

FIGHT ALL NIGHT BATTLE AGAINST FIRES IN FOREST

Blaze 7 Miles Long Sweeping Country Near Estacada—Fiends Who Set Blazes Flee in Fear of Lynching.

Two hundred and fifty men are dividing their time fighting back steadily growing fires in the forest near Estacada and in hunting for the miscreants who set them out. The fire line last night was more than seven miles long. One hundred men who were rushed from Portland yesterday battled all night with flames that at times roared into the air 400 to 600 feet high. There are perhaps a dozen different fires now burning. The fire broke out in several new places yesterday afternoon and it leaped the fire line in half a dozen places yesterday morning.

"It will be hard to prevent a necktie party if the incendiaries are found," declared E. Blockley, speaking to a Journal representative at Camp Blockley, ten miles southeast of Estacada yesterday evening.

"We already have found two who started fires. One was a Poie who didn't seem to know any better. Another was a man of intelligence who knew only too well what he was doing. Both of them got out of the country as fast as they could to save their hides."

Various motives are ascribed to the incendiaries. Revenge, spite and vicious carelessness are among the reasons guessed at. That they are still in the forest, traveling ahead of the fire and the fire fighters is indicated by the fact that now fires are continually breaking out, which could not possibly have been carried from the fires now burning.

High winds yesterday added to the gravity of the situation. While the valley was breezeless fire was swept up the canyons making them hot as bake-ovens and destroying all animal and vegetable life in its path. This was particularly true of Clear creek canyon where the fiercest of all the fires burned yesterday.

"Unless we get rain or the wind dies down," said E. Blockley, who is director of the fire fighters sent by private interests, "the whole of the Summit, Molalla and Santiam counties are doomed. It is already one of the worst localized fires we have ever had. Unless by some turn we are able to hold it down it will be the worst in history, for you, we are praying for rain, and praying hard."

The country southeast of Estacada is a plateau thickly settled by prosperous farmers. The roads are as good in many places as can be found anywhere in the state. Every canyon, draw and gully is heavily wooded with trees that frequently attain a diameter of 10 feet and a height of 200 or more feet. The plateau narrows with nearness to the mountains. In little cleared places among the great trees are homes. A change of the wind would sweep the fire down upon them and total destruction would be inevitable.

"Settlers Are Alarmed." To reach the fire line yesterday evening it was necessary for a Journal reporter to go yesterday afternoon to Estacada, thence to ride horseback into the mountains. At Springwater and Dodge, towns along the way, people were talking of and fearing the fire. Veteran woodsmen said that excessive dryness of the forest and the work of incendiaries might yet cause the worst forest fires in the history of the state, despite the organized cooperation of government, state and private fire fighting forces.

"When don't amount to anything when the fire is helped by wind, dry weather and incendiaries," said one of the woodsmen.

One hundred men resting at Camp Blockley, a little clearing where a cabin has been built at the mountain's base and tents pitched, included a number who had been fighting the fires, and 60 who were sent out in charge of Ranger Osborn from Portland yesterday. Inclusive of the number of men seeking such employment, it was said that the 60 men were enlisted at one of the employment agencies in 20 minutes.

Near a spring of cold water a trench had been dug and a fire built in it. Here half a dozen big pots of men were cooking and preparations for supper were being made. The men who had been fighting fire ever since 3 o'clock yesterday morning, came in with shoes half burned from their bleeding feet, their faces blackened and their eyes bloodshot from the constant irritation of smoke and heat. The weary men, the fire, the tents and the tall, silent forest all about, made a scene memorably picturesque.

As fast as possible camps of fire fighters are being made close to the fire lines. Rough roads are cut through the forest to them and wagon loads of provisions sent in. One of the first effects of fire fighting on the fighters

GOVERNOR GUEST AT LAUNDRYHANDS' PICNIC



MARCELL POSTO

Governor West was the honored guest at the annual picnic of the Portland laundry workers at Bonneville Sunday. Nearly 2000 were present, representing every laundry of consequence in Portland. The trip proved most enjoyable.

is to double appetites, and beans and sides of beef and bread and coffee seem almost to melt away. Because it is expected that the blaze will have to be fought for several weeks a great store of provisions has been ordered.

WANT TRACK Laid ON EAST SIDE STREET

A mass meeting of property owners interested in a projected pavement between Alberta and Bryant streets on Union avenue, will be held Friday evening to urge the executive board to force the Portland Railway, Light & Power company to lay at least one track on the street at once so that one half of the thoroughfare can be paved before the rainy season sets in.

"The property owners are growing tired of the delay caused by the street-car company," said an interested taxpayer yesterday, "and we are going to demand immediate relief. The condition of Union avenue between Bryant and Alberta streets has been horrible for the past five years. A year ago the city executive board let a contract for the paving of the street to the Oregon Hazzam Paving company."

"Since then the Portland Railway, Light & Power company in answer to a communication from former Chairman R. T. Platt of the street committee stated that it would have enough rails to complete all tracks on streets proposed to be paved. The company tore up the tracks on Union avenue three months ago and now we understand that they are short of rails with which to complete the job. If this is the case the company must have used the rails brought here from Union avenue on some other street. It will take at least six weeks to ship more rails out here from the east and by that time it will be too late to begin paving operations in time to have the street surfaced before the end of the season."

AUTO RUINS RELIGION OF CITIZEN; RESENTS NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT

Some of the correspondence received by Deputy City and County Assessor W. C. North would be a source of delight to an amateur jokesmith.

"Now, what do you think of that for a fantastic retort to a courteous letter?" exclaimed Mr. North yesterday as he threw down a piece of paper with a smile. The paper was an assessment blank which had been sent to A. M. Holton, with the request that he fill it out. He was notified that if he failed to do so he would be assessed arbitrarily for an automobile.

"Last December I sold that car to J. A. Gallagher of North Yamhill, Or.," reads the letter. "I made a special trip over there and I don't see why you should bother me now with an arbitrary assessment of \$2000 on a d—n tub like that which spoiled my religion, so that now I lie awake nights praying to be reincarnated into an asbestos cat, and that tall legs be put on the devil."

"This be my last will and testament to a junk pile. Yours with a memory of many rotten trips. A. M. HOLTON."

Laundrymen entertain Oregon's executive in primeval forest. The day was spent enjoying foot races, swimming races, boat races and other contests. In the afternoon the East Side laundry workers defeated the representatives of the West Portland laundries in an exciting game of baseball. Luncheon was served after the

PARENTS OF WAYWARD CHILDREN ARE WARNED

More attention was given last month by the juvenile court workers to the parents of wayward children than has usually been devoted to them heretofore. This was rather an experiment of Chief Probation Officer White in order to see what effect it would have on the child. During the month, he wrote 28 letters to parents, warning and suggesting to them about caring for their children. There were 19 homes visited by the probation officer, and a heart-to-heart talk had with the parents. The result has been excellent, and it will be continued.

The report from the juvenile court further shows that 28 children were brought before Judge Gatens. Of this number 19 were boys and nine girls. Four were before the judge for the second offense. Larceny was the chief complaint, as there were eight charged with it. There were only three children taken for incorrigibility, and two for running away.

Judge Gatens kept his word and did not commit any children to the state reform school, as he, recently declared he would send no child there unless it was in an extreme case to protect society. The reform school was characterized as a stepping stone to the state prison, and the judge said he would rather take a boy into his own home than send him there. Four girls were

sent to the House of the Good Shepherd, two boys were sent to the Oregon State Training school, and four placed temporarily in the Fraser home. The other children were placed upon probation.

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BARRETT TALKS ON PANAMA CANAL

Director-General of the Pan-American Union Brings Trade Message.

While Portland people realize to a large extent the importance of the Panama canal to this city and to Oregon, John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American union, is in Portland for the purpose of arousing the people of this city to a more complete realization of the need of beginning now to make preparations for handling the business that will come to this coast via the canal.

He urges that the people of the northwest should not look upon the completion of the canal merely as an event to be celebrated by great exhibitions, but should look upon its completion as the time ripe for this section of the country to reap great benefits in a practical commercial way. And early preparations must be made to take advantage of the situation at the psychological time.

Mr. Barrett says that while Americans are making preparation for the big exposition to be held on the coast, England, Germany, France, Holland, Japan, Russia and other countries have been studying the new situation, which the opening of the canal will make, to

see how they can best take advantage of the new trade conditions.

Among the first things needed now, he says, is proper legislation by congress, determining the actual form of administration of the canal under one man power, deciding the toll rate, which Mr. Barrett says should not exceed \$1 a cubic ton, to be charged against shipping passing through the canal, and settling the question of control of coaling, oiling, repairing and supplying of vessels using the canal.

To preclude complications which might arise if individuals had control, Mr. Barrett says the coaling, oiling, repairing and supplying of vessels should be entirely in the hands of the United States government.

Mr. Barrett suggests that the business men of the west should begin now to study the buying and selling conditions in all the foreign countries affected by the opening of the canal. He recommends an excursion of representative business men of the west to the west coast of Mexico and on further south to the Central and South American coasts.

Next Thursday Mr. Barrett will be the guest of honor at a banquet to be given by the Commercial club. At that time he will deliver an address on "What the Panama Canal Means to Oregon." He will leave here August 1 for Tacoma, Seattle and Vancouver, B. C., and from there will leave for the east, stopping at Spokane, Salt Lake, Denver, Omaha and other cities.

"I am greatly disappointed in Portland," said John Barrett at the Portland hotel this morning. "Though the opening of the Panama canal will mean millions of dollars to the city, her citizens have done practically nothing toward preparing for the opening of the canal."

"Why, Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and even Seattle have done

much more than Portland to get ready for this event of so great importance. It will mean hundreds of dollars to the Pacific coast."

"I was necessitated to forego a trip to Europe to come to the Pacific coast to arouse enthusiasm in the opening of the canal. I cannot urge strongly enough that Portland do something toward preparatory action in this matter."

Mr. Barrett is accompanied by his secretary, W. P. Montgomery. He will leave Portland for the Puget Sound cities where he will also appear before the commercial clubs. From there he will go through Spokane to the east.

MISSOURI CONVICT SERVING 99 YEARS REFUSES FREEDOM

(United Press Leased Wire) Jefferson City, Mo., Aug. 1.—Declaring that his only friends are his fellow prisoners and his only home the penitentiary, Simon Hegley, sentenced 19 years ago to a term of 99 years in prison for murder, refused today to accept the parole which Governor Hadley had decided to extend.

"I don't want to leave here," Hegley said. "The prison officials and other inmates are my friends. I want to spend the remainder of my life in here." Produces healthy activity of weak, disordered stomachs; strength builder.

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