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WHOLE NUMBER 1579.

No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

FIFTY TOTS INCINERATED WHEN FIRE DESTROYS MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL

St. John's Parochial Institution at Peabody Burns, and Half a Hundred Children Perish in the Flames, While Others Are Injured by Jumping From Upper Story Windows of a Building Not Equipped With Fire Escapes

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Peabody, Mass., Oct. 28.—Fifty lives were snuffed out today and 12 persons will die as the result of a fire which swept the tinder-like St. John's parochial school today, according to the estimates of firemen and physicians on the scene at 1:30 this afternoon.

Mothers, temporarily insane with grief; half-naked, crying children, rushing wildly in the midst of the crowds about the building; a score of broken, charred little bodies stretched in a row on the ground, while the ruins smoldered and smoked—such was the scene as firemen delved among the charred timbers for more bodies.

Twenty-one had been recovered during the forenoon. Many were burned to a crisp, others were trampled by their playmates in the mad rush to escape.

Panic Follows Alarm

The fire swept the building just as school opened. Panic followed. Somber, black-garbed nuns tried in vain to send the children out under the fire drill, but the flames and choking smoke prevented. Wild disorder ensued. Some children jumped into improvised life nets; others jumped to the ground.

Every ambulance in the city was rushed to the school. They were intended to care for injured children, but scores of mothers, who had sent their children, laughing, to school, a brief time before, required the aid of physicians and nurses. Women raved as they found charred flesh, once their children.

Shrieking children called pitifully for their parents as they dashed from the burning building. This added to the pandemonium. Hysterical mothers clasped their children in their arms, happy to find them safe. Others broke down in a frenzy of grief when they learned the flames or the pitiless heels of companions had killed their little ones.

Firemen and police, accustomed to pathetic scenes, broke down and wept. Their work was heroic. Braving death, they rushed into the furnace and brought forth bodies, but the fire blocked their ascent to the upper floors, and then the remnants of stairways and floors crashed through to the basement, carrying with them—none knows how many—bodies. Shells of the burned walls threatened to tumble momentarily.

More Bodies in the Ruins

Meantime a more thorough search for bodies will be impossible in the seething ruins until they cool. The water pressure was so poor that it was ten minutes after the hose was coupled before water was thrown into the blazing building. By that time the flames had already taken their toll.

Help was summoned from Salem and Lynn because the local authorities feared a spread to other structures.

The first firemen on the scene had to fight their way through throngs of children who had escaped from the building. Hysterical, their clothing stripped off in their mad rush, sobbing and some of them fainting, they clutched the firemen and begged them to save their playmates.

Sister Aldagon (Sacred Heart) proved herself a heroine when, with the flames roaring up behind her, she rescued 25 children by dropping them from a window into the outstretched arms of men below. Some of them she had to throw out of the window by main force, for they clung to her skirts. Twice the smoke hid her. But each time it cleared and

she was seen swinging another child over the sill.

The other 15 nuns, too, worked with rare courage. One broke away after she had been rescued, and shouted for some one to aid the ones trapped on the third floor. Sheets of flame, however, made it impossible for firemen to climb the ladders.

Sister Carmelita Marie, the superior, is gathering statistics, but it is impossible to get full figures. Those who escaped went home, the injured were taken to hospitals or homes, while neighbors harbored many temporarily.

Burned Beyond Recognition

The ages of the dead children ranged from 8 to 12 years. Nine of the charred, crushed forms could not be recognized.

Six hundred and seventy-two children were just preparing to go to classes when a sizzling smoke. She found the lower hall wrapped in flames, and at once sounded the fire alarm.

As calmly as she could, so as not to alarm her wards, the black-robed nun told the pupils to leave by the side doors. For a few moments, while they were in the class rooms, the children maintained perfect order.

Then, as they marched into the halls, a thick, hot smoke poured toward them, and the flames crackled nearby. Terror seized the sisters and the children simultaneously. Seeing their charges helpless, the teachers ordered them to break ranks. As they did so a rush for doors and windows followed.

Below the town's folk had already gathered. They besought the white-

(Continued on page 2)

BUSINESS HOUSES MUST CLOSE ON SUNDAY SAYS JUDGE

Portland, Oct. 28.—That there is a law in Oregon compelling the closing on Sunday of practically every place of business is the decision today of District Judge Dayton.

The judge upheld the validity of the law when he fined Dan Kelleher \$25 for keeping his grocery store open on the Sabbath day.

Kelleher has declared he will appeal the case until it reaches the supreme court of the United States if the lower tribunals decide against him, on the ground that the law constitutes class legislation.

The law was passed in 1864 and lay dormant until resurrected several months ago through the arrest and conviction of a Eugene tobacco dealer. His case was appealed to the supreme court of Oregon, which found against him.

Because of its antiquity the law presents many incongruities, it has been pointed out. Livery stables, butcher shops, bakeries and drug stores may remain open, but garages and groceries must close; regular theaters may remain open, but every other form of amusement, including baseball, is barred.

THE BRITISH CRUISER ARGYLL IS STRANDED

London, Oct. 28.—The British cruiser Argyll is stranded on the east coast of Scotland. Bad weather drowns her ashore, and it is feared she will be a total wreck. Her crew was saved.

NOBODY BLAMED IN REPORT ON THE SUBMARINE F-4

Washington, Oct. 28.—Nobody to blame.

This, in brief, tells the story of the report by the official board of inquiry into the F-4 submarine disaster at Honolulu. The only thing wrong about the ill-starred submarine was that her lead battery lining was faulty, some rivets were loose and that she dived the wrong way.

That was why 21 men lost their lives. Fifteen of them, the report said, died in the engine room, where they sought refuge when the ocean flooded their craft; six others died at their posts in the forward compartment.

None of them was to blame, the report held. Nor did it place responsibility on any one.

JOHN BULL NOW TROUBLED OVER BALKAN AFFAIRS

London, Oct. 13 (By Mail to New York).—The Teuton thrust in the Balkans is taken more seriously by England than any other phase of the world war. It has made her realize that while, as an island people with the biggest fleet in the world, she is practically immune from direct attack, the empire is open to indirect assaults of more vital import than an actual landing in England.

Without doubt Germany's ultimate aim is Egypt and India. It is estimated that 1,000,000 Turks are awaiting the munitions Germany will furnish as soon as Serbia is crushed. Besides this, success in the Balkans will immediately solve for Germany the question of securing copper, cotton, corn and other raw products which she seriously needs.

Unfortunately for England, the danger to Egypt and India concerns the British alone. There is no threat against her allies.

England must still do her part in Europe and yet meet the new peril almost alone.

DETECTIVES HUNT FOR HIGHER-UPS IN NEW YORK BOMB CONSPIRACY

(By United Press Leased Wire.)

New York, Oct. 28.—Arrest of the quintet in the German bomb conspiracy case has only dipped "the froth off the whole matter," a high government official today told the United Press. Their detention crystallized months of untiring work by 85 picked detectives from the office of the collector of the port under the direction of George Lamb.

These men combed the water front. They kept watchful eyes on every vessel and followed closely every suspect. For weeks they waited to land men higher up than Robert Fay, former German army officer and confessed plotter, and the other four now under arrest. But, as their prey did not materialize, the detectives feared to take further chances, so arrested Fay and his alleged co-conspirators.

That the fountainhead of the gigantic conspiracy to wreck munitions steamers supplied unlimited resources is the belief of the men engaged on the case. They say that Fay alone spent \$30,000 and that the

SUGAR BEET MEETING WILL BE HELD TONIGHT

The citizens of this community are urged by the committee in charge of the campaign for sugar beet acreage to be present at a mass meeting to be held at the Commercial club rooms tonight. So vital is this question that the presence of every loyal citizen of the district is demanded, and the present status of the beet proposition will be thoroughly gone into. The meeting is not for the purpose of signing acreage, but is simply an effort to enlist the cooperation of all our people in this project that means so much to Grants Pass and to southern Oregon. The campaign has reached a critical stage and every energy must now be bent toward the success which spells "industry, payroll and better times."

The request for attendance is to YOU personally. If you leave it to the other fellow, failure will be the result.

TEUTON HOSTS ARE CROWDING SERBS ON THREE SIDES

Vienna, Oct. 28.—Serbia's defenders are being ground beneath an irresistible offensive, smashing down its way southward along a 100-mile front. At the same time the Austrians have gained the western frontier, while the Bulgarians control the eastern. Having joined hands at Ljubicevac, west of Brsa Palanka, in the northeastern tip of Serbia, the central allies and Bulgarians are consolidating their positions preparatory to sending supply shipments to Turkey. They yet have the task of getting stronger and wider control of the railroad to Saloniki, if they would send their victorious legions to Constantinople and open the gateway to new and needed supplies.

The official statement today said: "Advancing on both sides of the Morava, the Germans have taken heights south of the Raca. They are advancing in the Mlava valley."

"We ejected the enemy from the heights of Topola with the bayonet. The Orsova army entered Brsa Palanka. The Bulgarians occupied Knjazevac. They stormed Drenovglava, the key to the Pirat fortifications."

"East of Visegrad, besides occupying Dobra we have captured heights north of Milanovac mountain. The fighting continues."

England came in for its share of blame for the present crisis. Her course towards the Balkans and her failure to send a strong force into that territory are declared to have contributed to making her responsible in the eyes of the French for the present upset.

PORTLAND JUDGE FINES HIMSELF IN OWN COURT

Portland, Oct. 28.—Municipal Judge Stevenson today fined himself \$5 for driving an automobile without a light. The judge arrested himself last night, released himself on his own recognizance, filed a complaint against himself today, arraigned himself and assessed the fine.

ASK CARRANZA TO HELP STOP BORDER RAIDS

Washington, Oct. 28.—Governor Ferguson of Texas today wired President Wilson asking him to urge General Carranza to do everything possible to stop border raids by Mexican bandits. The White House explained that its previous announcement that Ferguson has asked more troops was an unintentional error.

CABINET OF FRANCE HAS RESIGNED

Dissatisfaction Over Progress of the War Causes Formation of Entire New Body of National Advisers

Paris, Oct. 28.—The French cabinet resigned today.

Following Premier Viviani's tender of his resignation the entire body followed, and Aristide Briand, for many years prominent in the councils of France, was asked by President Poincare to form a new cabinet.

Back of the resignation loomed the story of France's dissatisfaction with war developments. The people disapproved of the failure to progress in the west and the failure of the allied diplomats to win Bulgaria over to their side. This failure forced French aid in the Balkans.

The crisis has been brewing for some days. The resignation of Foreign Minister Delcasse was the first outward sign of trouble. Viviani at that time assumed Delcasse's post in addition to his own.

The resignations in toto, however, came as somewhat of a surprise. France saw in it the possibility, too, of an upset in the English cabinet, and some quarters hinted it may mean the inauguration of a new policy which will have a marked effect on the war.

The chamber of deputies held a stormy session after the resignations today, but adjourned at the request of Viviani until tomorrow. This halted a discussion of the cabinet crisis.

Meantime, M. Briand will work on his selections for posts in the new body. They are likely to be:

Briand, premier and minister of foreign affairs.

Jules Cambon, general secretary. M. de Freycinet, vice-president of the cabinet.

M. Viviani, minister of justice.

General Gallieni, minister of war. Admiral LaCase, minister of marine.

M. Ribot, minister of finance.

M. Doumergue, colonies.

M. Painlevé, minister of education and invention, a newly created post.

Bourgeois, Combes, Denys-Cochin and Jules Guesde without portfolios.

In this crisis France considered the situation grave, for affairs admittedly need strong direction at this time.

GERMANY IS SHORT ON SOME FOODSTUFFS

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Berlin, via Wireless to Sayville, Oct. 28.—In a meeting between Chancellor von Bethman-Hollweg and representatives of all parties of the reichstag, it was agreed that while there is enough food in Germany, the quantity of certain kinds is less than in peace times and price regulation by the government is necessary to insure equal distribution. Potatoes are plentiful.

WORTHINGTON KELLY, ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD SON OF T. D. KELLY, DROWNED BELOW OLD DAM WEDNESDAY EVENING

Again has the Rogue taken its toll of human life, this time it having claimed as its own Worthington Kelly, a lad not 11 years of age, who was swept down its current late Wednesday evening, the body not being recovered till 11 o'clock this morning.

Worthington, the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Kelly, who live in the house on the west side of Sixth street and on the banks of the river, had been fishing during the afternoon with his friend, Harold Briggs, of the same age. Just before six o'clock the barefooted boys attempted to cross the old dam over which the water rushes in places. They had proceeded nearly half way when at one of the spillways in the old structure where the water poured over, coming nearly to the knees of the boys, both lost their footing on the slippery timbers and were swept into the deeper water below. The accident was witnessed from the steel bridge above the dam by Mrs. Kelly, Worthington's mother. She noted that the boys were having difficulty in making their way across the dam and called to them to stand still just before they disappeared in the waters.

Young Briggs says that when they went down the chute into the rapids below he saw his friend for a time and attempted to reach him. Being unable to do this, he swam down the stream and landed on the south bank and was badly chilled and much excited when he reached the bridge. Searchers at once sought to recover the body of "Worthy," but darkness made the work difficult, though nets were spread and the pool below the dam was dragged time and again. The hunt for the body of the unfortunate boy was continued until about 11 o'clock this forenoon, when it was found in four feet of water about a quarter of a mile below the dam, it having been carried down by the current into the rapids where it was recovered by Gysbert Harvey.

The drowned lad would have been 11 years of age on the 12th day of next December, and was born in Heppner, Oregon. He came here with his parents about six months ago, his father being employed in selling the Watkins remedies about the country. This is the second drowning to occur in the family, another boy, then about 12 years of age, having lost his life in the Heppner flood in 1903. Mrs. Kelly lost 12 relatives, including the son, her mother and a sister in that disaster, and the shock of the present loss is especially severe for her.

Arrangements for the funeral have not yet been made, but will await word from relatives at Portland and Heppner.

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