

BURNS HAS DESTRUCTIVE FIRE—LOSS ESTIMATED \$100,000

MOST DISASTROUS IN HISTORY OF THE TOWN

Blaze Covered Considerable Area, Destroying Eighteen Business Places, Seven Additional Occupied Homes, One Warehouse, Christian Science Church Rooms, 27 Horses, Harness Rigs. Many Buildings Damaged

Practically sufficient property was destroyed on Sunday night to have installed the proposed water and sewer system in Burns. It was the first disastrous conflagration in the history of the town and one that will long be remembered. One entire block besides several business houses in the adjoining block together with three residences were consumed in a short time.

Shortly before midnight on Sunday night the alarm was turned in and those who were awakened were greeted with one of the fiercest blazes ever seen in the town. Fire had started in the R. J. McKinnon & Son livery and feed barn and almost before those who were sleeping in the barn could get out the entire building was a mass of flames and it was impossible to save anything to speak of. Ben Hull cut several head of horses loose but only a few were gotten out and the charred remains of 27 animals are now in the ruins.

Within 20 minutes from the time the alarm was sounded almost if not all the wooden buildings in the block were in flames and the heat was so intense that it was with heroic efforts the buildings on the opposite side of the street were saved. Had it not been for the stone and brick buildings there would have been really none of the business section saved. As it was there were 24 business houses damaged by the heat and water besides the 18 business places that were entirely consumed.

The flames spread very rapidly from the barn to the building on the corner of Main street across from The Times-Herald building,

the building owned by Mrs. Lelah Miller just south was next and almost at the same time the French hotel and the Levens building were ignited. It was impossible to get anything to speak of out of these as the flames traveled so rapidly and the heat was so great that no one could work.

From this block the fire jumped across the street south to a two-story wood building back of the Harney County National Bank which was used as a sleeping annex by the Burns hotel. This went down like tinder and the warehouse of N. Brown & Sons just east of this, used to store flour in was destroyed and the wood buildings, two in number adjoining the bank on the south on main street were next caught. It was hoped the stone wall of the Chas. Bedell saloon next would stop the onward rush of flames but a window in the side next the wood buildings permitted the flames entering this and then the roof caught. The adjoining stone owned by Geo. Fry had formerly occupied by the U. S. land office was next and on account of the frailness and combustible nature of the roof it went down almost as rapidly as the wooden structures. The post office building was next and there the onward path of flames was checked, right at the door of the News office the door in the north of this office was burned so that it fell in but the office was saved together with the contents of this and the post office.

The residences across the street east of the livery barn were also consumed, three in number, all occupied. The

Lampshire Garage, a corrugated iron building, just across the street north from the livery barn was in danger at first, that is the openings next to the burning building were such that it was feared they would permit the fire entering and catching inside, but this was averted by hard work. The office and home of Dr. Brown on the corner was also watched and kept from igniting. The Brenten & Hicks saloon building on the opposite side of Main street, as well as the restaurant of George Foon, being of wood was also a menace to the safety of that side of the street but the Jenkins saloon building being only one story it was not so hard to hold the flames from these as the heat was not so intense.

The hardest work during the conflagration seemed to be the saving of the Burns hotel opposite the Levens building. This structure was on fire several times but heroic work and the tenacity of a few men who stayed on the roof in spite of heat, saved it. The glass in the front of the N. Brown & Sons stone store building were all broken from the heat and permitted the fire entering the show windows. The goods caught two different times but the fire was extinguished. The roof or rather the cornice on the top of this building also caught two or three times but men on the roof put it out.

The places consumed were: R. J. McKinnon & Son, barn and contents, including five head of horses, rigs, harness, feed, etc., \$9,000, insurance \$3500; N. Brown & Sons, five frame buildings, one occupied by T. Jenkins as a saloon, a two-story frame structure back of the Harney County National Bank, occupied as a sleeping annex by the Burns hotel, one story frame to the east of that occupied as a flour warehouse, two frames south of the bank occupied by W. T. Lester as a real estate office, a China restaurant, J. J. Pattersons law office, W. L. Blott insurance, \$6,000 partially insured, but the contents of the warehouse consisting of flour, etc., had no insurance; Tom Jenkins, stock and saloon fixtures \$2,000, no insurance; Mrs. Millar frame building occupied by the Prairie-Burns Stage Co. as an office, also living rooms by Wm. Foren, agent, and the Burns-Bend Auto Stage lines, D. M. McDade agent, \$2,000, no insurance.

French hotel \$6,000, insurance \$3,000. Dave Newman, lessee of the hotel, furniture and provisions \$2,200, no insurance. J. W. Crawford, in the Levens building, saloon, fixtures and stock, \$2,000, insurance \$1,500. H. C. Levens, two-story frame building, \$8,000, insurance \$4,000. Sullivan and Musick, pool rooms in the Levens building, equipment and stock \$3,000, insurance \$1,500. Christian Science church rooms in the Levens building, all contents, loss not estimated. Fred Clingan, living rooms and millinery store of Mrs. Clingan, stock and household goods \$1,000 no insurance. Dell Dibble, furniture in sleeping annex, not estimated. W. T. Lester, real estate office

with contents, \$300. Yee Hong, restaurant, in one of the Brown buildings, \$1,000, no insurance. J. J. Patterson and W. L. Blott, furniture etc. in offices in Brown Building, loss not estimated. C. A. Bedell, stone saloon building, fixtures and stock, \$13,000 partially insured. Marvin McGee, barber shop in Bedell building, \$350, partially insured. Geo. Fry, stone building occupied by Donegan & Loggan, Harney County Abstract Co., Frank Davey and Chas. W. Ellis, law offices, \$3,000, insured. G. H. Kollenbach, one residence occupied by Frank Ellis and daughter, \$2,000 no insurance. Frank Ellis, furniture and household goods, \$250, no insurance.

Joaquin Berdugo, two residences occupied by Andrew Irwin and Ira Davis, \$2,000 no insurance. Both Irwin and Davis lost some household goods, the former considerable provisions. W. E. Sullivan and wife lost their household goods and wearing apparel. They occupied living rooms on the second floor of the Levens building. A stone warehouse in the rear of the block back of the post office belonging to C. H. Leonard was also somewhat damaged, though not bad. This was used by the Burns Packing Plant and was filled with cured meats, some of which was ruined but no estimate was made of the damage. Wm. Foren, household goods, \$250 no insurance.

In addition to this Fred Clingan lost a valuable team and harness, Phil Smith a valuable mare, Rev. Lauree lost two fine horses, John Eberlee and Ben Brown each a nice single driver, Mr. Dalzel, a deputy inspector connected with the State Labor Commission lost a team he had recently hired from a livery out on the railroad. Many rigs including the hearse, harness, etc., the actual loss not being estimated. The Electric Light & Power Co., are damaged to the amount of about \$500.

Almost every business house along the line of the fire on the opposite side of the street was damaged to more or less extent, some expensive plate glass windows were broken, etc. The actual damage in all will reach at least \$100,000.

This is a conflagration that had been expected for many years and it was only a question as to where it would stop. The block where the fire started has long been considered a trap for such and it has prevented substantial improvements not only in that block but those adjoining. While the individual loss is heavy and a regret to all it is a relief that now substantial buildings will be erected on the ruins and a better business section built up. Most of the property owners have stated they will rebuild, but it isn't likely much will be done along that line this fall. This will depend upon the settlement of the insurance companies, however, to some extent.

Chas. Ellis, Donegan & Loggan, the Abstract Co., and Pat-

erson have secured quarters in the Masonic building. Frank Davey is in the room occupied by Pearl Fisk at the post office for the present. G. A. Rembold, who had offices in the back part of the Harney County National building moved to The Times-Herald building. The Bank stood with the fire on three sides of it but the doors and windows on the north suffered much, the plate glass being broken and the doors burned. The fire entered the building on the roof but was extinguished. Mr. Rembold's office was badly damaged. W. T. Lester moved across the street in one of the office rooms in A. W. Gowans' building. J. W. Crawford secured the old Trisch & Donegan building on the corner and will soon open his saloon again. Marvin McGee will have quarters fixed up in the Burns hotel for his barber shop and will be ready for business in a few days. R. J. McKinnon & Son have other stable room and ample corrals and are fixed to care for their customers without delay. They have feed on hand and their many customers may feel assured of the best of care for their animals by calling upon Mr. McKinnon.

The city council met Thursday night and instructed the recorder to have an ordinance drawn prohibiting any but stone, brick or steel buildings being erected within two blocks on either side of Main street.

The vault in the old land office building in which valuable papers and records belonging to the Abstract Co. and Donegan & Loggan, stood the fire and when opened the contents were found intact and uninjured.

The Times-Herald certainly commends the fire fighting spirit shown by the people. It was some of the greatest work ever witnessed at a fire and it was not confined to a few but almost every man woman and child in Burns, the stranger as well as the home citizen, rendered help. Some of the work was dangerous and the boys who had charge of the engines and hose suffered much from exposure to the heat and climbing on roofs that were in flames. It was remarkable the way the fire was handled and many strangers commended the volunteer work. The fire boys were right on the job all the time and the new gasoline engine did effective work. Had there been about two more it was possible the block south of the pool hall might have been saved but it required all of the paraphernalia on hand to keep the fire from the west side of the street.

A few received minor hurts during the excitement, but none were of a serious nature. Many small blazes were started in the residence portion of town to the southeast of the fire where the sparks and flying pieces of partly burned pieces of wood were blown by the wind. Men and women were out watch for this and they were put out at once. One residence building on the corner southeast of the Levens building caught on the roof but was put out.

New Malady Among Live Stock of State

Dr. W. H. Lytle, State Veterinarian, has a long article in the last Rural Spirit respecting a new disease that may solve the rabbit pest. He says in part: Within the past two weeks there has come under our investigation a new malady affecting cattle, which carries a high death rate and resists practically all efforts at medical intervention. The disease is known by the rather aristocratic sounding name of Hemorrhagic Septicemia, meaning as its name would indicate an acute blood poisoning of an infectious nature, characterized by hemorrhages both into the tissues of the body and on the exterior surface.

Hemorrhagic Septicemia is caused by an organism that exists widely distributed in nature and, generally speaking, is not of disease producing proclivities. From some unknown process, this ordinarily harmless organism takes on a disease producing power, either through a decreased resistance on the part of the animal or an increased virulence on the part of the organism. It multiplies in the system, gains entrance into the blood stream and in some manner breaks down the small venules, causing hemorrhages into the body tissues and from the membranes lining the natural openings of the body, such as the rectum, nose and mouth, and occasionally the vaginal orifice. The presence of the organism in the blood at once sets up a fever of great severity, causing in the animal a most profound exhaustion, accompanied with chills and increased pulse; the muzzle is cold and dry. The appetite fails, rumination is suspended and milk secretion suddenly stops.

Rabbits, domestic and wild water fowls, deer and buffalo are all susceptible to this infection. It is more than possible that the present rabbit infection of central Lake county is of this type of infection.

When to Crowd Pigs.

There are two stages in the life of a pig that is being raised for market that demand plenty of good feed if the pig is made to reach the best market weight when in the best finished condition," says R. E. Reynolds, Extension livestock specialist of the Oregon Agricultural College. "These two stages are at weaning time, and when the pig has reached the hundred-pound weight and is ready to be fed for market. Good pasture is a valuable adjunct to more concentrated feed, but cannot take the place of it at these times. Alfalfa is especially good, since it enables the pigs better to digest their other feed. But if the weanlings are not given grain they seldom produce well-shaped animals, and unless the heavy grain feeding is begun at the right time the finished state and the market weight are not reached at the same time. If grain feeding is delayed too long the pigs are not finished when they reach the 200-pound weight, and if begun too soon they reach the well finished stage before they are the right weight. A good many farmers increase the cost of production by failing to observe these two points in raising their market pigs."

RAILROAD EXTENSION UNDER CONSIDERATION

Consulting Engineer of Harriman Lines Visits Riverside in Company With Chief Engineer Stradley and Will Make Report. Encouraging Prospects Indicated by News Reports

Mr. Adams, Consulting engineer over all Harriman lines, with offices in New York City, was out Tuesday of this week and made an investigation of the new line to Riverside and looked into the question of completing the line on to Harney county in the immediate future. He spent nearly the whole day in this part of the country, but nothing could be learned as to the likelihood of further extension at this time, although it is conceded that in a very few weeks the result of his visit to the front will be known either one way or the other.

Citizens of Juntura endeavored to impress upon Mr. Adams the great good that would come to the country west of here if the line was continued, also pointing out to him the immense tonnage that this line would acquire as soon as the road hit Harney Valley. Mr. Adams listened to the facts as they were given him and assured us that this phase of the situation would receive due consideration when he reported to the Board of Directors. This is the first move that the railroad people have made toward getting right down to business on the question of extension, and the outcome of Mr. Adams visit will be watched with a great deal of interest.—Juntura Times.

The Ontario Democrat says: Monday evening Carl Stradley, chief engineer of the Oregon Short Line, came from Nampa

in his car and went out on the Juntura branch to examine the newly constructed road from Juntura to Riverside. With him were E. C. Brooks, assistant superintendent, Glenn H. Trout, bridge engineer, and A. A. Allen, consulting engineer of the Harriman lines. The object was to pass upon the construction work and decide whether the work done should be accepted prior to continuing the extension of the line west from Riverside.

Market Report.

Receipts for last week at the Portland Union Stock Yards have been cattle, 1468; calves, 30; hogs, 2489; sheep, 3833. Heavy receipts of cattle this week. Extreme top steers on Monday's market \$7.15, with medium stuff ranging from 6.50 to 7.00. Cows 5.75 to 6.00; Choice heifers 6.25 to 6.50; Bulls 4.00, light veal calves 8.00 to 8.50. Hog receipts not overly heavy for the week. There are plenty of hogs in the country on feed, but it will be three weeks before they are turned off. Best grade of light hogs sold 9.00 to 9.25. The tone in the sheep could not be improved. Fancy Washington lambs 6.00, wethers 5.00 and ewes 4.35. The run was of average size but buying demand was steady enough to keep prices at a top level.

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