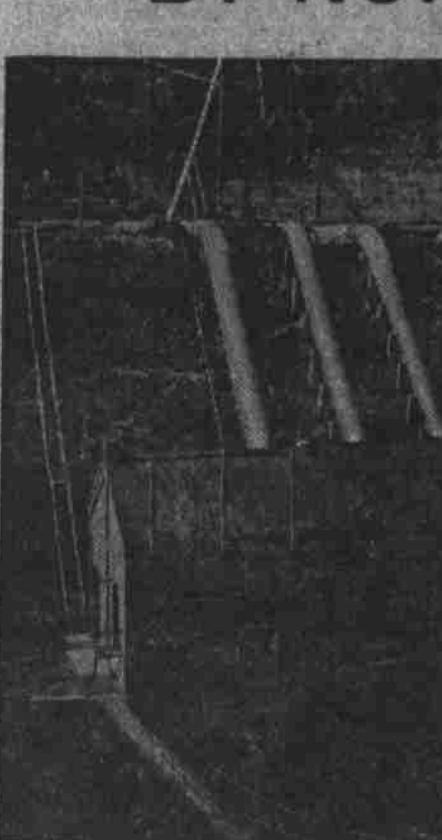


POWER PLANT WRECKED BY RUNAWAY GENERATORS



Power Plant at Casadero Partly Wrecked by Runaway Generators.

By a defect in one of the governors controlling the flow of water into the turbines at the Casadero plant of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, the wheels were freed and within one minute the three huge sets of generators had destroyed themselves by centrifugal force, partially wrecked the plant and destroyed by fire all of its combustible parts. So readily was the load shifted to the company's other plants that the city of Portland did not know until hours afterward that the company's largest power plant had been put out of commission.

Flying Iron Stops Clock.
The accident happened at an early hour yesterday morning. The clock in the plant was stopped by a flying scrap of iron at 6:15 a. m. The two attendants at the plant, W. J. Moore and Lester Townsend, escaped by what seems miraculous luck.
The Casadero plant was the model of all the best. It was the newest large electric power plant with water as the initial power. Everything in and about it was up to date, the machinery was automatic, and every part of the mechanism was noted for its orderly behavior. It was working with its customary monotonous regularity yesterday morning. Suddenly, and without warning, the steady hum of one of the great generators began sounding to a higher key, denoting that the generator was increasing its speed.
An attendant stood near instantly noticed the change, and rushing to the governor that controlled this particular set found the gear frame fallen back and no longer connecting with the cog wheel that connected with the shaft suspending the big machine. The governor was supposed to be automatic, limiting the volume of water that flows through the turbines that drive the generators.
The astonished attendant grasped the hand lever that is provided for operating the governor in an emergency, and found that it would not work. Every second the speed of the great revolving

field, 15 feet in diameter, was increasing and the hum was rising to a shriek. There was only one thing to do and the attendant did it. He ran to the wall where is hung an electrical controller for operating certain motors that open and close the headgates in the forebay of the reservoir, 130 feet above the power house floor.

Takes Heroic Measures.
Releasing the electric current that runs these motors, he began closing the gates. They do not close instantly, but settle gradually into their places, the resistance of the water being sufficient to delay the entire stopping of the flow for about one minute.
In that minute the work of destruction of the powerhouse was accomplished. The first generator in a few seconds had gained a centrifugal momentum so tremendous that it began to fly into space, the pieces hurtling in every direction, knocking holes through the roof and the walls of the powerhouse, and penetrating parts of the other machinery pieces from the first struck and crippled the governor of the second generator, and it in turn did like damage to the third. There were three separate sets of turbines and generators, and each set is mounted on its individual shaft, and controlled by its own governor.
The three governors went out in their turn, and the three monster generators were driven to destruction before the water from the forebay was finally shut off.

Plant Catches Fire.
While the wrecking of the plant proceeded the two attendants were doing what they could to save the property. But nothing could be done after the first few minutes were closed.
The speed attained by the last exploded generator was so terrific that it tore through the insulation of the heavy copper wires and the fire communicated to the roof of the building, which by this time was riddled by hurtling parts of machinery. The roof is of sheeting, covered with rubberoid and

gravel, and is laid over a steel truss structure, resting in the brick walls of the powerhouse.

The roofing burned off, leaving the steel structure intact. The fire also burned a small section of board flooring in the powerhouse. Beyond this the fire loses its light.

The power-house as it stands today is far from destroyed. It is built to withstand the ordinary elements. The floor is of concrete, excepting the board section destroyed, which covered a space where it was intended later to install two more generator units. The walls are of brick and are uninjured save where pieces of the machinery were hurled through them. The truss roof can be repaired by replacing a few pieces that were broken by hurtling iron.

The main switchboard, a very expensive part of the mechanism, is uninjured. The water wheels, whose terrible force drove the generating machinery to its destruction, are intact.
Singularly enough, the Lombard automatic governor, which caused the disaster, stands practically unharmed amid the wreck and ruin around it. The company has caused it to be covered over, and it will be kept untouched until the arrival of an expert from the factory where it was made.

Will Avoid Future Trouble.
At the present time no one knows what caused it to refuse to work. It is hoped that by an examination conclusions may be reached by which the company may change its mechanism and so avoid a possibility of future wrecks from this source.
The Portland Railway, Light & Power company is telegraphing all over the country to secure temporary equipment by which it is hoped to restore the plant to use for the next six months while new sets of generators are being built. It is stated that they will not only replace the three units destroyed, but will put in other two units, space for which was provided at the plant at the time of its original construction.

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CANADA THISTLE MENACE TO CITY

Rank Weed Is Spreading Over Different Sections of Portland.

The Canadian thistle, the hardest to eradicate and the most worthless plant that grows in this country, is acquiring a foothold in Portland that is nothing short of alarming to those who are interested in preserving the beautiful lawns around the city's homes and who are familiar with the history of this plant. There are no less than a dozen patches of the weed to be found in the city limits.
In the vicinity of the O. R. & N. shops in Lower Albina, are several spots on which the thistle has attained a rank growth. Over in the district north of Piedmont and Woodlawn it is found in several small areas. Lower down on the peninsula around Portland High and University park, it has put in its appearance and if not checked will soon overrun the whole territory. The vacant lot at the northeast corner of Bagcroft and Corbett streets is a solid mass of the weed, which will soon spread over all that part of South Portland, unless it is taken in hand and rooted out at once.
This plant cannot be destroyed by cutting it down, as it reproduces both from the seed and the root. It must be grubbed out and the roots turned up to the hot sun, and even then so tenacious is it of the apparatus of entirely dead roots will sprout and the following year will spring up as rank a growth of the weed as ever.
There are other varieties of thistle in Portland—the Scotch, Russian and a plant indigenous to the northwest, but these are easily handled in comparison with the work and care necessary to stamp out the Canadian variety.

The Chinese government intends to construct a large military arsenal outside the walls of Paoching. This extramural establishment will comprise gun foundries and Bessemer smelting works.

CHERRY TREES CAUSE MORE PAIN THAN IN G. WASHINGTON'S TIME

When is a street not a street? Judge Cameron now has this question under advisement. The argument came up this morning when the case of J. C. Roberts against Richard Dabney, charging him with wantonly and maliciously chopping down eight cherry trees on his (Roberts') land on East Morrison street, between Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth streets, came up for trial.

From the evidence it seems that Roberts sold Dabney some lots in a block which faced a strip of land in process of dedication for a public thoroughfare.

HUNG SUN COMPANY WANTS MONEY SALVE

Chinese Sue Cornelia Burkhardt for Damage to Goods and Business.

Over \$32,000 is at stake in the damage suit of Hung Sun & Co. against Cornelia Burkhardt, the trial of which was begun in Judge Bronaugh's department of the circuit court this morning. That is the sum claimed by the Chinese firm because it was evicted from a building on Second street that the city building inspector had condemned.
More than a dozen Chinese, composing the Hung Sun firm, are the plaintiffs in the case. They assert that their stock of goods was worth \$20,000, value of the good will of their trade at \$7,000, and claim \$5,000 because of the termination of their lease, which had three years yet to run.
The building in question was torn down last August. It is contended by the defense that the Chinese have no right to claim damages, as the building inspector had authority to order the building torn down and due notice was given the Chinese to move. As the Chinese failed to move the stock, the goods were taken away by the owner of the building and stored. Trial of the case is expected to consume the whole day.

E. M. LAZARUS HURT; THROAT FROM HORSE

Newport, Or., June 22.—E. M. Lazarus of Portland, architect of the Lewis and Clark fair, was severely injured yesterday morning by being thrown from his famous horse Marengo. His collar bone was broken and several ribs, probably, his injuries are not considered serious. Drs. Minthorn and Carter are in attendance, but Dr. MacKenzie is in Portland, and a nurse have been sent for and will arrive today.
Mr. Lazarus tried to jump a big log on the beach when his horse slipped and fell and threw him headlong. He was picked up unconscious by Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Downing, with whom he was riding. He is somewhat better this morning.

FOURTH WALTON TRIAL IS BEGUN

State Commences Another Effort to Convict Officer Nelson's Assailant.

With the defense reinforced by another attorney, the hearing of testimony in the fourth trial of Charles L. Walton on the charge of shooting Patrolman Olaus Nelson, was begun this morning in Judge Cleland's department of the circuit court. The first trial was completed Friday afternoon, but Henry St. Rayner, the defendant's attorney, was ill Saturday and the case was continued until today. Mr. St. Rayner is in court today, but said he was not able to take up the fighting part of the defense, which he has turned over to D. R. Murphy.
Patrolman Nelson for the fourth time recounted the story of the crime and identified Walton as the man who shot him, just as he did in the two previous trials in the last 40 days, when the jury disagreed. Another witness this morning was Motorman Blingman, who assisted the officer in subduing the highwayman that attempted to hold up his car on Willamette heights on the night of September 1, 1914. Blingman also repeated the story that he was acquainted with Walton at the time of the holdup and recognized him. The only other witness this morning was Police Captain Moore, who told of the articles taken from Walton when he was brought to the police station on the night of the robbery.
Deputy District Attorney Bert Haney made the opening statement to the jury, carefully reviewing the testimony that will be offered to connect Walton with the crime. Attorney Murphy, made the opening statement for the defense, outlining the story that Walton has told from the first, to the effect that he brought the street car as a passenger and was mistaken for the real highwayman, who had swung off the moment before in Judge Cameron's court this morning in answer to a charge of vagrancy filed by Officer L. A. Hartman. The case was continued by Judge Cameron to June 23.

FORECASTER BEALS RETURNS FROM EAST

District Forecaster E. A. Beals of the local weather bureau, returned from Washington, D. C., this morning, bringing a chunk of warm sunshine from the sweltering east. His visit with the chief of the department and the principal offices in the states extended over a period of nearly two months.

Mr. Beals returns with authority to give another statement to the Portland department, over which he feels very much elated because more help has been needed for some time. The new assistant has not yet been named.

Mr. Beals reports having had a pleasant trip. He spent a few days inspecting the weather bureaus at New York, Boston and Chicago.
Frank Montgomery, the assistant who takes the place of L. Lohholz, recently granted a transfer to San Francisco, arrived here this morning from Buffalo, N. Y.

TRIXY COLE CASE CONTINUED BY JUDGE

Said to be the object of persecution by certain politicians in the north end, Trixy Cole appeared in Judge Cameron's court this morning in answer to a charge of vagrancy filed by Officer L. A. Hartman. The case was continued by Judge Cameron to June 23.

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