers. Both have excellent voices and the audience evidently desired to hear more of their singing than was given in last evening's performance. However, with a five night's stand ahead of them, they had to hold back some of their best stunts.

The company will play a five nights stand here and a different bill has been arranged for each night. Manager Teal in a little curtain talk announced that the company has a repertoire of twenty bills and declared that all of them were as good or better than last night and declared also that if any patron did not like the performance, he could call and get his money back.

The schedule of plays for the week is as follows:

Tuesday—"My Friend from Australia."

Wednesday—"The Bell Boy."

Thursday—"The Man who Came Back" and "The Girl and the Jockey."

Friday—"Mu Nu Da Land" and Chorus Girl's Contest.

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FINE BAND CONCERT.

Coos Bay Concert Band Scores New Hit With Program.

A sincere and lasting pleasure was given all music-lovers who were fortunate enough to be present at the band concert in the Opera House Sunday afternoon. The excellence of tone and technique came as a surprise to those who for some time had not heard the band play. The whole production was one that can hardly be equalled even by the more-seasoned musicians of the larger cities of the northwest. The descriptive fantasy, "Winter" with its stirring theme and lilting variations was one of the best musical selections that has ever been heard in Marshfield. The rendition of classical pieces "Martha" and "An Album Leaf" was proof of the ability that Director Fenton seems to possess to an unusual degree.

The selections from the "Mikado," the marches "Kaiser Friedrich" and "Sunshine" and the song poem "Roses and Memories," were equally well rendered, and the "Star Spangled Banner" ended a concert that came as an unusual pleasure to all who have a sincere appreciation of good music.

PORTLAND FIRM IS WINNER.

McMinnville's \$75,000 Municipal Bond Issue Goes to Morris Bros.

M'INNIVILLE, Ore., Dec. 12.—Morris Bros., bond buyers, of Portland, have been awarded the \$75,000 municipal bond issue recently authorized by the citizens here, at par and \$1800 premium. There were 17 separate bids by Coast and Eastern bond buyers for the issue as a whole or in part. The issue consists of \$15,000 water main bonds, \$30,000 general street improvement bonds, and \$30,000 water and light bonds, the first two denominations to be accepted by the buyers as issued at the option of the city. All bear 6 per cent interest.

Except for a provision in the charter amendment authorizing the bond issues, establishing the rate of interest on the water and light bonds at 6 per cent, the three issues could have been floated at a much lower rate, according to some of the bids.

HOBBLES HOBBLE PROFITS

Paris Modistes Say They Have Lost Millions by "Simple" Skirts.

PARIS, Dec. 12.—French dressmakers assert that they lost \$4,000,000 this year. It is said that 20,000 girls are out of employment because of the wearing of hobble-skirts and kimono blouses, which require only half the usual amount of material.

Try The Times' Want Ads.

JETTY PROJECT WILL BE URGED

Port Commission Decides to Push Plans—Other Waterway Improvements.

Besides deciding that \$200,000 of the \$300,000 to be raised by the sale of bonds should be expended under the direction of Major Morrow and the United States engineers in improving the inner harbor, the Port of Coos Bay Commission yesterday decided to continue to urge upon the government the necessity of jetty improvement. This will be taken up with Major Morrow and the engineers at once.

In turning over the improvement of the inner harbor to the United States engineers, the commissioners believe that the greatest good can be accomplished for Coos Bay and at the same time any possible friction or duplication of local and government work will be obviated. The matter will be taken up with Major Morrow at once and it is believed that he can secure the approval of the government of such an arrangement. It is understood that the plan is in accord with the recent policy of the United States engineers and Engineer Leefe, who has charge of the local government work, is a firm believer in such a policy. With the Dredge Oregon here and with other dredges which the government can probably obtain on more favorable terms than the Port Commission probably can, the work would also be facilitated.

The Port Commission is in hopes of getting the litigation, which has been delaying their efforts to improve the harbor, out of the way so that the \$300,000 bond issue can be marketed within the next six months and the money made available.

Besides this, the commissioners approved the proposed three mill tax levy and the project on which the Dredge Oregon is now working. It was also decided to take up with Engineer Leefe the question of having the Oregon improve the channel from north of the mouth of Coos River to beyond Porter. The engineer was also instructed to prepare plans and estimates for improving Catching Inlet from the railroad dock there to Summer. An ordinance prohibiting the dumping of refuse of any kind into the Bay or inlets emptying into it passed the first reading.

Hugh McLain Wires

The Marshfield Chamber of Commerce has received the following self-explanatory telegram from Hugh McLain, who was sent to Washington to work in behalf of harbor improvements here:

"Got a hearing before Pacific Coast Senators and Representatives Thursday and Rivers and Harbors Committee of the House Friday and I have an appointment to appear before the Rivers and Harbors engineers Monday. I am doing everything possible for our project. Feel very much encouraged."

DRAIN STAGE ROBBERS.

May Have Special Grand Jury to Investigate.

The Roseburg Review says: "Judge J. W. Hamilton stated this morning that he had not yet taken into consideration the matter of calling the grand jury into special session to expedite the disposal of the case of F. Foster and Ed. Jurgins, the Drain stage robbers in jail here, who have expressed a desire to plead guilty. The jury is due to reconvene anyhow on the 8th of next January. Jurgins, it is learned, was guilty of a boyish indiscretion in this county five years ago, and was placed by Judge Wonacott on parole, which he promptly violated by leaving the country. Upon being arrested here for the stage robbery he denied point-



Wear A Benjamin

If you are going to get all the fun and happiness out of Christmas that you hope to, you've got to be smartly and comfortably clothed. You've got to be dressed in a correctly styled Benjamin Suit while you're inside and wrapped up in great Benjamin overcoat while you're outside.

BENJAMIN SUITS BENJAMIN OVERCOATS GABARDINES

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Benjamin Clothes are America's finest garments. They're a happy combination of tailoring skill, fine fabrics and authentic style. They combine the ease and naturalness and the poise and perfection of the clothes worn by the best dressed Americans. Wear a Benjamin this Christmas. Tell your friends to wear one also. When you suggest a "Benjamin" you're suggesting the highest grade clothes it is possible to produce.

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MARSHFIELD BANDON

blank that he had ever been in trouble before or that he even knew Judge Wonacott. This falsehood led to a derogatory report concerning Jurgins' brothers, and it should now be said in justice of them that they have always been orderly and industrious and never have committed any unlawful act."

SCIENTIFIC FACTS.

A Missouri man has invented a camera that also is a dark room permit a person to develop his pictures wherever he may happen to be.

A cheap substitute for radium, to possess all its therapeutic power is made from thorite, a mineral found principally in Norway.

Tests made by the United States navy indicate that an aviator would be an easy mark for any fair shot within a range of 1000 yards. A party from Yale University on its way to Peru to explore a portion of the Andes mountains is partially mapped in the crustal ner.

A permanent organization of French speaking doctors of the law will be formed at the Twelfth Congress of Medicine at Lyon in October.

SOME BIG POTATOES

We notice in some of our Coos county exchanges, of potatoes weighing six pounds and a 14 pound head of cabbage being exhibited and freely commented upon by some of the local editors. We imagine that smelling salts would have to be applied to revive some of our neighbors editors if such potatoes, as we new have in our office, were shown them. Mrs. C. R. Pugh sent us two potatoes that measure more than two feet in length, one of which measures 17 1/2 inches around the smallest way. The tubers were raised up the river about 16 miles, and it is only conjecture



Some of the Girls

MASONIC OPERA HOUSE

TONIGHT

"MY FRIEND FROM AUSTRALIA"

Raymond TEAL

Musical Comedy

30 People