

WESTON LEADER

VOL. XXXV.

WESTON, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1915.

NO. 1.

EARTHQUAKE HITS CITIES ON BORDER

Twelve Dead and Many Injured Along Mexican Line.

MARTIAL LAW QUICKLY STOPS LOOTING

Heber, Mexicali and Calexico Ruined —Yuma and San Diego Shake —Imperial Valley Suffers.

RESULT OF EARTHQUAKE

Twelve killed, many injured at Mexicali; buildings destroyed. Calexico buildings destroyed; others damaged by fire. Heber destroyed by fire. Imperial damaged. Shock felt from San Diego, on coast, to Yuma, Ariz. High school at Brawley wrecked.

Los Angeles.—Reports of three severe earthquake shocks, which resulted in the death and injury of at least 15 persons and considerable property loss by fire in several cities in the Imperial Valley covering several hundred square miles, were received here Wednesday.

Telephone and telegraphic communication was interrupted, and information from the stricken district is meager.

The greatest damage was at Calexico on the Mexican border line, where the loss of life occurred. Early reports from there said that the town had been destroyed by fire, but telephone employees at El Centro, who talked over a wire to a lineman later, reported that fires were confined to three buildings, which the fire department succeeded in getting under control.

Many buildings in Calexico were shaken down. The operators in the telephone building fled after the first shock.

The first shock occurred at 7:20 P. M. and was followed by two others at 8:40 P. M. and 9:20 P. M. These were felt in the district surrounding El Centro and Calexico.

Two shocks were reported from Yuma at the same time. Two slight shocks were felt at San Bernardino, several miles north of the Mexican line, at 9 o'clock. San Diego also was visited by two slight shocks.

Heber, a railroad town five miles west of El Centro, was reported directly destroyed by fire. At Imperial several buildings were cracked and the wall of one fell in, but no injuries resulted. The telephone operators there also fled from their building.

A repair crew of the Pacific Telephone company was sent at midnight to El Centro.

Martial law was declared in Calexico, Cal., and in Mexicali, just across the border, following a reign of terror quakes were felt, which caused thousands of dollars of damage to property and resulted in the loss of at least 12 lives and many injured.

United States cavalry troops are patrolling the streets of Calexico to prevent looting. Villa troops are guarding Mexicali. One man caught looting in Mexicali is reported to have been shot.

Information from the Mexican town is meager, but the first of the refugees to arrive at Calexico, across the border, reported that at least 12 persons were killed and many injured.

All brick buildings in Calexico were deserted and most of them are badly cracked or in ruins. Two houses were destroyed by fire. One business building was gutted. The electric lights failed after the first shock.

The rumbling of the earthquake could be plainly heard in Calexico, indicating that the center of the disturbance was nearby. The shocks, which were accompanied by tremendous outbursts of dust, did not follow any particular direction, but came from every angle. It was difficult at times for pedestrians to keep their footing.

Later reports from the Imperial Valley are that two distinct shocks were felt at Brawley and as far east as Yuma, Ariz., on the Mexican border. The first shock occurred at 8 P. M. and continued about a minute. The second shock, which occurred an hour later, lasted 45 seconds.

The wrecking of the high school at Brawley, which was the finest building in the valley, is reported.

Wind Blows Away Diamonds.

Muskogee, Okla.—A rain and wind storm here late Wednesday afternoon blew the front out of a jewelry store, sending 200 diamond rings rolling down a business street. Although the storm was at its height, a large crowd collected and began searching for the rings. The proprietor of the store and his clerks managed to recover many of the rings before the crowd arrived, but 30 stones, valued at \$2500, are still missing, and it is certain that many of them were gathered in by the industrious spectators.

Urges Fleet of 2000 Aeroplanes.

London.—H. G. Wells in an article in the Daily Express argues that a method for ending the war would be for the allies to build and send a tremendous fleet of aeroplanes to the rear of the German lines and destroy all the German ammunition factories. He contends that it would be cheaper to launch 2000 aeroplanes against Essen than to risk one battleship.

Aeroplanes Inverted; Engine Stops.

San Francisco.—While "Art" Smith, the Panama-Pacific Exposition aviator, was looping the loop at an altitude of 2500 feet the engine of his aeroplane stopped dead. He was at that time upside down. Smith volplaned down the entire distance and landed on the exposition grounds.

OREGON & CALIFORNIA LAND GRANT SALES ARE STOPPED

Washington, D. C.—By a unanimous decision rendered by Justice McKenna the United States Supreme court Tuesday rejected the contention of the government and of cross-complaints and of intervenors in the Oregon & California land grant suit; declined to decree forfeiture; held the actual settlers' clause to be an enforceable "covenant" and not a "condition subsequent," and in reversing the decree of Judge Wolverton enjoined the railroad company against further violation of the covenants. Going further, however, the court says:

"In view of such disregard of the covenants to gain illegal emolument, and in view of the government's interest in exact observance of them, it might seem that restriction upon the future conduct of the railroad company and its various agencies is an imperfect relief; but the government has not asked for more.

"We think, therefore, that the railroad company should not only be enjoined from sales in violation of the covenants, but enjoined from any disposition of the lands whatever or of the timber thereon and from cutting or authorizing the cutting or removal of any of the timber thereon until congress shall have a reasonable opportunity to provide by legislation for their disposition in accordance with such policy as it may deem fitting under the circumstances and at the same time secure to the defendants all the value the granting acts conferred upon the railroads.

"If congress does not make such provision the defendants may apply to the District Court within a reasonable time, not less than six months, from the entry of the decree herein, for a modification of so much of the injunction herein ordered as enjoins any disposition of the lands and timber until congress shall act, and the court in its discretion may modify the decree accordingly."

This last and unexpected feature of the decision, again throwing the land grant case into congress, simply means that the court did not feel the railroad company should go unpunished for its deliberate and repeated violations of the granting act. While the court holds the railroad company is still entitled to receive \$2.50 for each unsold acre of its grant, congress, having displayed its concern over violations of the granting act, is given opportunity to say how unsold lands shall be disposed of.

There is no restraint on congress, other than it must guarantee the railroad company \$2.50 an acre for every acre sold hereafter. Congress can make appropriation to pay the railroad this amount and assume full title to and do with the lands as it pleases; it can order the sale of the lands under any terms and conditions it deems proper, or it can authorize the railroad company to dispose of them in any way it may prescribe, just so long as the railroad company gets its \$2.50 an acre.

English House of Commons Makes Another Big War Appropriation

London.—The house of commons adjourned Wednesday after unanimously giving a first reading to the bill providing the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, Reginald McKenna, with a blank check which may amount, at a maximum, to £1,000,000,000 (\$5,000,000,000).

The vote of credit for £250,000,000 (\$1,250,000,000), passed last week by the house, simply authorized the government to spend that much for war purposes, but did not provide for the manner in which this sum should be raised. Wednesday's enactment was in the form of a resolution which empowers the government to raise not only the £250,000,000 deemed necessary to pay the cost of the war, at the rate of £5,000,000 sterling daily, for a limited period, but as much more as may be needed.

The chancellor of exchequer made a long explanation of the proposed loan, and in closing said that on the technical question as to the limit of the new loan it would be dangerous to disclose the necessity for not fixing any definite sum, and he added that the only figures he could put in the bill would be a maximum which would cover all requirements of the new loan.

France Seeks Money Here.

New York.—Negotiations now are in progress and may be brought to a favorable conclusion soon for an important loan in this country to assist the French government in the purchase of war munitions here, according to the Evening Post. The loan is being negotiated, it is stated, by influential private bankers in Paris and will be secured by a block of American railway bonds which are now owned in France. The loan may exceed \$50,000,000 and possibly run to \$75,000,000, it is said.

Sunspots Presage Storm.

St. Louis.—Remarkable sunspot activity was witnessed by astronomers at Christian Brothers' college Sunday. One hundred and fifty spots were seen by Brother Hubert, 33 more than were visible on Friday and Saturday.

Records kept at the college show that unusual weather disturbances have been followed by great sunspot activity and that a warning of sunspots has been followed by clear weather.

OREGON NEWS OF GENERAL INTEREST

Solving Western Mysteries.

Can any of your older readers, or descendants of the early pioneers, tell me about the mysterious savior of the Merrill train? It was a long train of ox teams on the Santa Fe trail in the sixties, crowded with the women and children of hardy pioneers. Attacked by an overwhelming force of Indians, the train was miraculously preserved.

For years I have been trying to collect the evidence of the survivors of a tragedy outrivalling the Mountain Meadow massacre. These people went on West. Some of them must still be living, or told the story to their descendants. If any such read these lines, will they kindly write me? Any other sightings upon pioneer days will be welcome from participants therein. The secret and unrecorded side of life when the West was new—its tragedies, heroisms, crimes, events—thrills with human interest, and should be noted down by the actors therein before they pass on. Collecting such original data is my recreation in the interludes of a busy life, which some time may prove useful in working up the unwritten history of the West.

Herbert Myrick, Editor Farm and Home, Chicago, Ill.

Benton Factory Pays.

Corvallis.—The Benton County Co-operative association, in annual meeting here, declared a 5 per cent dividend on all business transacted since January 1. This is the first dividend ever declared by the organization. Although the association has been in existence for more than two years, it has been engaged in actual business but 15 months. The profits of the association up to January 1 were only enough to pay the losses incurred during the first year of its existence. The net profits since January 1 amounted to \$1830, and the business transacted during the five months of this year aggregated \$28,000.

January 1 amount to \$1830, and the business transacted during the five months of this year aggregated \$28,000. The dividend will be on the gross sales and apply to all customers, whether stockholders or not, except that stockholders receive double dividends.

West Case Not Appealed.

Baker.—No appeal will be asked in the damage case of William Wiegand, Copperfield saloonkeeper, against ex-Governor West, James H. Nichols, attorney for Wiegand, has just announced. The 60 days allowed for an appeal from the verdict of the jury for Mr. West, given April 17, which has expired.

Two similar cases against the ex-governor, those of H. A. Stewart and Antone Warner, both of Copperfield, are pending, but Mr. Nichols has not decided whether he will bring them in to court. All three cases are for damages caused by taking of liquor from Copperfield saloons by the state militia, following Miss Fern Hobbs' visit in January, 1914.

Canned Salmon Prices Reduced.

Astoria.—The Columbia river packers have announced selling prices for the spring chinook canned salmon pack for the season of 1915 at the following rates per dozen, f. o. b. Astoria: Pound talls, \$1.90; pound flats, \$2; half-pound ovals, \$1.65; nominals, \$2.75; key cans, 5 cents per dozen. Compared with last year's prices, these figures are a reduction of 5 cents a dozen on talls and 10 cents a dozen or 40 cents a case on pound flats, while the price for half-pounds remains the same.

La Grande Chinese Freed.

La Grande.—Billie Eng and Charles Fong, Chinese, were acquitted of the charge of assault with intent to murder upon Wong Wook Duck, an aged Chinese resident of La Grande. The jury was out three hours, and there was jollification in the branch of Chinatown related or friendly to the released defendants. The accused Chinese had been in jail three months, and after their release the boys, for they are under 26, fairly ran down town followed by a dozen gesticulating friends.

Seaside Orders Lights.

Seaside.—Seaside's mayor was authorized by the city council to enter into a contract with the light company here for a system of streamer lights for the entire length of Broadway, the principal street leading to the beach, and also for several blocks of the cross streets in the business portion of the city. The lights will be burned throughout the summer. The idea was conceived by the Commercial club. The street is improved by hard-surface pavement and concrete sidewalks.

Milk Medal for Portland.

San Francisco.—Portland was awarded the gold medal for the largest number of milk exhibits at the Panama-Pacific International exposition. The other awards were not announced but things look well for a general Portland victory in this department.

Six Quit Albany Faculty.

Albany.—Six members of the Albany College faculty will retire at the end of the present school year. All have resigned their positions voluntarily, some to take positions elsewhere and some to retire from teaching.

Boys Go To College.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.—For the third time a number of boys of the grade schools of Oregon are taking the short course in agriculture at the State college. As in previous years the boys enjoy the work as well as profit by it. The preceding sessions were successful from the standpoint of all concerned. Regular hours were observed and the customary boys' rules enforced. The big brother idea was worked out by assigning each group of ten boys to a student instructor who became responsible for their conduct and general welfare.

The boys show great interest in their work and while there are as usual a few cases of homesickness among the smaller boys, they are invariably glad they came and are sorry to leave at the end of the term. Aside from the value of the work in the regular courses there are many advantages in the trip to the college town, the experience of being away from home and living on a college campus. "While any boy in the state is eligible," says Director E. D. Reesler, "care should be exercised in approval. Boys of good habits, trustworthy and eager to learn are especially desired. There is no room for the cigarette smoker or the loafer, but a wide-awake up-to-date American boy is a lively animal and is not expected to be as dignified as a college professor. There are plenty of good lively sports and ample opportunity is given for working off excess animal spirits.

"The object of the course is to furnish the boys interesting information that will be of practical use to them immediately, and give them appreciation of the vast extent of their subjects and encourage them to pursue their investigations further."

Coo's Bay Mills Open.

Marshfield.—There is a general improvement in business conditions in the Coo's Bay district, and although it has not been marked it is of such nature that it is readily recognized.

Within the past five weeks three logging camps have resumed work, giving employment to about 200 men; a fourth camp opened and employs 20 men; a fifth camp is to open immediately after the Fourth of July and will employ 50 men; the Coo's Bay Mill company will start operations the next week after the Fourth of July and will need about 40 employees; the Warren Construction company is laying nine blocks of paving in the city of North Bend and is working a large crew; laying of steel on the Willamette-Pacific started June 18, and a crew of 30 men will be busy for several months working the tracks towards Lakeside and tunnel No. 7; several piling camps are busy filling orders for the Willamette-Pacific bridge on Coo's Bay, and in general lumbering is much alive.

Sawmills operating on Coo's Bay include the large C. A. Smith plant, the Bay City mill, belonging to the same company, the Simpson mill at Porter, the Swayne & Hoyt mill at North Bend, all the planing mills and shingle mills of the Smith company, and the Allen shingle mill at North Bend.

There is a probability that the Macleay mill on Rogues River will be opened on full time this fall and in that event there would be a demand for at least 100 men.

The coal industry is expected to gain added impetus within a few weeks, as many contracts are being secured.

Four Are Trapped in Fire.

Baker.—Four persons had narrow escapes from a fire that destroyed the residence of Mrs. Eliza Carroll, of North Union, Monday.

John Donovan rushed into a room of the blazing house to save some household articles. The door slammed shut and there being no knob he was unable to get out. After vainly groping in the smoke to escape he cried for help and was rescued when nearly suffocated. He was severely burned about the face and hands.

Mrs. Carroll and her two sons were asleep when the blaze started from an unknown cause in the kitchen. The fire had a good headway before the smokes awakened them and they were barely able to escape. All are ill from the effects, and Donovan's condition is serious.

\$12,500 Bond Issue Voted.

Oregon City.—The towns of Gladstone, Parkplace, Jennings Lodge and Clackamas will have a union high school sooner or later, as a result of the favorable action of the voters of these places in favoring the \$12,500 bond issue, with many votes to spare, the vote cast being 164 for and only 67 against. Harvey Cross has donated three acres in Gladstone Park for the building, construction on which will start as soon as the Circuit Court passes on a contest started by some residents of Jennings Lodge, who opposed the proposition.

Beaverton Votes Bonds.

Beaverton.—Beaverton Wednesday voted a bond issue of \$23,500 to build a high school, the vote for the measure carrying two to one, and by a three-to-one vote the citizens declared themselves in favor of establishing a high school course in the school system here. F. H. Davis was elected school director by a three-to-one vote, Mr. Davis favoring the new high school plans as opposed to two other candidates. Clerk C. E. Hedge was re-elected. One hundred and twenty-four votes were cast.

AMERICAN SUBMARINES IN PRACTICE WORK



Above, the crew of U. S. submarine H-2 hoisting aboard a spent practice torpedo during the maneuvers off San Pedro, Cal. Below is submarine H-3 rising to the surface after a dive.

TRIESTE BOMBARDED BY THE ITALIANS



View of the harbor of Trieste, the capital of Istria, which the Italian artillery has begun to bombard from a point near the mouth of the Isonzo river.

NEAR STARVATION IN MEXICO



Here is a timely picture showing to what measures the civilian population of Mexico has to resort in order to keep itself from actual starvation. Poor Mexican women with empty market baskets are seen thronging about one of the army food supply depots, where they are given barely enough to keep body and soul together.

SOLDIERS' LAUNDRY AT ST. RAPHAEL



French colonial troops doing their own laundry work in the sea at St. Raphael.

WAR HOSPITAL DISINFECTOR



Device used for the disinfecting of bedding and clothing at the duchess of Westminster's hospital at Le Touquet, France.

Revenge in the Kitchen.
"Walter, I want to thank you for this soup. It is richer and thicker than any I ever had here before."
"Yes, sir. Just confidentially, sir, the chef had a row with the boss and the way he's wasting stuff is a caution."