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# Oregon Daily Journal

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## STUBBORN FIRE CAUSES \$150,000 DAMAGE

### PACIFIC COAST RUBBER COMPANY'S STOCK IS COMPLETELY DESTROYED

#### DENSE MASS OF SMOKE

Firemen Work With Difficulty in Blinding Clouds of Vapor—Lodging House Suffers Loss of Several Thousand Dollars.



FIREMEN FIGHTING FLAMES FROM ROOF OF BUILDINGS ADJOINING PACIFIC RUBBER COMPANY'S STORE.

Driven repeatedly from the center of the building occupied by the Pacific Coast Rubber company, 9 and 11 First street, and being compelled to fight the fire from the two ends of the structure owing to the inflammable materials inside, Portland's fire department members were called this morning to battle with one of the most stubborn fires in the history of the city and which to the stock and buildings entailed a loss of perhaps \$150,000, partly covered by insurance.

The fire, which was of unknown origin, started about 10 o'clock in the bicycle department on the mezzanine floor in the back end of the building between the first and second floors. Three boys were working in this part of the building at the time and made a desperate effort to extinguish the blaze by means of water and buckets which happened to be near at hand. As the fire continued to spread one of the boys ran to the office below and notified the chief clerk of the danger which confronted them.

A still alarm was then sent to the fire department to which Engine 1 responded. Several minutes afterward an alarm was sent in from box 15 and brought additional apparatus and the fire boat.

When the firemen arrived, flames accompanied by great volumes of black smoke, were pouring out of the rear windows and the fire was rapidly spreading throughout the second and third floors of the buildings. Rubber goods were stored everywhere and almost with one great sweep the upper part of the buildings was a mass of flames and smoke.

The stock of the Pacific Coast Rubber Co., the whole of which was practically destroyed or ruined, was estimated to be worth \$150,000. C. N. Lynn, manager of the company, estimates that the fire loss to the company's stock will aggregate more than \$100,000 and he believes that the loss of the goods will amount to even more. Insurance on the goods amounting to 75 per cent of the value is carried with several companies.

**Building Insured.**  
The building, which is three stories in height and built of brick, owned by the Hotaling estate of San Francisco, was damaged to the extent of between \$15,000 and \$20,000 and was insured. It was erected in 1894 by the Hotaling business. Afterward the interest in the Hotaling building was sold to the Pacific Coast Rubber Co. moved into the building about a year ago. The rubber company also had a store room in the Leonard block adjoining, but as the flames were confined to the main building and the rooming house were only slightly damaged by water.

The stock of the Pacific Coast Rubber company was made up almost entirely of rubber goods, consisting of rubber clothing, bicycle sundries, rubber footwear and various other articles of the most inflammable nature.

Dense clouds of smoke, combined with the fumes of the burning rubber, soon made the interior of the building almost inaccessible to the firemen and time and again they were driven on the inside to the ladders extending to the windows in First street.

**Hard Fire to Handle.**  
While the fire gained the greatest headway in the rear the firemen were hampered to a great extent in running lines of hose to the windows owing to the fact that this end of the building was almost completely hemmed in by other structures. As soon as the firemen began their work they did so on the front end of the building and it was not until some time afterward that several lines of hose were run through or

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### NO FIRE ESCAPES; MAN ALMOST CAUGHT

Cut off from escape by way of the stairs and unable to run the elevator in the building, George Fehler, an employee of the Pacific Coast Rubber company, was nearly suffocated in the First street fire this morning. He was rescued from his perilous position on the second floor of the burning building by the firemen of Truck 1 who carried him down their ladders before they turned the water into the structure.

Fehler was working on the second floor, above the mezzanine floor where the fire started. When the bicycle boys rushed down to alarm the office force they forgot about Fehler and before he knew of the fire the flames had cut off the stairs and he was unable to escape by way of the elevator.

He turned to grope his way back to the front windows, but the choking smoke confused him and he stumbled around through the rows of packing

cases unable to tell where he was going. He finally reached the front of the building and throwing up a window called for help.

**Changes to the Bill.**  
He was forced to cling to the window sill while the smoke and flames rushed out over his head until the arrival of the fire department, when Truck No. 1 raised a ladder and rescued him from his dangerous position.

Although the building is three stories high and has two half floors besides, it is not equipped with fire escapes, so that it was impossible for Fehler to escape when the stairs and elevator were cut off.

Chief Campbell, who arrived at the fire about 20 minutes after the turning in of the alarm, said that the building should have had a fire escape.

"The law says that all buildings three stories and over in height shall be equipped with one or more fire escapes," said the chief. "It is possible that the owners of this building were not notified that they must install the required escape."

"We cannot notify everyone at once, as it would entail a hardship upon the owners of buildings. The iron men would raise the price of fire escapes and would take advantage of the situation to rob the owners of buildings. We have to guard the interests of the property owners as well as of the people in the buildings."

The building is of mill or what is known as slow-burning construction. The floors and walls are supported by heavy timbers and the walls are of good size.

There were nine people in the building at the time of the fire, including the office force. The books and cash of the Pacific Coast Rubber company were locked in the vaults as soon as the fire was discovered and were not injured.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
San Francisco, March 18.—Representative French of Idaho has the distinction of being the only father of an incubator baby in congress. This information was known only to a few of his personal friends here until today, when the Idaho member, upon receiving an encouraging report of the infant, was so happy over the news that he wanted to break it to the world. When the girl baby was born on January 10 it weighed only three pounds and ten ounces. It was placed in an incubator and weighs four pounds eight ounces and is healthy.

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### "TOO CLOSE IN" WRECKS POMONA

Passengers to Be Rescued Today and Sent to San Francisco.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
San Francisco, March 18.—"Too close inshore." That the steamship Pomona, which was wrecked on Monterey Rock off Fort Ross 90 miles north of this city, because of the dangerous practice of keeping "too close to the shore," is generally accepted here. Captain Swanson cannot be held to blame personally, as it is known that the boat's company must make time between Eureka and this port. The Pomona was due at Eureka at noon today.

The Pomona struck at 6:45 o'clock, and will be a total wreck. Today relief parties started from Duncan's Mills, 16 miles inland, and a tug was dispatched from here. The passengers, who were all saved, will return to this city.

The Pomona put inshore when nearing Point Arena to escape stiff headwinds, and struck when going at an average speed. The vessel must have run upon a shelving rock which started leaks, but did not tear out her bottom. Backing clear of the obstruction Captain Swanson gave the signal to go full speed astern. When he found that the ship was not leaking so badly that she could not make shore he turned her head landward and gave the signal to the engine room to send the craft ahead.

When the Pomona struck the second time she did so with a terrific jar and hung to the rocks filling rapidly. Had she backed off the reef she would have gone down with all on board.

Captain Swanson and his crew quickly discovered that the ship was fast, and in no immediate danger. The passengers were rescued today and sent to San Francisco.

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### WALLEDA'S ORCHARD SENTENCED TO HANG ON MAY 15

Silver Lake Authorities Report That Thumbed Letter From This City Gave Location of Body Under a Bridge.

Young Man, Who Disappeared Last December in Lonely Section, Was Murdered for Money Entrusted to Him.

An anonymous letter from Portland, Oregon, thumb-stained and torn, told the story that led to the discovery of one of the most mysterious murders that ever shocked isolated Lake county and sent a shudder through all of the 500 or 600 inhabitants of Silver Lake city. Julius Wallenda, who disappeared from his home at the lake last December, was murdered. The dispatches from time to time sent The Journal meager details of the crime, but the fact that the man or men who killed Wallenda rendezvoused in Portland for weeks, then audaciously sent the officials of the lake a letter telling where the corpse of the young man could be found, was only brought to light today when special correspondence from the lake reported that the body of the murdered man had been located last Friday in exactly the place indicated in the well-thumbed missive.

Wallenda's mutilated corpse was located under the bridge that crosses over Silver creek, just outside of the town of Silver Lake. The body was covered over with a mass of brush and lay with its trunk in the water and head and shoulders on the bank. The crushed skull and rifled clothes showed that robbery had been the motive for the crime, as it was known that the young man had possessed a large sum of money on the day he left Silver Lake, presumably to go to his claims some distance from that place.

A suspicious acquaintance of Wallenda was a man little known to people of the lake; a suave fellow of good appearance and excellent education. Wallenda was himself little known here except for the fact that he had claimed to belong to a wealthy family of Ohio, some of whom reside in North Dakota, and who had many friends among well-known persons in Portland.

The frequent occurrence of crime in the lonely desert section, coupled with the fact that Wallenda seemed to be "somebody" who might in better circumstances done much for the Lake country, moved the citizens of Silver Lake to subscribe \$250 reward for the capture of his murderer. The information that this sum, and probably as much more would be forwarded to Portland to be held in trust until the thug was captured was received in this city this morning.

Wallenda had been engaged to work

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Judge Wood Recommends Pardon—Says He Believes Pettibone and Haywood Guilty and That They Will Hang Sometime—"Orchard's Story True"

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Caldwell, Ida., March 18.—Judge Wood today sentenced Harry Orchard to be hanged on May 15, but accompanied the sentence with a recommendation to the state board of pardons for commutation of the sentence without intimating what degree of commutation and directed Orchard's attorney, appointed by the court to defend him, to prepare and present the petition for pardon or commutation.

He based his recommendation upon a long legal decision, quoting authorities, holding that an equitable right exists on the part of a confessing accomplice telling the whole truth to be spared the death sentence. He declared he believed Orchard told the full and exact truth and proposed that yet, those he implicated would receive punishment.

He said the acquittal of Haywood and Pettibone by two juries was not inconsistent with his declaration as their verdicts did not signify that Haywood and Pettibone are innocent but that the state failed to present

legal evidence aside from the confession to warrant their conviction. As Judge Wood spoke, declaring his faith in Orchard's marvelous routine of crime, Orchard broke down and wept for the first time in his court experience.

Orchard asked permission to make a statement. He said that he had expected to make a full statement but the court's review of the case had been what he wanted to say, only he wanted to add that he had made his confession, telling the whole truth, not sparing himself, without hope of earthly reward or without promise of immunity from any one whatever.

Judge Wood declared his belief that Orchard had been the victim of the system he represented and that he had committed his crimes because of the teaching and advice of the leaders of that system and expressed his belief that proper legal corroboration would yet be secured to punish them.

Orchard was recommitted to the penitentiary.

### PORTUGAL MUST PUNISH SLAYERS

King Emanuel Warned That England Will Be Angry if Assassins Escape.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Lisbon, March 18.—It is reported here that England has warned Portugal that the latter country must punish the assassins of her king, or else not show her official face in the councils of the great European powers.

The threat which King Edward has hung over the head of the new boy king is the withdrawal of the British diplomatic representatives to Portugal. It was precipitated by the report that King Emanuel is considering granting general political amnesty to the slayers of his father and brother and dropping all investigations of the assassinations.

England's press has declared that such action would place Portugal in the same category with Serbia. The republican press of Lisbon is openly sneering at the new king for his cowardice and fear to attempt the punishment of the regicides.

**ASTORIA INVITES FLEET TO REGATTA**

Astoria, Or., March 18.—Manager White of the chamber of commerce has written Secretary of the Navy Metcalf, requesting the presence at Astoria during the coming annual regatta, August 27, 28 and 29, of a portion of Admiral Evans' battleship fleet.

### SMIRNOFF FIGHTS DUEL WITH FOCK

Distinguished Russian Generals Clash Over Opinions of Bravery.

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
St. Petersburg, March 18.—Lieutenant-General Smirnov of the general staff was probably fatally wounded today in a duel with Lieutenant-General Fock. The men met in the riding school of the Chevalier Guard and exchanged shots at close range. Each was seconded by a high officer of the czar's staff.

A memorandum written by General Smirnov questioning the courage of General Fock, precipitated the duel, the latter challenging.

General Smirnov commanded the Russian garrison at Port Arthur during the siege and after the fall of the city, filed charges of incompetency against General Stoessel, and charges of incompetency and insubordination against General Fock.

**EATS DYNAMITE TO BLOW HIS HEAD OFF**

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Rawhide, Nev., March 18.—Placing a stick of dynamite in his mouth and exploding it, John Slater blew his head off today. The suicide was a part owner of a lease on McLeod hill. It was before the day force reported for duty that the explosion aroused the camp.

### RAILROAD MERGER TO BE PERMITTED BY MASSACHUSETTS

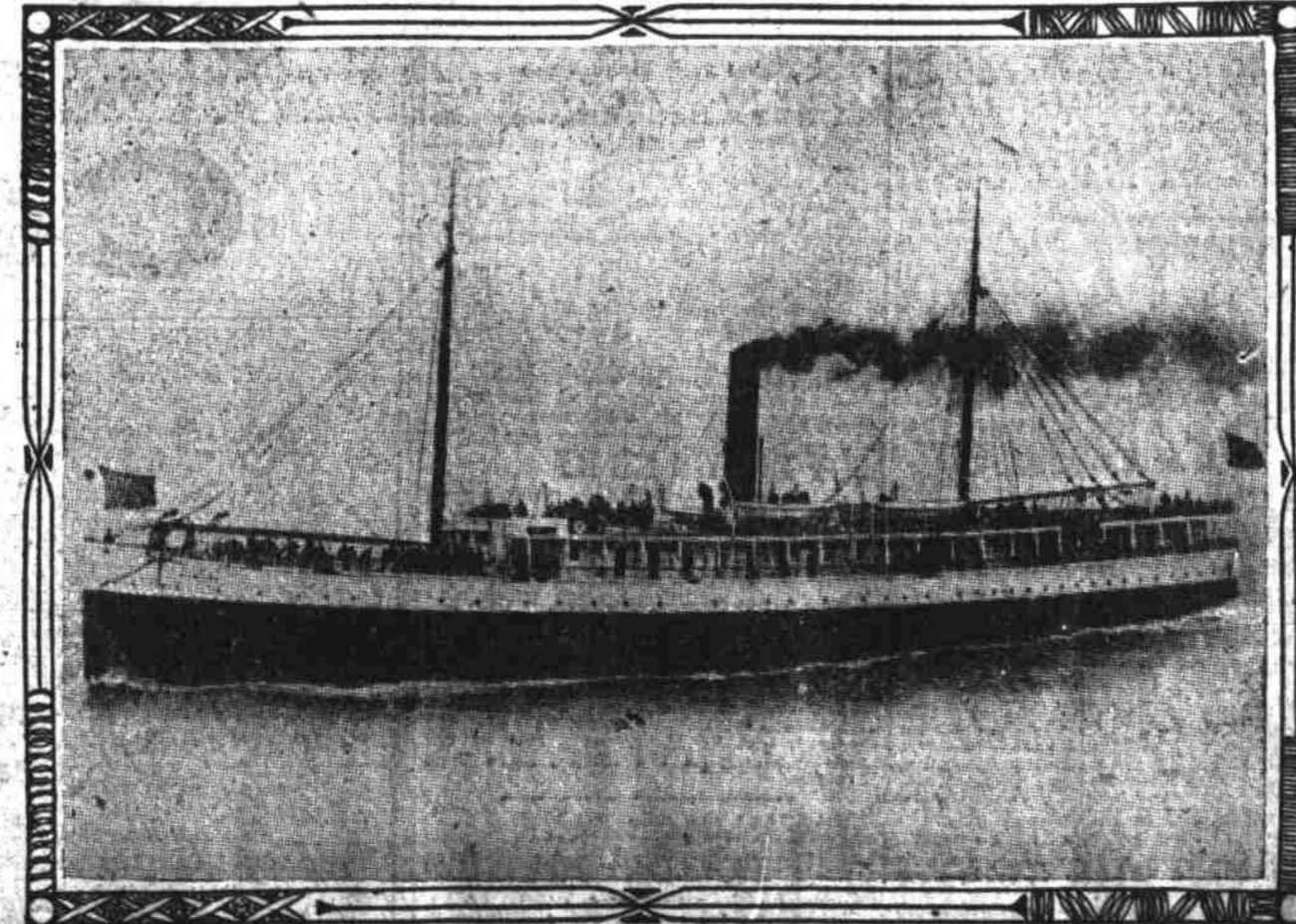
(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Boston, March 18.—A report submitted to the Massachusetts legislature this afternoon by a committee appointed by Governor Guild to investigate the written forms of the Navy Metcalf, requesting the presence at Astoria during the coming annual regatta, August 27, 28 and 29, of a portion of Admiral Evans' battleship fleet.

The report filed today says that with certain restrictions the consolidation can be made of benefit to the state. A minority report was filed by former Governor Douglas and one other member of the committee. On the matter of the railroad acquiring paralleling electric lines, the commission refused to act, putting the matter up to the courts.

### ACCUSES PORTUGUESE OF TORTURING BABES AND BEATING WOMEN

(United Press Leased Wire.)  
Washington, March 18.—General Francois Joubert Pienaar of Angola, Africa, a hero of the Boer war, has challenged the Portuguese minister here from their mother's breast by native desperadoes in the employ of the Portuguese government, throws into the air and impaled on the points of spears, a live hen, mother, instead of a man, death with a cruel whip called the "chibit" when they resisted the robbers, who took their children from them.

"I have seen barbarians in that country which would make the civilized gasp with horror," said General Pienaar in discussing conditions in South Africa. "I have seen little babies torn from their mother's breast by native desperadoes in the employ of the Portuguese government, throws into the air and impaled on the points of spears, a live hen, mother, instead of a man, death with a cruel whip called the 'chibit' when they resisted the robbers, who took their children from them."



STEAMSHIP POMONA THAT WENT ASHORE ON MONTEREY REEF AND IS A TOTAL LOSS.

### A Story of the "Weak One" and the "Strong One"

The Journal's success and its supremacy in circulation and popularity with the masses of the people, as well as with advertisers both at home and abroad, continue to cause pain in some quarters, from which ill-humor, envy and other troubles, arising from a bad circulation, ooze. The Journal regrets that it seems to be in the way of the "weak one," but since the "strong one" is abundantly able to take care of it, to extend its sustenance, and thus keep it going, there should be no crocodile tears shed over its distressing condition. In the meantime, The Journal continues to enjoy the largest paid-for, proved, sworn-to circulation in Portland and in Oregon over any other daily paper.