

WEATHER REPORT.

Fair tonight and Tuesday; warmer tonight.



TO ADVERTISERS.

Don't sit down in the meadow and wait for the cow to back up and be milked—go after the cow.

FROM FOUR TO SEVEN HUNDRED PERSONS DIE IN FLAMES

FOREST FIRES CLAIM NEARLY TWO HUNDRED LIVES AT FERNIE

Property Loss in Town and Vicinity is Estimated at Eight Million Dollars—Hundreds Are Homeless.

Towns of Hosmer and Mitchell Are Safe, Though Reported Lost—Constables So Sworn in to Protect What Is Left of Fernie—Sixty Thousand Dollars Worth of Groceries Have Been Distributed to the Destitute—Hundreds Compelled to Sleep in the Open Without Covering—Concert Building Containing Stores of Groceries for Wholesale House Fortunately Escapes Destruction and Much Suffering Is Thereby Prevented—Coal Mining Companies Are Heavy Losers by the Holocaust.

Winnipeg, Aug. 3.—Reports received over railroad wires from points nearest the great Crows Nest valley fire today, indicate that the flames are still roaring over the country and that the damage will probably be greater than expected last night. It is estimated that the full amount of loss in the whole burned district will be \$25,000,000.

The loss of life is variously estimated at from 400 to 700, while suffering and destitution is horrible. Acting Mayor Harvey called a meeting of the board of control this morning. Already a subscription relief fund is rolling in. It is possible the full extent of the loss of life and property will not be known for several days.

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 3.—It is variously estimated this morning that 170 persons have been burned to death in the Fernie fire. The property loss will be \$5,000,000. These figures are given by Thomas Biggs, secretary of the Fernie Miners' union.

The towns of Hosmer and Michel, reported destroyed, were saved, buildings being dynamited in Hosmer. Sixty men and four women, camping in the lumber district five miles from Fernie, were surrounded by fire. All are reported dead.

Sixty thousand dollars worth of groceries have been distributed in Fernie. Hundreds are sleeping out doors, many without covering. Constables have been sworn in to guard what is left of the town.

In Fernie a western Canada wholesale house, occupying a concert building which was saved, has stored groceries which are being given to the unfortunates. This distribution is a blessing to the people. The house

Try to Poison Whole Town. Los Angeles, Aug. 3.—Travelers arriving here from Mexico tell of an attempt to exterminate the entire population of the town of Mexcala, near the border, by poisoning the water supply. Most of the dogs in town have died and several persons drinking the water have narrowly escaped. Revolutionists are suspected. President Diaz has ordered wholesale arrests.

A Horrible Death. San Francisco, Aug. 3.—With his body almost covered with a seething mass of boiling asphaltum thrown upon him by the explosion of a pot in which he was heating the material, Peter Com, a street laborer, was carried to the hospital in terrible agony today. He is expected to live but a few hours. His flesh was burned from the shoulders to the bone.

Mysterious Death. San Francisco, Aug. 3.—Mystery surrounds the finding of the body of a well dressed man in the bay near the Golden Gate. He had probably been in the water only an hour. There is no clue to his identity. In a small leather bag he carried \$35. Officers are unable to determine the cause of death.

has been converted into a retail store and orders promptly delivered. President Lindsey estimates the loss of the Crows Nest and Pass Coal company at \$100,000. The Trites Food company's loss is \$250,000. A. MacDonald, a wholesale merchant, and the Crows Nest Trading company, will lose heavily. Relief committees have organized. Spokane Sends Provisions. A carload of provisions was sent from Spokane yesterday and 3,000 loaves of bread were sent this morning. The mayor and chamber of commerce responded quickly to the appeals for aid. Reports say tents and bedding are also needed. The relief committee is swamped with contributions. Reports say the towns of Olson, Michel, Hosmer and Sparwood have been destroyed. The loss is appalling. It is difficult to obtain figures of facts on account of wire interruption.

Thousand Refugees. Nelson, B. C., Aug. 3.—A thousand refugees, the overflow from Cranebrook, arrived here this morning, most of them destitute. There is great difficulty in getting provisions here. The big Canadian cities have wired money.

Ashes Mark the Spot. Fernie, Aug. 3.—Seventy blocks of smouldering ashes mark the spot today where stood the well built, thriving city of Fernie with 6,000 population. But 14 residences and one business house remain. Between 700 and 800 families are homeless. Twelve bodies have been recovered and it is feared the 200 missing have perished.

They Still Get Timber. The people of Baker City who have been earnestly watching the timber situation with the hope of getting a suitable claim, and keeping up that vigil without success, it may be interesting for them to know that a party of ten people from Portland were brought to Baker City a few days ago and taken up the Sumpter valley to Austin, from which place they went overland to Prallie City, and there were located on claims, says the Herald.

C. H. Clement, a real estate man of Portland, passed through Baker last evening for his home after having accompanied this crowd of timber hunters and seeing them located. He works in conjunction with Dave Brichaux of La Grande, who is known as a timber cruiser. Mr. Clements stated that most of the timber he procured for his clients will average nearly 2,000,000 feet, which is considered very good at the present time.

Big Mining Deal. The Eclipse copper mine was sold yesterday to Utah mining men for \$75,000, and they have returned to Salt Lake to arrange the immediate opening of the mine with three crews of men, says the La Grande Observer. This mine is situated about 35 miles east of La Grande on Copper creek, and contains one of the largest and richest bodies of copper in that mineral district.

This mine was owned entirely by La Grande people of whom the following were the heaviest stockholders: D. A. McAllister, H. C. Cotner, W. B. Sargent, J. M. Hiltz, John McAllister and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Williamson. Two thousand dollars was paid down and the purchasers have two years in which to pay the balance. As they are mining men of experience and will commence active work immediately, it is expected that within a few months this will be one of the liveliest camps on Copper creek and the Eclipse mine will soon be a large producer of copper.

PARIS' BIG STRIKE IS FIZZLING OUT.

Paris, Aug. 3.—The threatened 24-hour strike of 100,000 workmen to protest against the government's severity in dealing with those engaged in the recent strike demonstrations, seems to be fizzling today. Several morning papers failed to appear on the streets this morning on account of a strike of the compositors. Twenty-five thousand soldiers are ready to answer a riot call.

Saloon Is Held Up. Reno, Nev., Aug. 3.—A lone robber held up the Sierra Grotto Saloon early today, forcing the bartender and one customer to hold up their hands. He stole \$5.

Score of Miners Buried. Mahoney City, Pa., Aug. 3.—Twenty miners are entombed in a result of the explosion of gas. Their fate is unknown. Rescuers are digging.

Americans at Vatican. Rome, Aug. 3.—Archbishop Parley is heading a delegation of twenty-one American priests, also 150 American pilgrims, to the Vatican today, carrying Peter's Pence.

Conservatives Win in Cuba. Havana, Cuba, Aug. 3.—Election returns throughout Cuba at noon today indicate a general victory for the conservatives, who have carried the most important cities.

Baseball Scores. San Francisco, 6; Portland, 5; 20 innings. Oakland, 7-0; Los Angeles, 1-6.

TERRIFIC STORM CAUSES DEATHS

NEVADA IS SCENE OF LATEST CATASTROPHE.

Lifeless Bodies and Great Damage to Property Mark Path of Electrical Disturbance and Cloudburst in Nevada—Many Thrilling Rescues—Extent of Catastrophe Is Unknown.

Reno, Nev., Aug. 3.—A terrific electrical storm broke in Washoe county last night and left death and destruction in its wake. The extent of the damage is unknown, but it is thought at least five were killed. A cloudburst followed. Etta Pixley, daughter of a wealthy logging camp owner in Dog valley, was killed instantly by the rushing water. Her body was found at the bottom of a gulch.

An unknown woman was also killed with Miss Pixley, the bodies being found together. A white cook and two Chinese were swept away, their bodies being not found. Twenty head of cattle, all the livestock in the valley, were killed. The valley is full of water.

There were many thrilling rescues. Miss Cleereau, daughter of the judge of Verdi, was rescued from death by a laborer. She was swept away from a mountain path and carried down stream when she was pulled out. News from Spanish gulch says the entire gulch was flooded by the cloudburst.

Searching for Bodies. Hundreds of men are searching Dog valley for bodies of men supposed to have been caught in the flood. The valley is a scene of utter devastation. The only houses standing were high on a hill. Miss Pixley was a school teacher. Luke Smith, a laborer, is also dead. All told, five were killed, three being Chinese. The loss is estimated at \$100,000. ADD Harriman

Editor Has Good Argument. Carthage, Mo., Aug. 3.—Cornelius Rauch, proprietor of the Carthage Daily Democrat, is seeking the democratic nomination for secretary of state, and offers nine good reasons why the voters should support him in tomorrow's primary. The argument is set forth on a card bearing a picture of the editor's nine children, with this appeal:

SAY, MISTER! Won't you please vote for our papa for the democratic nomination for secretary of state? Here are nine reasons—and you may have others. The man who courts temptation for the purpose of displaying his strength usually ends up by advertising his weakness.

HARRIMAN ON WAY TO OREGON

Declares There Will Be No Combination of Railroads Over Night.

SAYS NO ROADS WILL BE ABANDONED.

Insists That Oriental Trade Is Largely Sentimental and That Dream Bubbles Have Burst—Claims No Responsibility, Declaring He Knows Conditions From the Start—Accompanied by Family, Servants, Operators and Stenographers, Is Coming to Southern Oregon.

Chicago, Aug. 2.—In an interview granted on his way to Oregon, Harriman declares there will be no combination of railroads over night and that there will be no abandonment of railroads.

He was discussing the deal whereby a syndicate of bankers recently took up for \$3,000,000 about \$12,000,000 worth of stock in a short time both of the Wheeling and the Lake Erie-road, which belong to the Gould system.

"Anything done in this connection is not for the purpose of making money," he said. "It's bad business for a railroad to go into the hands of a receiver, so we try to prevent it whenever possible."

Speaking about the Oriental trade he said: "The Oriental trade is largely sentimental. The hope of building up a large Asiatic trade through the Pacific coast ports was mostly a dream and it has turned out to be to a great extent a fake. It was not my dream. I knew the conditions from the start."

He is accompanied by his family, telegraph operators, servants and stenographers.

Travels in Secrecy.

Chicago, Aug. 3.—Guarded with the utmost secrecy, Harriman's special cars are at Evanston, a suburb, today. Officials of the Gould and Harriman lines are instructed not to give any information as to the movements of the special. Harriman remained in his car all night to avoid the interviewers.

He will drive to the general headquarters of the Harriman lines this morning, and held a conference with the officials there. All he would say was:

"This is not a business trip; just a vacation. I am going to Oregon to my ranch and along the Pacific coast, where I have large interests."

Wizard Is Ambiguous. Harriman added a new chapter to a long list of ambiguous interviews today. When asked why the railroads were in financial straits after five years of great prosperity, he said: "It's simply because they're after them."

"Who are they?" he was asked. He refused to answer. It is supposed he meant Roosevelt. He refused to discuss the president's crusade against the roads for rebating.

Will Collect Fair Exhibits.

The district fair association is now looking for an active young man who has a team for the work of collecting agricultural exhibits for the coming district fair. Large quantities of exhibits have been promised but so far no one has been secured to collect them. This will be a good position for some young man with a team for the next six weeks.

No. 5 Had 14 Cars.

The westbound train, No. 5, of last night, had 14 cars out of this city. Two special cars being Idaho democrats were attached, a car bearing Baker City militia boys was picked up at that place, and a car bearing company L here, making one of the largest trains to pass through the city for some time. The Idaho democrats left the main line at Umatilla on their way to Wallace, where the state convention is being held this week.

Expect Heavy Shipments.

S. B. Calderhead of the Northern Pacific offices at Walla Walla, is in the city today on a business trip and is well pleased with the prospects for a good crop all through the territory tributary to the Northern Pacific railroad. He expects about as heavy wheat shipments this year as usual, although in some sections the yield will be light.

MOTORMAN MURDERED BY ROBBERS IN TACOMA.

Tacoma, Aug. 3.—Frank L. Brown, motorman on the P street car line, was murdered shortly after midnight this morning by robbers as he was ready to start the car back to the barn. Brown and the conductor, G. R. Windsor, were sitting in the car, Windsor counting the money, when three men entered. A moment later Brown was clanging the bell, when one of the men fired a shot. Brown fell dead. The others held up Windsor and secured \$15 and a watch.

Taft As a Fairy.

Pastor Denies Candidate Has No Particular Religion. Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 3.—Rev. G. A. Thayer of the First Unitarian church today denied that Taft had no particular religion. She said "Taft's mother and Judge Alphonso Taft and his wife were members of the Unitarian church, of which I was pastor. Will Taft has attended my church regularly. He became a member when he was a boy. I remember he once took the part of a fairy in a play given by the Unity church, when he weighed 175 pounds. Taft in good company."

OUTBREAK IN VENEZUELA IS HOURLY EXPECTED.

Wilmington West Dutch Indies, Aug. 3.—Following the arrival here of the Dutch cruiser Golderland from Laguayra, Venezuela, it is feared President Castro is preparing to make a show of armed forces. News of an outbreak is hourly expected.

COUNTY BOOKS ARE EXPERTED

REPORT IS IN HANDS OF COUNTY COURT.

E. A. Johnson Completes Investigation of County Officials—No Part of Report Will Be Made Public Until After County Court Acts on It Wednesday—Believed that All Accounts Balance.

The report of Accountant E. A. Johnson, who has been engaged in expending the records of the different county officials for the past two months, is now complete and is now in the hands of the county court. Since the court will not meet until next Wednesday morning, and therefore no official action has been taken on the report, its contents have not been made public and will not be known until after the court acts upon it.

However, it is practically certain that no shortages or serious errors in bookkeeping have been found in any of the records, and the acceptance of the report by the county court next Wednesday will be only a prefatory matter.

The work performed by Accountant Johnson has been thorough in every way, and the records have been examined in a short time compared to the large volume of accounts to be examined. So well pleased is the county court with the work of examining the records that it is probable that it will be the fixed policy of the court hereafter to have all the county records examined every year.

Bryan a Unionist.

Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 3.—Bryan was voted an honorary member of the Lincoln Typographical union today.

WILL SEEK TO ENJOIN CITY

Ranchers West of Pendleton Object to Second Sewer Above Their Ditches.

SAY WATER IS NOW TOO BADLY POLLUTED.

Unfit for Stock to Drink and Too Filthy to Use in Irrigating Gardens—Bed of River Is Nearly Dry at This Season of Year—City's Proposed Extension of Sewer to West End of Town Is Cause of Uneasiness—Ranchers Say Outlet Should Be Further Down Stream.

Any attempt on the part of the city to empty another sewer into the bed of the Umatilla river above the intakes for the irrigation ditches which supply the farms on the flat on the north side of the river and just west of town will be accompanied by an injunction suit to prevent the carrying out of such plans.

It is alleged by the ranchers living in the flat that as a result of the present sewer, which empties into the river near the old railroad bridge, the water in their irrigation ditches is so polluted as to be unfit for their horses and cattle to drink and for use in irrigating their gardens, and that a second sewer would make the condition that much worse.

At this time of the year the sewage is dumped into an almost dry river bed, so that there is no question as to its ability to pollute what little water remains.

It is pointed out by those interested that by running the proposed sewer a few yards further down the river the city could find an outlet for its sewer with little if any additional expense. They say this could meet with no objection from the ranchers further down stream, since it is several miles before any water is taken out for irrigating or other purposes, and the river would have plenty of time to clear itself.

A number of small farms are interested in the matter, among them being the Oliver, Carpenter, Patton, Myers and Hill places.

The law covering this point was looked up when the first sewer was constructed, but it was finally decided to take no action at that time, as they were definitely told and finally persuaded to believe that the inconvenience would not be so bad. Now that they have actually seen the results of the present sewer, they are determined that their troubles shall not be increased, and they feel sure they can succeed in their attempt to permanently enjoin the city.

Educate Negro Farmers.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 3.—Negro farmers of Georgia are rounded up at Clark university today for a week of practical and theoretical instruction in all phases of agricultural pursuits. This is the first time such an institute has been attempted and it has attracted wide attention.

It is stated by the promoters that there are in Georgia 16,760 negro farm owners, 35,250 negro cash tenants, 35,889 negro share tenants, 117,000 male negro farm laborers, and 72,000 female farm laborers. The summer schooling proposed is the first time in the history of the state that the negro farm workers have had the opportunity to attend a school of this kind.

Fined for Fighting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Chapman, Indians, were fined \$5 in police court this morning for fighting on the streets, Sunday. The woman was the former wife of Chapman and both were drinking. Charles Switzer, an Indian, was also fined \$5 by Judge Fitz Gerald for being drunk.

LARGE DEAL IN UMATILLA RANGE LAND

One of the largest deals in Umatilla county range lands to be recorded for some time has just been made in La Grande. J. D. McKennon, the well known grocer of La Grande, and stockman and farmer of Grand Ronde valley, has just purchased from J. D. Casey the lumberman and merchant of Hilgard, 2440 acres of timber and range land lying about 10 miles east of Meacham and surrounded by the Wenaha forest reserve. The deeds have just been filed with Recorder F. W. Hendley of this coun-

ty and the price given in the deeds is \$355.83, or about \$2.20 per acre for the tract, and Mr. Casey receives all the timber on the land for a period of 20 years, an extraordinary provision in Umatilla county land deals. It is understood that Mr. McKennon is buying land for cattle range and secured it at this extremely low price by surrendering the timber. Mr. Casey will log off the land and cut cord wood on it and expects to have all the valuable timber removed within the period specified.