

THE WEATHER
Tonight and Thursday, fair;
cooler tonight; variable winds,
mostly north to east.



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PORTLAND, OREGON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 14, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

ST. HELENS' BUSINESS SECTION SWEEPED BY DESTROYING FLAMES

Entire Village for a Time Threatened With Annihilation.

DAMAGE NEARLY \$50,000

Fire-Fighting Appliance Proves Inadequate—Steamer Republic Proves a Great Aid—Cause Not Definitely Known.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
St. Helena, Or., Sept. 14.—Smoldering heaps of ruins, charred and devastated fragments of buildings today mark the spot where stood center of business in the thrifty village of St. Helena.

This is the result of a fire which began in a drug store here at 2 o'clock this morning and spread to adjoining property, entailing a loss estimated at \$50,000. There was very little insurance.

A north wind always sweeps up the river through the town and it was the wind that saved the remaining portion of the village from destruction. Had the wind veered from its usual course St. Helena today would be but a blackened memory.

At 2 o'clock this morning fire was discovered in the rear of the drug store of Dr. Edmund Ross. The drug store was on the corner of what was practically a dividing line of the town. To the north is the courthouse and the portion of the town that escaped. To the south was a row of wooden buildings including two hotels, saloons, stores and the business section of the village. They stood on Front street that runs along the river.

The fire had hardly been discovered in the drug store than it was seen to have completely consumed the building. Soon a fiery tongue stretched out to the adjoining building and it, too, was wrapped in flames. Fanned by the north wind and assisted in its course by the material in the buildings, the fire spread rapidly until the entire block was a flaming mass that threw a lurid light upon the river.

A volunteer fire department was soon on the scene, but it was greatly handicapped by the shortage of the water supply. The water is procured from a neighboring creek, which is now very low on account of the continued dry weather. The fire apparatus consists of a single hose cart, which would have been inadequate to have coped with the fire, it is thought, had there been plenty of water at hand.

Republic to Rescue.
The steamer Republic, Captain Cook's boat, of Portland, did good service and was the means of saving the Dart & Muckle warehouse. The vessel was lying in the harbor at the time and in a comparatively short period began playing with her hose upon the warehouse, which lay in the path of the fire. She also did other good work along the waterfront.

Several of the buildings in the path of the fire were torn down with the hope of keeping it from spreading and the total losses may run up to a higher figure than the estimates indicate. Men, women and children were running about in a frantic effort to save their threatened household goods and personal belongings.

Shortly after the fire had got under great headway the steamer T. J. Potter came along on her way from Astoria to Portland. She stopped out in the stream for a short time and then continued the run on up the river. It is asserted that she was signaled to come to the shore and render assistance, but failed to either understand or comply with the request. As she is provided with hose it might have been able to have saved the sawmill.

Wellington, the saloon man, was the first to bring a tent into use. He saved a small stock of his liquors and before daylight this morning was again engaged in business back of the bar.

The churches and principal residences are situated back some distance from where the fire originated and were not reached by the flames.

There were no accidents, though several who were too daring were slightly burned.

Ex-United States Senator George W. McEldred lived at the residence of W. H. Dolman that was completely destroyed. He saved only what he wore, and besides clothing and valuable legal papers suffered the loss of one of the best law libraries in the state. With the loss of the law office of E. E. Quick practically all the abstracts in the county were destroyed.

The signs of the fire had not been ascertained, but it was presumably through spontaneous combustion. It is said that W. H. Clark, who lives at St. Helena, discovered the fire, but did not turn in an immediate alarm, because he thought the fire was on the other side of the river. As soon as the alarm was given, however, citizens turned out en masse to fight the flames. A partial list of losses is estimated as follows:

- Miss J. B. Godfrey, two buildings, \$1,500.
- D. Richardson, saloon, \$1,000.
- Dr. Ross, drug store, \$5,000.
- W. H. Dolman, building, \$2,000.
- M. C. Gray, general store, \$4,500.
- Oriental hotel, \$5,000; contents, \$1,000.
- J. H. Wellington, saloon, \$2,000.
- Jacob George, two buildings, \$3,000.
- E. E. Quick, law building, \$50,000; contents, \$10,000.
- W. H. Powell, building, \$1,000.
- Ed. Ross, building, \$1,000.



PORTION OF THE TOWN OF ST. HELENS, SHOWING MOUNT ST. HELENS IN THE DISTANCE.

DEGENERATE MADE WHOLE BY SURGERY

Removal of a Bit of Skull Works Complete—Reform in Indianapolis Boy Held by Police.

(Journal Special Service.)
Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 14.—Correction of criminal instincts by a surgical operation is the latest feat of the local juvenile court.

Jesse Beard, 15 years old, was brought into the juvenile court last March by his mother, Mrs. Mattie Beard, of 483 Arch street, charged with being incorrigible. Burgomasters who examined him found a depression in his skull, due to a blow on the head, received in early childhood.

Dr. Kohlmer removed three pieces of the skull, on the under side of which he found thick growths pressing against the brain. The boy was allowed to leave the hospital 14 days after the operation, as well as ever and showing a remarkable difference in manner. His old surliness and ungovernable temper were gone and he is now perfectly amenable to the wishes of his mother. The mind of the boy is cleared and he seems now extremely bright. It is believed that he will rapidly advance in school and make up for his worthless years.

WHEAT SLUMPS IN FACE OF BULL NEWS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Chicago, Sept. 14.—The wheat market today is practically 1 1/2 cents lower than it was yesterday. The market this morning opened weak and lower, despite the continuance of reports of frost in the northwest. At the close May option lost most, with the price at \$1.16 bid, as against \$1.17 1/2 yesterday. Today's decline in May option was 1 1/2 cents.

New September during the day lost 1 1/2 cents, and since yesterday's decline in price was 1 1/2 cents. New option opened at \$1.12 1/2 and closed at \$1.13 1/2.

December option's loss since yesterday was 1 1/2 cents, the market opening very weak at \$1.17 and closed at \$1.14 bid.

BITE BY A PRISONER POISONS AN OFFICER

(Journal Special Service.)
Santa Rosa, Cal., Sept. 14.—Police Officer John M. Boyes is laid up with blood poisoning in his right hand and arm, and it is not only possible but likely that he will lose his arm. The condition of the officer is due to the vicious bite by a prisoner whom the officer arrested recently.

BRITISH CRUISER SENT TO MOROCCO

(Journal Special Service.)
Gibraltar, Sept. 14.—The British cruiser Albatross has left here for Tangier. She reported action in the Tunisian waters, the British demands.



COLUMBIA RIVER LIGHTHOUSE NEAR ST. HELENS.

NEW FIGURE IS FIAT OF FASHION

(Journal Special Service.)
Chicago, Sept. 14.—Fashion has decreed that there shall be a new figure for the American woman. Fashion is embodied in the persons of the models of many states sitting in two rival conventions here, one of them in session in the Fine Arts building, the other in the Auditorium.

No longer shall the willow figure (coarsely denominated "bedpost") reign as the type of feminine perfection. To be in the fashion henceforward, or until Fashion changes her mind again, a woman must be of more ample proportions.

Here is the plans and specifications of the new figure:

CLEVELAND HAS TRUNK MYSTERY

(Journal Special Service.)
Cleveland, O., Sept. 14.—The body of a middle-aged woman, doubled up, was found in a closed trunk floating in the lake off Ellsworth Bros' factory this morning. A watchman discovered the trunk and brought it ashore. On opening it he was horrified to find the corpse of the woman. She had evidently been dead a long time. The police are investigating.

BURNED HIS WIFE IN A HUGE BAKERS' OVEN

(Journal Special Service.)
Madrid, Sept. 14.—A horrible crime is reported from Cortes de la Frontera, in the province of Malaga, Francoaco. Pedro Ortega, a man of bad antecedents, had married a beautiful girl, although her mother resisted it. On the wedding day the mother committed suicide, because she would not see what she thought was to be the ruin of her daughter.

WILL BUILD INSTITUTE

High School May Be Located in East Portland on City Property.

TO BE READY NEXT FALL

New Collegiate Will Cost About \$100,000—Several Members Advocate Starting Work at Once—Take Year to Build.

Portland will have another high school. It will probably be built on the east side. Directors H. Wittenberg, R. K. Warren and J. V. Beach are outspoken in favor of it. On account of the present crowded condition of the high school these directors realize that the time has come for action. They are in favor of beginning preparations at once for constructing the proposed building so as to have it ready for occupancy in September, 1905.

Directors Wittenberg and Beach favor the building on the vacant lot adjoining the Central school in East Portland. This block is 230 by 200 feet in dimensions and belongs to the school department. Director Warren states that he is willing to leave the high school building located either on this block or exchange this for some other lot in a more preferable location.

Steps will be inaugurated at an early date by the directors for the construction of the proposed building, so as to have the plans ready to place before the taxpayers at the annual meeting in December. If these plans are accepted by the citizens the work of constructing the building will begin soon after the new year.

The residents of East Portland want a high school on their side of the river. They do not like the idea of sending their children so far, many of them have to do so to a crowded school. They claim that after the building is constructed it will cost but little more to maintain another high school because under the crowded condition of the old school, as new pupils enter, the teaching force has to be enlarged in proportion to the increase in attendance.

New School Is Necessary.
It has been stated by Superintendent Rigler and Principal Davis that some arrangements will have to be made next year by additions to the old building or by constructing a new school house to accommodate the students. The citizens of the east side argue that, instead of making any additions to the old building the money which would be spent should be applied toward constructing a new building. Such additions will accommodate the growing school only for a few years and in the end the directors would be forced to build another institute.

I am in favor of building a new high school," said the directors. "I have been looking forward for many months to the time when the old building should be filled so as to start a movement for a high school in East Portland. As that time has come we will act."

"We have a fine building lot 230 by 200 feet in dimensions adjoining the Central grammar school. This lot is centrally located and belongs to the school department and will cost us nothing. The residents of East Portland favor a new high school.

Now Is the Time.
The attendance at the old school is growing all the time and although additional rooms are constructed, eventually.

(Continued on Page Two.)

ASKS FOR MORE MEN

Oyama Calls for and Japan Pledges 100,000 Re- inforcements.

MAY FIGHT AT MUKDEN

Kuropatkin Reports That His Main Force Is Concentrating There—He Places Russian Losses at Liao Yang at 15,000.

(Journal Special Service.)
St. Petersburg, Sept. 14.—(Bulletin)—General Kuropatkin reports that the Russian rear guard is at Sakhi and adds: "Our main forces are concentrating at Mukden. The main Japanese force, composed of 5,000 men, is at Bensioku. Our casualties about Liao Yang, from August 25 to September 6, are 3,000 killed and 12,000 wounded.

(Journal Special Service.)
London, Sept. 14.—The Rome correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph wires that a telegram received there from St. Petersburg states that the government, in reply to a request from Field Marshal Oyama, has promised to send reinforcements of 100,000 men and 221 guns to Liao Yang by the first of October.

It is estimated in Tokyo that this force will be sufficient to offset any reinforcements that the Russians may receive between now and the winter season, and that, if need be, it can be increased before the spring campaign opens.

Winter Campaign Possible.
Great surprise is manifested by the war experts here in connection with the report, as it is taken as an indication that Japan may not wait for warfare even though the winter season is at hand. Off to the northward of Mukden there stretches a vast plain, which, contrary to the general trend of reports, which emanated in St. Petersburg, is fertile and has produced a fair season's crop.

When the campaign and field of activities stretched away to Mukden each day news bore some reference to the shortage of provisions north of that point and many were the stories to the effect that the Russian army once driven beyond Mukden would be compelled to seek all its supplies from far away. It now appears that this must have been a part of a regular plan to stimulate the hope of the Japanese that the campaign might be brought to a close at or near Mukden.

Russian Forethought.
The retreat of the Russian army to that point, thus rendering it possible for the Japanese to more closely approximate the stores on hand and supply the necessities of their army. It is now reported that the Russian army almost to Harbin's doors and that to cut Kuropatkin's army off from supplies it will be necessary for the Japanese to force him almost to Harbin itself.

In view of this it is regarded as possible that the campaign may be continued even long after the clutch of winter has shut down upon the north.

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KOREA MAY BE COMING

Second Russian Cruiser Reported Enroute to San Francisco.

RUSSIA IS CONFIDENT

Presumed Vessels Are Intended to Put a Stop to Shipment of Contraband From Pacific Coast Ports.

(Journal Special Service.)
London, Sept. 14.—A dispatch from Paris quotes the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris as reporting that a second Russian auxiliary cruiser, the Korea, may be expected to reach San Francisco shortly.

The general staff at St. Petersburg feels confident that the United States will allow both the Lena and the Korea to obtain sufficient coal supplies to take them to Vladivostok.

The vessels are intended, the correspondent presumes, to stop the shipment of contraband of war to the Japanese from American Pacific ports.

GAUDES BORN CONCERN.
(Journal Special Service.)
San Francisco, Sept. 14.—A London dispatch saying that it is reported that another Russian cruiser, the Korea, is expected to arrive in San Francisco shortly, has increased the surprise and conjecture in local shipping circles. At last accounts the Korea was at Vladivostok from which port she was operating in conjunction with the regular fleet.

While the report is necessarily causing some concern, no actual fear is felt for the vessels, who will visit Adm. McCalla at the Mare island navy yard today, and as the yard has been offered to Berlinky for the purpose of laying up his vessel for repairs, arrangements to that end which he is paying his visit are not unlikely.

Berlinky was accompanied to Mare island by the navigator and other officers now with the vessel. The Russian crew of Japanese watched the Russian admiral, who was with the great interest, some scowling fiercely, others talking excitedly in their native tongue. The Russians were in a jovial mood and seemed to relish the curiosity they aroused.

SEND JAPANESE HOME.
St. Petersburg, Sept. 14.—Ambassador McCormick is completing arrangements to send 500 Japanese refugees, collected at Berlin, to Germany from whence they will be shipped home.

A SEVENTH OF PORTLAND'S SCHOOL CHILDREN KEPT IDLE

The promise that the Park school would be ready for occupancy this morning was not fulfilled. About 650 school children assembled at the building at 9 o'clock this morning, but after being scolded they were dismissed until next Monday. At that time it is expected that the old portion of the building will be in such condition that classes can be held, but a number of weeks must elapse before work upon the addition is completed.

Approximately 1,700 pupils, or more than one-ninth of the total number enrolled last year, will be deprived of at least one week's schooling on account of the delays in completing repairs upon the school buildings, and 850 more are receiving only half-day instruction. The total number of children who have been deprived, either in whole or in part, of school privileges, is equivalent to one-seventh of the number enrolled during last year.

Inasmuch as the annual expenditure for the public schools of Portland is in the neighborhood of \$450,000—last year it was \$453,323.95—it is evident that the loss consequent upon the closing of five of the principal schools is very great, even when regarded merely from the pecuniary point of view.

It is no new thing to have such delays occur. A similar, though less aggressive condition prevailed last year when the Highland school was a week late in opening and a number of weeks elapsed before repairs were completed upon the distressed, North Central and Main and morphine epidemics are being administered.

schools for 20 years states that in all that time he has never known a year when all of the public schools were ready for occupancy at the opening of the fall term.

Members of the school board are exceedingly restive under criticisms that have been poured upon them and upon the supervising architect, Thomas Jones. They insist that the delays have been unavoidable and that everything possible has been done to have the buildings ready for occupancy. This condition, however, is not wholly borne out by the testimony from other sources.

R. K. Warren, who is a member of the building committee of the school board, said this morning: "It is a number of the building work could not be begun until they were vacated for the summer, and then many difficulties were encountered. Frequently it was impossible to get workmen when they were wanted, and on several occasions the building work was delayed by the plumbers' strike. Millwork was also behindhand and this was a serious trouble. One mill kept us waiting for two weeks and during all of that time we could not get a few hundred dollars worth of material. I have not known a building to be so behindhand in contract time and in my experience as this one. I am sure that the school board is entitled to have the school buildings ready for occupancy at the opening of the fall term."

In his power to have the buildings ready, and that it is unjust to blame him for the delay.

Mr. Warren admitted that it would be a number of weeks before the additions to old buildings, designed to accommodate the increase in school attendance, would be ready for occupancy. He considered that this delay is unavoidable, owing to the obstacles encountered by the contractors.

Wherever the responsibility lies it is undeniable that the condition prevailing this year is worse than for many years previous. The time lost by pupils for whom there is no school room cannot be made up, and a certain degree of demoralization among them is inevitable. The portable buildings, which are being used at some of the schools, afford at best very unsatisfactory quarters. They are crowded, ill ventilated and in many cases half filled with school furniture which has been stored in them pending the completion of repairs on the main buildings.

School teachers who have observed the work of the contractors during the summer season, that there have been many needless delays and that if the work had been prosecuted continuously during the vacation the buildings would have been ready for occupancy.