

Fearful Fires Devastating Oregon Forests.

PORTLAND AND WILLAMETTE VALLEY

UNDER A PALL OF SMOKE

Columbia River Logging Camps Burned Out With all Their Rigging

BOOTH-KELLY LUMBER COMPANY ALSO LOSING

FINE TIMBER ... WOODS DRIER THAN EVER

Bridal Veil Sawmill goes up in Flames—Paper Mills Destroyed—Forests Drier than for Many Years and Big Trees go up Like Paper Only Hope is in a Heavy Rain—Otherwise Damage will be Fearful.

Portland, Or. Sept. 12—The forest fire situation is the most serious in the history of the city. The flames are approaching from all directions. Ashes continue to fall, and the wind is rising. Fires are reported up and down the river. The lumber mills at Bridal Veil have been destroyed.

Oregon City and vicinity are suffering heavily.

Many houses in Clackamas county are burned and hundreds of head of cattle killed.

At Gresham the fires are burning worse than yesterday. The entire lower Columbia river is under a heavy pall of smoke. The O. R. & N. bridge at Multnomah Falls has been destroyed.

The railroad crews all through the Cascades have a life and death fight on their hands to protect the lines from destruction.

There is a great probability of all train service too and from this city being disorganized if the wind rises any more.

Fires in the river bottoms and on the mountain sides are darkening the air so

that steamers and trains must be lighted as in a dark night.

These fires not in the forest reserves are not where they can be fought or controlled and the question of how far they shall be allowed to spread is hard to solve.

The only hope is rain, as the forests of the whole country west of the Cascade mountains was never so dry as this fall.

Trains on the Northern Pacific between Kalama and Portland are run in a raging sea of flames. On both sides the bottom lands are afire and the hills south for 10 miles are swept with flames.

The trains on this road and the Astoria line had to be lighted all day in running through this region.

The fires lap up the tops of big trees like whips of paper, and falling trunks and crashing limbs keep up a noise like artillery on a field of battle.

The wind created by the flames is terrific as a hurricane sweeping the fires in this direction all day Thursday.

On Friday the ashes from the burning trunks have been sitting down in the city of Portland and the air has been super

heated. The warmth is oppressive to the eyes and lungs and parches the lips of people who are out in it.

There is great danger that bridges and culvert and even tracks may be burned.

The Willamette pulp and paper mill at Skamokawa has been destroyed, entailing a heavy loss.

Newport, Or., Sept. 13—Nothing like this has been known in Oregon since the great fire that swept through the Yaquina Bay country sixty years ago.

Newport is surrounded on the north and east by heavy brush fires.

A brush fire swept down on Seal Rock resort, burning several seaside cottages this morning. There is a damp fog today and it will probably rain before night.

The fire at Seal Rock is reported out.

Oregon City, Sept. 12—This city is completely surrounded by fires unparalleled in this section. The fire started at noon yesterday and destroyed 3000 cords of wood in a wood camp.

At the paper mill on the west side nothing is left standing.

Several hundred men fought the fire all night. Thousands of cords of wood are still in danger.

The Oregon City fire department fought all night in Beattie's addition, finally getting the fire under control. Unless the wind freshens no further damage is feared from this fire.

A fire three miles north threatens the property of the Gladstone Real Estate Co, and also the residence of B. Jennings. The latter lost half his orchard last night and only by hard fighting

saved his houses and other buildings.

Eugene, Or. Sept. 12—They are no serious fires in this vicinity although there must be fire in the mountains, as the air is very smoky here. Two or three fires are reported up the McKenzie but no serious danger is apprehended.

Wendling, Sept. 12—A forest fire is raging near this place.

The entire force of the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company's saw mill and logging camps have been out fighting fire since early this morning. The fires are burning some of the company's finest standing timber.

Astoria, Sept. 12—Forest fires in the vicinity of Oak Point have reached large proportions and have already done great damage with the prospect of being largely increased unless there is a heavy rain soon.

The fire originated at the ranch of Gus. Larson near Oak Point, who started it against the advice of neighbors.

The fire was soon beyond control and began to consume the timber of the Benson logging company. After it had threatened the locomotive and track and donkey engines the wind changed and the fire started down along the river, first totally destroying several small ranches.

By this time the entire neighborhood was out fighting fire and all logging camps in the vicinity were closed down, the loggers turning their attention to saving their property.

The feeling against Larson ran high and there was talk of lynching him. He got out of the country as quickly as possible.

Young's camp was totally destroyed, including 1800 cords of wood, and Chapman's logging camp is on fire. It was impossible to get the donkey engines out

of the woods and they were burned, as there was no hope of saving them. At last account the fire was still burning fiercely and increasing in size all the time. At Mason's logging camp near Svenson about 100,000 logs have been burned. All danger is now thought to be past.

Salem, Sept. 12—There is no fire near this city but the smoke hangs heavier over this part of the valley than ever before. Fine ashes are sitting down over all parts of the Willamette valley and have been falling at Salem all day.

The Bangor Exchange

The first number of the Bangor Exchange has been given quite general circulation on the Bay. It is a seven column folio finely printed on an excellent quality of paper. It is mainly devoted to a description of the Coos Bay section and its products, with some account of the Great Central Railroad Co. and its allied corporations. An affidavit from Major Kinney states that the first issue consists of 20,000 copies, and that it is given circulation not only throughout the Pacific Northwest, but also the upper Mississippi states, the New England states, the Eastern provinces of Canada and the principal cities of Great Britain. This one issue of the Bangor Exchange, properly placed, will give Coos Bay an incalculable amount of effective advertising, and advantages of this section before a multitude of people. A noticeable feature of the descriptive matter is that nothing is over-drawn, and the attention attracted will have no reason to be withdrawn upon investigation. The Bangor Exchange is a creditable publication. Long may it wave.

Travel By Sea.

Arrivals by Arcata Sept 12: Miss Archer, Miss Bulk, Mrs Carl, Mrs Aiken, Geo Nash, Mrs Nash, B O Rucker, D Holland, Mrs Martin 2 children, Mrs Avins, Annie Avins, J Frost, J Sullivan, M Cunningham, J McCall, A Ackerman, Mrs. Forty, E Lennon, L Espidio, L Martinelle.

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