

FIRE SITUATION IS IMPROVED

SIX HOMES BURNED IN PATH OF FLAMES

Hundred Different Forest Fires Raging Uncontrolled Between Portland and Mount Hood—Settlers Flee for Lives After Failing to Save Their Property

No Heavy Rain in Prospect.
Although fair weather is promised by the weather bureau tonight and tomorrow, there is a bare possibility that there will be showers this afternoon, but if they do occur they will probably not be of much value.

"The wind is in the south and conditions are favorable for showers," said District Forecaster Beals this morning, "but the barometer is rising rapidly, and if they do come during the day they will probably not be heavy enough to do any material good."

Mr. Beals said that the threatening conditions that held this morning would soon pass, so far as Portland is concerned, but that the wind, which has been blowing from the northeast, has shifted into the southwest, which he believes will have a tendency to check the fires as it will blow them back into the burned district again.

do not attempt to check the fiercely advancing flames on the mountain sides.

Fire swept out of Wildcat gulch on the Mount Hood road yesterday, destroying the homes of six families and causing the people to run for their lives.

Net Nelson, a lumberman, who had on Monday been offered \$10,000 for 160 acres of timber and had refused the offer, stood helplessly yesterday and watched the flames lick up his property.

Thrilling sights were presented when a Franklin car bearing Journal representatives, made a flying trip through the fire zone yesterday. The way was made dangerous by flaming trees that fell across the road and because of the numerous places where the plank roads themselves were on fire. Soldiers were found bravely fighting the fires at Hoganville near Gresham, where homes, barns and bridges had been burned.

Captain Welch, in charge of Company K and a battalion, had kept his men fighting through the night. Scouts continually reported new or renewed blazes that kept the uniformed men on the double quick. The besieged people regarded the National Guardsmen as a godsend. They had been struggling helplessly against the fires while their homes burned. The soldiers had late last night gotten control of the situation at Anderson, Hoganville and Boring, where the flames had earlier seemed uncontrollable.

The swift Franklin car soon reached

One hundred forest fires burning in the heavily timbered area between Portland and Mount Hood are causing a general exodus of the people living in the endangered districts. Fire fighters devote their efforts to the saving of property and

WINDS SUBSIDE IN FORESTS; FIREFIGHTERS NOW EXPECT TO GET CONTROL OF SITUATION

Winds have died down throughout the forest fire region, giving the fighters hope for success in their struggle to control the situation. The worst fires continue to be in the eastern Oregon and Washington country, according to District Forester Chapman's reports received this morning. The situation in Crater Lake National Park is much improved.

There are seven fires in the Siskiyou National forest in the Grants Pass region. These are on Six Mile, Taylor-Gallice, Sham, Boien, Dutcher, Deer and Day creeks. They aggregate an area of probably 50 square miles.

Small forces of men on each fire have hope of controlling the situation. Sixty men are fighting a fire that has spread over a thousand acres in the Blue River country. They were sent yesterday from Eugene to relieve 20 exhausted fighters. In the Siuslaw there are two fires which seem to be well under control. Troops were sent to the Bull Run reserve this morning at the request of Superintendent Dodge of the water department. This request was approved by Mayor Simon and the county court.

Fire Under Control.
Companies "C" and "H" were sent by Adjutant General Finser and they will be joined by company "E" under Captain Smith.

Forester Chapman's reports are that

the fire is well under control; the fighters are holding their own and unless high winds rise will succeed in practically extinguishing it.

No word came today from the Whitman National forest nor from the fire on Ladd creek. Two fires near Austin are being fought by a force of about 50 men.

The hottest fires of today burn in Willowa forest and the situation there is serious.

Major Maus telephoned District Forecaster Chapman from Vancouver garrison this morning saying that he did not consider the situation in that vicinity at all serious.

In the Wenaha forest a fire is burning about 20 miles north of Elgin, near Proctor Meadow. Supervisor Smith is in charge with a crew of about 35 men. Part of these came from Walla Walla and the rest were brought in by Ranger Sullens from La Grande. No details as to the extent or condition of the fire can be had, since it is located a long distance from any communication.

There is a fire in the Looking Glass country, about three miles from Tollgate. Ranger Morse is in charge with about 15 men. A small fire on Asotin creek, which broke out a few days ago, is now well under control.

The Cheamius fire is fairly well

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G. O. P. SENATORIAL SITUATION IN WASHINGTON SO SERIOUS IT TAKES HITCHCOCK TO FIX IT UP

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Seattle, Aug. 26.—Postmaster General Hitchcock is expected here any day by the managers of the Burke and Wilson senatorial campaigns. For days the regular Republican leaders in Washington have been waiting for Hitchcock to come and throw the weight of an administration mandate into the political balance.

The decision to demand that the administration send its chief exponent to Washington came when the state of Washington welcomed Victor Murdock, the insurgent. Believing that if Judge Burke and ex-Senator Wilson were to remain in the race the election of Polindexter, insurgent, was assured, the "stalwarts," chiefly including the workers of the old Files organization, and the adherents of Senator Jones, demanded that the administration keep its

pledge and send Hitchcock to save the day.

It is still hoped at this late hour by the regulars that Hitchcock, backed by the influence of leaders like Ballinger, can persuade either Wilson or Burke to withdraw, and so leave a clear field for the strongest regular to fight it out at the primaries, to be held September 13, with Polindexter.

At the same time both Judge Burke and Editor Wilson stoutly insist that they will not get out of the race, though each is demanding that the administration withdraw its support from a single Polindexter opponent.

Today in both the Wilson and Burke camps the leaders are admitting that only prompt action by Taft at Washington can prevent Polindexter from carrying the state with a 40 per cent vote.



Company of National Guard making fire-break near Hoganville, east of Gresham.

**PRISONER ADMITS
ROBBING MANY
PORTLAND HOMES**

George Griffin, Dapper Burglar, Caught in Seattle With Property Belonging to Local People; Valise Full of Jewelry.

Practically all the numerous daring burglaries committed in Portland during the last three weeks have been fastened on George Griffin, aged 33, who was arrested two days ago in Seattle while trying to dispose of some of his loot and was brought back last night by Detective Hellyer. A valise filled with jewelry and other stolen booty was found in Griffin's room in Seattle and is being assorted today at the local detective headquarters for identification. Griffin was arrested in Seattle while Hellyer was there to take charge of two other prisoners. One of the Seattle detectives took Griffin into custody while he was trying to pawn a valuable gold watch, which bore the name of Arthur W. Williams. Griffin had assumed that name for the time being in order to dispose of it. When questioned by the officer he could not give a satisfactory account of himself and he was taken to police headquarters. Hellyer there recognized the watch as answering

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**LIKE FRANCE, PORTLAND WILL
FALL INTO COMMERCIAL RUT
IF IT DOES NOT BUILD DOCKS**

Thirty-five hundred voters have signed the petition asking the people of Portland to approve a bond issue of \$2,500,000 for the building of public docks. The petition will be filed with City Auditor Barbur this afternoon. It is a measure which has been formally approved by the business interests, commercial bodies, working men and shippers of the city. The wide popular favor granted the plan for municipal control of the waterfront and the conceded necessity for obtaining this control by building a uniform system of concrete fireproof docks have given the citizens working in behalf of the cause assurance of success.

"Portland's commercial life depends upon the construction of public docks and municipal control of the waterfront. Without public docks Portland will become known as an interior city, not as a seaport. Tacoma and Seattle will handle ocean going commerce; Tacoma and Seattle will get the railroads consequently. It is business folly to militate against public docks. It is business idocy to depend upon private

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interests to build up a dockage system."

This is the statement made by J. W. Cruthers, capitalist, who has just returned from a year's travel abroad, when he visited a number of European cities. He says the contrast between the dockage systems there and in Portland is ludicrous. He laughed heartily when asked how Portland's waterfront compared with that of Liverpool, Belgium, Antwerp or Rotterdam. He declared that Portland will lose the opportunity to be known as a modern seaport among the great seaports of the world if the people neglect their power to appropriate funds and construct municipal docks now.

Mr. Cruthers has spent many years of his life in Portland closely in contact with conditions here; also he has studied deeply into the commercial enterprise of the old world.

Docks Good Investment.
He spoke with authority, saying: "Public docks pay tenfold on the money invested. Wherever a beginning is made in public docks more and better are built through recognition of their value. Shipping comes to those ports and to those ports alone that prepare for it. Liverpool is an instance. There flows the Mersey river, shallow

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**M'GINN SWINGS
FIERCE RIGHT ON
ASSEMBLY PLAN**

At St. Johns Meeting Former Judge Denounces Machine Politics and Upholds Direct Primary; Voters With Him.

Voters of St. Johns, who jammed Bickner's hall last night, were rewarded with a masterful speech by Henry E. McGinn, the eloquent Portland attorney, who is a candidate for the Multnomah county bench, in which the assembly, corporations and machine politicians were sensationally rebuked.

Mr. McGinn directly charged that the recent lawyers' convention was packed by the corporate interests for the purpose of nominating Judge Cleland, against whom he is running, phrased Cleland as the "famous non-suiter," flayed the indemnity insurance companies and the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co., the Southern Pacific and O. R. & N. and charged the corporations with packing juries.

He did not mince words, and from the start the crowd was with him. Cheers and hand-clappings everywhere punctuated the speech, and several times the speaker had to stop until the noise

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**MRS. MORSE HOPES
TO FREE HUSBAND**

Carries Petition With Her Wherever She Goes and Obtains Many Signatures.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 26.—Mrs. Charles W. Morse, wife of the former ice king and banker of New York, who is serving a term in the federal prison here for bankrobbing, said today that she had thousands of signatures to a petition asking for the pardon of her husband. She added that she would present the petition to President Taft in a short time. "Every section of the country is represented in the petition," Mrs. Morse has the document constantly with her in the care of a secretary and is indefatigable in inducing persons to sign.

She expects to return to New York tonight to complete plans for presenting the voluminous petition to the president. The loyal woman declared that she had every hope that President Taft would grant the request of the petitioners.



Path of Journal party in Franklin car blocked by fallen forest giant, about four miles beyond Sandy.

FIRE FIGHTERS IN CLEARWATER ZONE BELIEVED SAFE

All But 25 Men in Direct Communication With Outside— Experienced Mountaineers Head Fighters.

FIRE SITUATION IS NOW MUCH IMPROVED

Lack of Wind Aid to Fighters —No More Men to Be Sent to Interior.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Lewiston, Idaho, Aug. 26.—Reports received today at the office of Major F. A. Penn, supervisor of the Clearwater national forest reserve, show that all but 25 of the 500 men employed in fire fighting in the reserve are within direct communication with the outside and the 25 men surrounded are believed to be safe. Supervisor Penn stated that he was not so apprehensive for the safety of the three parties, as experienced mountaineers are in charge of each and, while the food supply may be short, there is no danger of the men perishing in the fires. One of the surrounded parties is in Old Man's basin and is camped near a small lake where safety could be secured, even though the entire district is burned over. The lake is well supplied with fish and the men could secure fish and game for food with little difficulty.

Another party is surrounded on Cook's mountain, between Weitas and Cayuse creeks, about fifteen miles from the North fork. This party is well supplied with provisions and, while cut off from the outside by fire, is considered in no danger.

One Party May Be Suffering.
The third party surrounded is at the "Sixty-two" camp, and it is probable these men are short of provisions. It is generally conceded that this party is in charge quarters, but Supervisor Penn believes the men have been able to take care of themselves. The party has about twelve horses and it is probable that an effort is being made to save the horses. The party is headed by one of the most experienced mountaineers in the country and the members are in no danger so long as they heed the advice of their leader.

The general situation in the reserve appears to be improved, the cooler weather materially checking the fires.

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JAPANESE CONSUL TAKEN BACK HOME

Mr. Iwaya Has Been Making Himself Perniciously Active at Manila.

(United Press Leased Wire.)
Manila, Aug. 26.—Because of "pernicious" activity Japanese Consul Iwaya was today recalled by the Taft government. It is reported that this action was taken on request of Secretary of War Jacob M. Dickinson.