

## FOREST FIRES BRING DEATH AND DESOLATION

Mothers and Babes Perish in Seas of Flame Near Vancouver, Wash.—Husband and Wife Die a  
Fearful Death Near Springwater.All Along the Columbia Flames Spread Ruin and Dismay—Portland's Environs Are Ringed With Flames and Every Nerve Is Being  
Strained to Combat the Spread of the Destroying Element—Farmers in Outlying Districts Are Ready  
to Leave Their All and Fly for Their Lives Before the Destroyer.

The devastation of the fire fiend continues unabated. The populace of two states is appalling over the tremendous destruction left in the wake of the holocaust. Whole counties are at the mercy of the flames, and many villages without adequate fire protection have been wholly or partially laid in ruins. In some of the obscure districts where settlers have located, in places surrounded by heavy timber, the stampede for the open country has begun. Many are rushing for their lives from the leaping flames which are bounding over the country in a great wave. In many of the towns a reign of terror is in vogue. People are standing about pale with fright, and looking forward with hopeless despair to the annihilation of property which can only be averted by the rarest of luck.

A TERRIBLE STORY  
Will be chronicled when the summary of the ravages of the blighting destroyer are compiled. Charred and blackened corpses, by the score, will be found incinerated at different points, where no avenue of escape were open from cremation in the fiery furnace. The homeless will be numbered by the hundreds, and the effect on the business interests of the Northwest will be almost beyond computation. The greatest feature of loss will be in the timber industry. Logging camps and sawmills have been the principal sufferers. Many of these have been wiped out, and it will take months before the business interests of the country again reach the bases of activity that existed before the visitation of the consuming blight.

THE SITUATION.  
Up to this afternoon is as follows: Gresham is being threatened and the town is being protected by the vigorous work of its citizens.

The Oregon City people have a hard fight to keep the flames from making further progress. The fire departments are all at work and have up to this time kept the fire at bay, and confined the de-

struction to a number of residences. In Lane, Douglas and Marion Counties vast areas of valuable timber are going up in smoke.

The steamer Columbia is on a bar at Tongue's Point, owing to her loss of bearing in the dense smoke.

The telegraph and telephone wires are down in many places, by the burning of poles and the falling of trees.

Dwellings, bridges and fences have been burned in great numbers, in every section.

In the Springwater district it is reported that over 200 houses have been burned.

HARMONY IN  
DESPERATIONResidents Ready to Fly for Safety  
at Any Moment.

A thrillingly dangerous condition exists in the Harmony district. While it had been threatened for some hours, the fire did not actually strike there until last evening. It came in suddenly over the hill near the postoffice, creeping into the Kammies Meadows, and under a strong wind which sprung up as if for the occasion leaped into a sea of fire that swept through the open reaches like a whirlwind. Quickly the sea of flame had run over the Batten Meadows, adjoining, licking up everything, including the stacked crops. Out buildings close to the postoffice were licked up as the fire spread, and five houses succumbed, among them that of Mr. Gage. In spite of the fierce battle made by the residents, Batten's house was expected sure to go, though actually safe at last advice. But information was impossible to get owing to the dense smoke and the blinding gusts of hot air. Other places burned in the obscuring smoke were the Payne postoffice building and the Council place was in imminent danger.

The people of the district are making a tremendous fight, back-firing the lands and beating against the advancing tide,

though vainly. The result is hard to predict, as all night they have been battling and are worn out. Not a resident of the district has had a wink of sleep during the night, and many were in sleepless terror the night before. Household effects have been taken from nearly all the houses in the entire Harmony district, and teams line the roads, waiting directions where to go for safety. The fires this morning had reached that line of road leading to Oregon City, were, in fact, on both sides of the road, along the line of the Water Power Company. From the situation only rain can prevent the fire sweeping for miles and miles into the Clackamas country. A strange condition was that while it was comparatively so still yesterday and this morning in the city, there was a stiff breeze out there, blowing, however, from all points of the compass, rendered of course, from the fires. Smoke is so dense in all that Harmony region that it is impossible to see the distance of a block.

THE SITUATION  
DOWN RIVERProsperous Country of Few Days  
Ago Now in Ruins.

The Bailey Gatzert arrived from Astoria this morning at 9 o'clock about four hours late. She brought the first direct news concerning the steamer Columbia. The captain reports that she left Astoria yesterday morning at 9 o'clock and an hour later she was high and dry on a bar about back of Miller's Sands. She was fully a mile off her course, and it is stated to be very doubtful whether the high tide will be sufficient to move her. The Hasalo went to her assistance last night and will probably bring up her passengers. They will hardly be able to reach here before tomorrow.

On both sides of the Columbia the en-

tire country is in flames. Near Oak Point is the most affected district. Houses are burning and property of all kinds is being destroyed. Through the dense smoke the leaping, lurid flames present a picture never to be forgotten. From the boat the dim outlines of men could be seen fighting the fire demon while women and children were fleeing for their lives to places of safety. The members of one family were picked up by the steamer at Oak Point and taken to Cathlamet. Their house and every possession are now numbered among the black and smoking ruins. Many families are left destitute, and at this time an estimate of the loss cannot be reckoned. Benson's logging camp, the largest on the Columbia, has been totally destroyed excepting three locomotives which were run to an open space in the woods. Chalmers and McGee's logging camps are also burned, and the great forests of a few days ago in their vicinity are being licked up by the flames as though the stately trees were no more than matches. Fires are also raging back of Nappa. Boulden's camp, opposite Astoria, on the Washington side, is also burning.

UP-RIVER FIRES  
STILL RAGINGRain Is the Only Hope—O. R. &  
N. Straining Every Nerve.

BRIDAL VEIL, Sept. 12.—The great forest fire is still raging over the whole country east of here as far as the Cascades. Everything is being swept in all directions and it is now impossible to estimate the losses or give hope of checking the great wall of fire until rain comes. Thousands of acres of valuable timber have already been destroyed, besides mills, homes, crops and property of every description. People are fleeing from the path of the flames, despoiling everything to save their lives.

The O. R. & N. has every available man

FIRE FIEND'S  
DEADLY BREATHKills Husband and Wife Near  
Spring Water on Thursday.

OREGON CITY, Sept. 12.—Reports from Springwater are many and conflicting but Geo. Cuttingham, a farmer whose home was just east of Springwater was in town yesterday and told the following story, which can be relied upon.

He was compelled to run across the fields with his family to escape the flames. He says he will never far again as he was on this place for 20 years and now everything is gone. The region known as Rocky Point is entirely buried away. Besides those named in yesterday's paper these also lost everything: John Lewellyn, A. Lacey, and Geo. Cunningham. Two stores, the Grange hall, a church, and the school-house burned during the day. Postmaster and storekeeper W. J. Lewellyn lost everything except the U. S. mail which he managed to save. Many other fine farms and houses are known to be in great danger, as the flames are traveling toward the west with great speed. It is expected that the farms belonging to L. Lacey and Harvey Cross also will go. Thus far the flames cannot be stayed and, unless the wind changes, the rich country around Viola and Logan will probably be burned.

The Swede employed by Frank Bush to care for his farm was determined to die when he saw the house had to go, but was dragged out in time by neighbors.

Surveyor-General Meldrum was heard from last evening, when he telephoned to have a team sent out immediately, as he and his party were very anxious to get out of that district. He had no definite report of the fire.

Stella B. Hedger, of Salmon, near the mouth of Skimion River, was in town last night, and reports that Postmaster J. W. Parker lost his store, house, barn and fences. This place is known as the McIntyre place. He also reports the U.

S. fish hatchery is in danger of burning. This is a new hatchery in the course of construction.

DIED AMID FLAMES.  
OREGON CITY, Sept. 12.—Later—The special messenger, whom Frank Bush sent out to his place near Springwater, returned this morning and reports that one and probably two lives were lost Thursday.

The messenger reached the ranch just in time to see the house and barn catch fire. He rushed inside and found the caretaker's wife sitting in a chair exhausted, she refusing to move until he threatened her with a rifle. He succeeded in getting her about a hundred yards from the house when he was forced to leave her and run for his life as the flames were upon them. The woman sank to the ground and the messenger dared not go near the place for in a few moments the place where she had fallen was a mass of flames. The woman's husband could not be found. When last seen he was fighting fire like a demon, although already badly burned. Canemah Park was discovered to be on fire twice during the night. Every available man in Canemah was called upon, they forming a bucket brigade and quickly quenching the flames. Assistant Superintendent Fields, of the O. W. F. & Ry. Co., who owns a part interest in the park, said this morning that he is confident that these fires were set by some unknown party or parties.

LANE COUNTY  
ALSO SUFFERSThe Booth-Kelly Company Are Losing  
Their Finest Timber.

EUGENE, Sept. 12.—There are several forest fires in Lane County, but none very serious. Early yesterday morning the entire force of men employed at the Booth-Kelly Co.'s big sawmill at Wendling was called out to prevent a fire in the woods five miles distant from spreading. This is the most serious fire reported. It is now burning some of the finest timber

owned by the Booth-Kelly Company. The settlers are bending every effort to check the flames. None of them have suffered much loss as yet, however.

HOT BATTLE  
NEAR GRESHAMOnly the Most Desperate Exertion  
Bested the Devouring Flames.

For some days past forest fires have been burning in the vicinity of Gresham and Troutdale. On Thursday afternoon, under the influence of a very high wind, the fires started southward and westward in the direction of Lent and Tremont.

One arm of the flames struck across the dry meadows to the west, running a little north of the little village of Woodmere on the Mt. Scott branch of the Oregon Water Power & Railway Company crossing that and entering the brush to the north of Tremont. Here the fire took a direct westerly course and is burning fiercely in the direction of Woodstock and Richmond.

The other arm of the fire took a course south toward the Village of Lent. The whole population of Lent has turned out and with the aid of a large number of volunteers from this city are trying to beat the deadly flames away from the vicinity of their homes. At one time the doom of Lent certainly looked sealed. The fine public school building situated to the east of the town was entirely destroyed and many other buildings caught fire.

From Lent the flames swung around to Johnson Creek, licking up everything in its path. A large number of the residents along the creek owned small farms and chicken ranches and these were entirely destroyed. On the hill overlooking the creek at the Section Line road several houses were destroyed. Kinder's big slaughter-house was entirely destroyed as also were the residences of Mrs. C. A. Rosenberg and Mrs. Halner. Property owned by John Carlson was also destroyed by the hungry flames.

The residence of Mrs. H. O. Chase

(Continued on Second Page.)

GREAT  
PROJECTUnion Pacific to Enter  
Oriental Trade.

TO GET STEAMSHIPS

Important Business to Come Up at  
Annual Meeting of the  
Roads.

At the next month's meeting of the Oregon Short Line, Union Pacific, Rio Grande Western and auxiliary companies at Salt Lake, matters that are of great interest to the city of Portland will come up, and those on the inside are watching to see which way the commercial wind is blowing. The annual meetings of these lines will be held at different intervals during the month, beginning with the Oregon Short Line on October 8, followed by the Union Pacific on the 14th, and the Rio Grande and others in the latter part of the month.

The Union Pacific has ambitions to become a factor in the Oriental trade and great efforts are to be put forth for that end. This fight will be against the northern lines, through the Oregon Short Line and the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company, which are the links between the big line and the Union Pacific. To this end there are some important changes to be made and some very extensive plans are being formulated.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the Short Line will be held after the annual meeting, at which an amendment to the articles of incorporation will be made authorizing the road to "construct or acquire by purchase, lease or otherwise and to maintain and operate ferries, jerryboats, steamboats, steamships, warships and other property appurtenant to

the business of ferries or navigation. Also to engage generally in the business of transportation upon the navigable waters of the United States or of other countries and upon the high seas, and to purchase or otherwise acquire and guarantee the capital stock and other obligations of any company having power to engage in such business or engaged therein."

A fleet of steamers, the finest and fastest on the Pacific, will be placed in those waters to ply between Portland and all Oriental ports. The boats will be constructed for speed and comfort, with the object of giving to the Pacific ocean traveler the pleasant journey like those so famous on the Atlantic, and also to make fast time between here and China, Manila and Australia.

It is a mammoth plan, but a far-seeing one, as it is argued that the traffic over the Pacific is yet in its infancy, and in a short time fast passenger steamers will leave the Pacific ports of this country for all points in the far East. What this means for Portland can readily be seen; what great commercial benefit we shall derive cannot be fully realized, for we do not know the whole story of the advantages and resources of the far East, and what a wonderful chain of commercial friendship will follow.

NO NEED  
OF ALARMSec. Shaw to Release  
\$4,000,000 Treasury  
Holdings.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12.—Secretary Shaw announced this morning that he had made arrangements to release \$4,000,000 of the Treasury holdings by depositing with National Banks which possess free or pledged bonds. He has also decided to anticipate the October interest of \$4,250,000, and declares there is no occasion for alarm over the present conditions.

Take The Journal, by carrier, 10 cents a week, 45 cents a month.

CORBETT  
REFUSESTo Be a Candidate for  
the Senate.

THIS IS DEFINITE

And Eliminates His Name From  
the List of Possibilities.

The Journal was placed in possession of information late this afternoon to the effect that H. W. Corbett has definitely, finally, and explicitly insisted that his name shall not be used in connection with the fight for the United States Senate.

The statement is authoritative, and leaves no room for further speculation on the subject.

Mr. Corbett has been prominent in the affairs of the state from the beginning of things here, and has been perhaps the state's foremost citizen. He has been a leader in commercial and financial matters, and has sat in the United States Senate. He has been a candidate in later years, and there has been talk this year of him as a possible candidate for election next January.

By the information that comes to The Journal today, the position of Mr. Corbett is defined so that there may be no more question in the premises.

The loyal friends who have stood behind him in his political career will perhaps regret his withdrawal, yet will not longer account him as in the running.

WHEAT MARKET.  
SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 12.—Wheat—\$1.14 1/2 @ \$1.15.  
CHICAGO, Sept. 12.—Wheat—74 1/2 @ 75 1/2.

## ANOTHER UPRISING

Fourteen Jews Killed in Riot at  
Czenstapau, Hungary.

VIENNA, Sept. 12.—In an anti-Semitic uprising yesterday at Czenstapau, Hungary, 14 Jews and one officer were killed and 43 wounded. Troops are being hurried to the scene.

KILLED  
BY AUTOThe Machine Swerved,  
Throwing Her Against  
a Telegraph Pole.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 12.—In an automobile accident here yesterday afternoon Mrs. William M. Stewart, wife of United States Senator Stewart of Nevada, was thrown against a telephone pole and received injuries from which she died shortly afterwards.

In company with her nephew, Henry Foote, and H. B. Taylor she was going along Santa Clara avenue at a high rate of speed when Taylor, who was driving the machine, attempted to turn out in order to avoid an approaching vehicle. In guiding the machine he either lost control of it or missed his calculations as it ran into a telephone pole, throwing the occupants out. Mrs. Stewart striking her head with such force as to crush the skull. Foote and Taylor received only slight bruises. Senator Stewart is at The Hague in connection with the Pious Fund case.

GASOLINE EXPLODES.  
PITTSBURGH, Sept. 12.—Three tank cars of gasoline are afire on the West Pennsylvania road at Kiskimuntz Junction. A freight train ran into one wrecking the engine and causing a frightful explosion. The engineer was seriously injured and considerable property is endangered.

ALL NIGHT  
SESSIONStone and Mitchell Hold  
Long Conference.

STRIKERS VIOLENT

Attack Union Bricklayers by Mis-  
take, Thinking Them  
Non-Unionists.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 12.—The conference between Governor Stone and President Mitchell lasted all night, the Governor retiring at 5 o'clock this morning and Mitchell and Fahey taking the train to Wilkesbarre. The Governor, it is believed, gave Mitchell and the district leaders terms on which Morgan would settle the strike. What they are is a conjecture, but that some offer has been made, seems certain. When the meeting broke, the conferees declined to say a word, but gave the waiting reporters the following written slip: "Messrs. Mitchell, Fahey, Senator Flynn, Col. Richardson and Governor Stone have been in conference and all differences have been discussed with the best of feeling."

REGION IN FUROR.  
WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 12.—This region is again in a furor this morning and the strikers are violent. Fifteen Union bricklayers en route to work at Parsons were mistaken for non-unionists and attacked by a mob of seventy-five miners, mostly foreigners. The bricklayers stood their ground and a fierce fight ensued in which Frank Staniel, a striker, was seriously wounded and several others injured. The arrival of deputies prevented the possible loss of life. Previous to this the strikers disabled the railway line, stoned the cars and drove the passengers away. At midnight the telephone wires to the Henry Colliery

were cut. Fearing an attack by a big force, the police and sheriff's deputies, were hurried to the scene and are now guarding the colliery.

NO TERMS OFFERED.  
WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 12.—President Mitchell, before retiring after his arrival this morning said that Governor Stone had made no proposition for a settlement of the strike. President Mitchell, it is understood, will issue a statement tonight dealing with the conference.

HARRIMAN IS  
REACHING OUTA New Office to Be Established in  
Salt Lake.

EFFORT TO CAPTURE WOOL

L. L. Downing Has Been Appointed  
General Wool Traffic Agent.

(Scripps-McRae News Association.)  
SALT LAKE, Sept. 12.—A new office will be created here by the Harriman lines on October 1st. L. L. Downing, commercial agent of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul here has been appointed General Wool Traffic Agent for the Union Pacific, Oregon Short Line, Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co. He will supervise the wool shipment west of the river. It is estimated that the clip this year will be fifty-five million pounds of which two-thirds will be hauled by the Harriman lines. Next year an aggressive campaign will be made to capture all the wool shipments of Utah, Idaho, Oregon and Wyoming.

## TERRIBLE COLLISION.

DENVER, Sept. 12.—A Santa Fe east-bound passenger train collided with a wild freight train, which was running at a terrific speed, 16 miles west of Denver this morning. Engineer Bernhart, Fireman Edward Pettigill and Passenger John Rogers were killed and A. Stewart seriously injured. Many passengers were injured, but in the confusion names have not yet been ascertained.

GREAT  
CENTRALBuild to Roseburg as  
Outlet.

KINNEY IS AT HOME

Reports That the Work Is Being  
Rushed in All Lines—  
Railroad Notes.

Upon his return from Coos Bay last evening, Major L. D. Kinney, chief engineer of the Great Central gave out some information that will settle a few points of interest.

He said that the route between Coos Bay and the Southern Pacific would be the line of the Coos Bay, Roseburg and Eastern, forming the junction at Roseburg. When this plan has been perfected the company will buy the Sprague road; if it can be had on reasonable terms; if not, to parallel that road.

Some of the construction contracts have been practically awarded. Nelson Bennett, the contractor, who built several hundred miles of the Northern Pacific, will undertake the construction of the Great Central, and the contract for the line between Empire City and Roseburg will be formally awarded at the first meeting of the board of directors to be held in the early part of next week. This piece of road must be ready for operation within 15 months from the date of the contract.

## PROF. LOEB EXPERIMENTS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 12.—Dr. Jacques Loeb, professor of physiology at the University of Chicago, has arrived here from the East. He is here to carry on his investigations regarding the chemistry of life. It is believed that he will remain as a professor at Berkeley.