

GOOD EVENING

THE WEATHER

Snow flurries; not so cold. Tuesday snow flurries; northerly winds.

VOL. V. NO. 5

PORTLAND, OREGON, MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 12, 1906.—TWELVE PAGES.

PRICE TWO CENTS. OR. TRADE-LAND NEWS HEADS, TYPE CENTER

FIREMEN RESPOND TO 25 ALARMS IN 32 HOURS; NEW RECORD FOR PORTLAND

In Spite of Thirty-Four-Mile Gale, Most Are Extinguished With Small Loss, Greatest Damage in Any One Being \$5,000.

IN ADDITION TO ALL THESE, ST. JOHNS HAS \$8,000 FIRE

People Built Unusually Hot Fires, Day Being Raw, and Attics Caught From Overheated Flues—Firemen Work Cased in Ice.

FIRE ALARMS YESTERDAY AND TODAY

SUNDAY

- 4:00 a. m.—Unoccupied residence near the Columbia slough. Destroyed before department arrived.
11:01 a. m.—352 Chapman street. Roof partially destroyed.
12:22 p. m.—Roofs of two buildings in yard of the street. Damage slight.
1:22 p. m.—305 Front street. Roof fire from sparks. Damage slight.
1:46 p. m.—584 Oatensbein avenue. Defective flue. Occupied by O. M. Vall. Damage nominal.
2:20 p. m.—First and Hall streets.
2:28 p. m.—123 and 125 Chapman street. Chimney fire. Damage slight.
2:42 p. m.—Twenty-fourth and Sear street. Roof fire. Little damage.
5:00 p. m.—Twenty-fourth north, between Thurman and Vaughn streets. Overheated stove. Little damage.
6:18 p. m.—628 Isabella street. No damage.
6:29 p. m.—Eight and Mulnomah streets.
10:48 p. m.—523 Couch street. Chimney blaze.
10:52 p. m.—148 Taylor street. Chimney blaze. Little damage.

MONDAY

- 5:36 a. m.—Corbett and Bancroft streets. Three dwellings and one store.
5:45 a. m.—False alarm south side, caused by crossed wires.
7:05 a. m.—Woodland. Damage slight.
8:23 a. m.—225 Hall street. Chimney fire.
8:42 a. m.—Twenty-fourth and Sear streets.
10:05 a. m.—Giles avenue. Small blaze.
10:18 a. m.—357 Grant street. Dr. E. Poppleton's residence. Damage about \$2,000.
10:20 a. m.—346 Madison street. Small roof fire.
10:40 a. m.—Front street, between Second and Third streets. Flue burned out. No damage.
10:47 a. m.—Grand avenue and East Clay streets.
12:12 p. m.—In yards of Eastern & Western Lumber company, South Portland.

Never before in the history of Portland has the fire department responded to so many alarms in a stated length of time as between 4 o'clock Sunday morning and 12:10 o'clock this morning. There were 25 in the 22 hours, 14 Sunday and 11 up to noon today.

Exclusive of the local fires was the conflagration at St. Johns, late last evening, which did between \$7,000 and \$8,000 damage.

Almost all the fires were attributed to the wind of 34 miles an hour which has swept over the city since the middle of Saturday forenoon. The gale was accompanied by a sudden drop in temperature.

The record shows that with one or two exceptions the flames were confined to the building in which the fire started. The notable exception was at the Corbett and Bancroft blaze, where the flames devoured a store and two dwellings, damaged a third and scorched a rooming-house across the street.

The wind had a clean sweep across the river at that point, and when the firemen reached the scene the two buildings which eventually were utterly destroyed were enveloped in flames, and the third one on fire.

The first fire recorded broke out at 4 o'clock Sunday morning. From that hour until noon today the department was kept on the run. No sooner had one small blaze been extinguished than another alarm was turned in. At one time yesterday afternoon the department was fighting three fires in as many parts of the city.

Within an hour this morning six alarms were turned in, and at 11 o'clock there was not an engine in any of the city houses. Anticipating another alarm at any moment, Chief Campbell sounded a recall for several which were not absolutely required where they had been summoned.

The firemen suffered greatly from the cold last night and during the early hours of this forenoon. At the Corbett and Bancroft fire the men were encased in ice from the spray from the hoses which were turned upon the burning buildings. At times the hands of the firemen became so chilled that they could hardly handle the nozzles. To keep their feet warm the men jumped up and down as they held the pipes or ran about when their services were not needed for the time being.

The men's work was made dangerous by the thin coating of ice, which soon formed when the ladders had been placed in position and the spray from

the hose fell upon them. More than one fireman had a close call from a nasty fall by slipping upon the rungs of the ladders.

Where any quantity of water was thrown the debris, surrounding property and adjacent trees were enveloped in ice, the iridescent effect being beautiful when a faint glimmer of sun shone upon the frosting.

At two of the early morning fires, where the men had prolonged work, kind-hearted neighbors took pity upon them and served hot coffee and tea. It was most gratefully received, for they were not only tired from their extra exertions, but from broken rest.

At the fire which partially destroyed the residence of Dr. E. Poppleton the roof soon became covered with ice, and the firemen were compelled to use ropes fastened to the gables to keep from sliding off to the ground below.

At a fire at St. Johns last night, an entire block was destroyed. Several members of the volunteer fire company suffered painful injuries. The property loss was between \$5,000 and \$8,000. The fire was said to have been caused either by the crossing of live wires or the carelessness of boys who were smoking cigarettes in one of the buildings that was destroyed.

The fire occurred in the business-center of the town, which would likely have been completely devastated but for the efforts of the entire population in aiding the volunteer fire companies. A high wind was driving fiercely toward the north, sweeping burning fragments before it.

The fire started in a large vacant building that was formerly occupied by the St. Johns grocery company. In the upper story is a large room which was filled with debris and trash. It was there, it is said, that a gang of youths congregated during the afternoon to smoke cigarettes.

Undiscovered and without hindrance the flames worked their way through the unoccupied building and had attacked adjoining buildings before an alarm was sounded. The fire was at its height before the volunteer company arrived.

Spreading quickly, the flames soon enveloped the second-hand furniture store of E. O. Magon, who also has the St. Johns agency of the Portland-Suburban Express company; the restaurant and confectionery store of E. F. Tognini and Elliott's drug store. All were completely destroyed.

The office of Dr. Rositter, adjoining the burned district on the south, was also ignited but was partly saved by the efforts of the fire companies. The wind was blowing in the other direction, driving the flames toward the north, which aided the firemen in their work to save the doctor's office.

So intense was the heat that windows were cracked in the large brick building across the street occupied by the St. Johns Grocery company. However, there was no damage to other buildings, except that some windows were broken.

(Continued on Page Two.)



Fountain Frozen in the Yard of Mrs. H. W. Corbett.

ENTIRE STATE IS SWEEPED BY STORM

Heavy Snows Throughout the Eastern Part of Oregon Where Blizzard Is Raging.

TRAFFIC DEMORALIZED—TRACK COVERED BY SAND

Cold Wave Following Spring-Like Weather Damages Fruit Crop—Six Trains Stalled by Dust Storm on Desert.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Pendleton, Or., March 12.—Passenger trains into Pendleton have been delayed from four to 12 hours since Saturday night on account of the heavy snow-storms east of here and sandstorms west of here.

After a few weeks of spring weather in most parts of eastern Oregon, one of the worst blizzards this winter has been raging in Umatilla county since Saturday night, and gales accompanied by heavy snows are reported in Union and Baker counties and all parts of eastern Oregon. The snow is two inches deep in Pendleton and in many parts of Umatilla county it is half a foot deep.

A heavy snowfall is reported at both Baker City and La Grande. The fruits, which are quite far ahead of Umatilla county fruits, will not be injured unless the storm continues for several days, which is hardly likely, as the weather is moderating. No injury to stock or sheep is yet reported.

The average temperature is 12 above in Umatilla county, 8 and 6 degrees in Baker county. Heavy winds are sweeping the region between Umatilla and The Dalles along the Columbia river and have caused one of the worst sandstorms in the history of the O. R. & N. declare railroad men. Sandblasts were blown down or buried under the drifting sea. Most of the trouble is in the vicinity of Biggs and Grants, though the track has been covered in places from The Dalles to Umatilla.

Yesterday six passenger trains were blocked between Wallula and The Dalles. Two of them, numbers three and four, of the Spokane run, gave up the trip. No. 4, eastbound flyer, tried to make the run and was compelled to go back to The Dalles on account of the drifts. A large force of Japanese was sent out to clear the tracks and worked all day Sunday, and is still at work. The sand is two and three feet deep in many places.

Two passenger trains, Nos. 6 and 7, eastbound, arrived last night at 11 o'clock, almost an hour late. The trouble is considered nearly over, as the wind has about subsided, and the trains will soon be running on time.

Not only has the wind blown hard, but it continued much longer, causing drifts where they never occurred before.

WORST OF WINTER.

Sale Sweeps Over Central and Eastern Washington With Rare Weather.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Spokane, Wash., March 12.—The most severe storm of the winter has swept for the last 48 hours over central and eastern Washington and northern Idaho. The wind at times has reached a velocity

(Continued on Page Two.)

NO MARCH SO FROSTY

Weather Bureau Never Saw Days Like These So Late in the Season and Few Colder at Any Season in Portland.

FIERCE WIND MAKES COLD MORE INTENSE

Buds Are Blasted and Partial Failure of Peach and Cherry Crop Is Most Probable—Gale Uproots Trees on the Heights and Shakes Exposed Houses to Their Foundations.

Table with 3 columns: Location, Highest Temp. a. m., Temp. Prec. 24 hrs. Rows include Portland, Woodburn, Salem, Albany, Eugene, Brownsville, McMinnville, Sheridan, Dallas, Corvallis, Drain, Oakland, Roseburg, Hillsboro, Glendale, Leland, Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland.

Portland is in the throes of the coldest winter since the establishment of the weather bureau here 25 years ago, the official thermometer registering 22 degrees above zero this morning. It is colder by five degrees than any day of last winter. Thermometers in some parts of the city registered 20 degrees.

It only needed a fall of snow to make it one of the worst blizzards in the history of the northwest, as the wind was blowing yesterday at the velocity of 24 miles at Portland. A strong northeaster is raging today and covering close to 50 miles an hour. At the weather bureau office it showed a speed of 25 miles an hour shortly after daylight.

Water pipes all over the east side have frozen and burst. Ponds and sloughs are crusted over with ice and should it not moderate soon the rivers may begin to freeze. Ice is forming along the shores.

Early fruit and vegetables are doomed. Owing to the warm weather during the early part of the month some varieties of fruit trees had begun to bud. Today they are black, wilted and dying. Peaches, pears and cherries will be chiefly affected, and the indications are that in some sections these crops will be total failures.

The wind has been raging without any perceptible abatement for the past three days. It came with cutting force, making the weather feel far more severe than it really was. In exposed places the back of the trees on the high altitudes of the city were uprooted. Reports from down the valley say that a number of the houses and barns shook violently and carpets had been provided with no shelter died from exposure. It is said that the full extent of the damage done will not be known for several days.

While the steamer G. K. Wentworth was coming up the Columbia last night with three rafts of logs in tow a terrific gale caught the hindmost in such a manner as to hurl it out on the bank of the river. The raft broke from the other two and the huge timbers went sweeping ashore. They were left at the point where they lodged, the wind being too strong for any attempt to be made to recover them.

When the storm subsides it is believed that they can be got together very easily. A raft also broke loose from the Sarah Dixes this morning. The crew managed to make it fast on Hayden Island and the steamer came on to Portland.

FIFTY THOUSAND A YEAR FOR SPAIN'S NEW QUEEN

(Journal Special Service.) Madrid, March 12.—Premier Moret today officially communicated to the cabinet the king's betrothal to Princess Ena, who will be officially known as Victoria Eugenie. Parliament was notified and \$50,000 annually will be appropriated for the future queen. June 2 is fixed as the date of the wedding.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL TO REMAIN IN CABINET

(Journal Special Service.) Chicago, March 12.—Attorney General Moody attended the presentation of evidence in rebuttal in the packers' case today. He said that he had no present intention of retiring from the cabinet.

(Continued on Page Two.)

The Journal Supreme in Circulation in Portland and in Oregon

The carrier circulation of The Daily Journal in Portland exceeds that of its morning contemporary by 3,000 or more, and that of its evening contemporary 2500 or more. The circulation of The Journal in the whole state of Oregon, including Portland, is also in excess of that of either of its contemporaries, being particularly strong at the 800 and odd of the smaller postoffices of the state.

Since, in the nature of things, The Journal's esteemed contemporaries "doubt its figures," and in order that the newspaper game be played fair and above board, the publisher of The Journal suggests that a circulation investigation committee be selected, the newspaper twins to select one member thereof, The Journal one, and these two one other, these three to make a canvass of the circulation of the three papers in the city and the state, the expense of the canvass to be paid by the paper having the smallest circulation. In this way all "doubt" can be removed and the advertiser and the public will know whether "figures don't lie" or "liars do figure."

The Journal exceeds in circulation, and it challenges its contemporaries to a proof of it, suggesting a plan that is not open to any suspicion, being fair to one and all alike, and if it is not accepted in the kindly spirit in which it is offered it will be self evident that the circulation supremacy of The Journal in Portland and in Oregon is even acknowledged by its rivals.

JUDGE L. R. WEBSTER'S INVESTIGATION BARS OUT MUCH TESTIMONY

None but Those at Present on Chain Gang Allowed to Testify to Guard Johnson's Alleged Brutality, Though Many Are Ready to Talk.

Because Judge L. R. Webster refuses to hear evidence of Guard James Johnson's brutality to prisoners except in the courtroom what they know and have seen. There are a number of reputable men and citizens within easy reach who are ready and willing to testify if the court of inquiry wishes to hear them.

But Judge Webster has ruled that no testimony can be presented save that in relation to specific acts against men now working on the rock pile. The result is that practically all that has been brought before the members of the court has been from the mouths of prisoners. Although the statements of a convicted man, even though made under oath, are generally taken with a grain of salt, it is a noticeable fact that in the present hearing every one of some 20 odd prisoners who have been on the stand has told to the minutest detail the same stories of Johnson's brutality. Even with the most severe cross-examination to which Judge Webster has subjected them, not a man has been shaken in his statements.

When the hearing commenced Judge Webster announced that it would apply to all guards, not Johnson alone; he wanted to hear any complaint that might be made against any one of those supposed to take care of the prisoners. Voluntary testimony has been given by Guard Briggs, and Francis Feeney up by the wrists. Mr. Briggs admitted the fact to a Journal representative. The court did not probe this matter. Guard Briggs was not asked anything about it when he was on the witness-stand. He was asked if he knew of other instances of cruelty, the judge going over them one at a time. No allusion was made to this instance.

By asking leading questions in his examination of prisoners Judge Webster has sought to develop testimony to the effect that the charges against Johnson were "trumped up" by the prisoners who became displeased because Johnson refused to let them smoke during working hours. Several times he asked prisoners the direct question if this wasn't

the sum and substance of the whole case. His answer each time was an emphatic "No."

"It is as plain as the noonday sun that the judge is trying to shield Johnson," said Attorney W. T. Vaughn, counsel for the rockpile men. "He shows it by his manner of questioning the witnesses, by refusing to hear any testimony except that dealing directly with men now in jail and by his eagerness to find some discrepancy in the stories of the men testifying."

Mr. Vaughn intimates that if the hearing results in a "whitewash" for Johnson, as those who have been following the case believe it will, he may take the matter before the grand jury, where all evidence will be heard and a thorough investigation had. Some of the witnesses summoned and not permitted to testify and others who were not even summoned can tell some startling things about the conduct of Johnson toward helpless prisoners under his charge.

It has been intimated by friends of Johnson that the whole matter was trumped up against him and that the sheriff, through a spirit of revenge because the feeding of the prisoners at the rock pile was taken away from him, lent his support toward bringing the guard before the court. The sheriff has taken no part in the matter. He has said no word one way or the other. Charges of cruelty were made against Johnson more than once before the feeding of the prisoners was taken away from Mr. Word. These accusations and others made since have been ignored by the court and the commissioners. The officials have never consented before to even make a semblance of an investigation. Now the inquiry has been limited to evidence pertaining to a short period of time.

R. T. Dickerson, a contractor who used the rock broken by the prisoners for building roads, and testified that Briggs had told him the charges against Johnson were true, says if the court wants to learn the facts in the matter and really discover how Johnson has been treating prisoners he should hear the stories of a few men who have seen instances of his brutality.

"If Thomas Brown of North Yamhill were permitted to testify," said Mr. Dickerson, "he could tell of an instance of Johnson's cruelty."

(Continued on Page Two.)

DEEP MANTLE OF WHITE COVERS ASHLAND

Heaviest Snow in Fifty Years Falls at Southern Oregon Town.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.) Ashland, Or., March 12.—The snow storm which began yesterday was continuous and heavy for ten hours and ceased at 10 o'clock this morning. The fall in Ashland is over 12 inches. Old settlers say it is the deepest snow in this town in 50 years. The snowfall extends northwest from Redding to Medford, there being 19 inches at the latter place. Fruitgrowers say no damage will be done unless it clears off, cold following the storm.

Peach buds are not out enough to be affected much by present conditions and it is hoped a warm wave will clear away the snow, in which case this storm will be a benefit. The track has been kept clear over the Shikany, but the snow is piling up in the mountains.

CHAUNCEY DEPEW SICK IN JERSEY SANITARIUM

Adverse Criticism Causes Nervous Breakdown of New York's Junior Senator.

(Journal Special Service.) New York, March 12.—United States Senator Chauncey M. Depew has been a patient in the New Jersey sanitarium during the last 10 days suffering from nervous exhaustion. Inquiry develops the fact that though the senator was very sick when taken to the institution he has so far recovered that he will be about again in a few days.

It is believed tonight that the senator's breakdown, the first in his life, was caused by the widespread adverse criticism directed against him following the exposure of his financial record.

It is known that Senator Depew has been exceedingly sensitive to the attacks on his official conduct.

Mr. Depew is still confined and his return is uncertain.