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PHONE 96

ALBANY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

ONE YEAR'S FIRE WASTE

Three hundred and fifty million dollars' waste in fire losses, and a toll of 15,000 deaths from fire, during one year—this is the record shown by the latest annual report of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

The board has issued a pamphlet listing the causes which led to the losses reported above. A careful perusal of it shows that by far the greater percentage of these fires might have been prevented. Among the causes given were all of our old friends, the lighted match or cigaret thrown carelessly away, the pile of rubbish, the oil can placed in an unsafe spot, the defective chimney, the overheated stove, the electric iron left connected, the hot grease overflowing the pan, the bonfire, the sparks from the unprotected piece of machinery igniting the oily shop floor, of the bunch of shavings, and so on. Twenty-two reasons in all are given for fires which could have been avoided.

It is a list which deserves wide publicity. Few can read it without a guilty feeling, for nearly every one is certain to run across something in which he is occasionally or habitually careless.

A waste of \$350,000,000 which could have been saved deserves sober consideration as an active force in sustaining that same old H. C. L. And in these days when production falls so far short, the contemplation of all this destruction which might have been avoided is disheartening.

Certainly the figures indicate plainly the need for better methods of fire prevention on the part of the individual and the public as a whole.

FRENCH PREMIUM ON CHILDREN

The French government is taking a Rooseveltian attitude regarding large families. The new inheritance tax puts a premium on children. If a man dies without offspring, the state will take 50 per cent of his estate. If there is one child, the inheritance tax will be 333 per cent; if two children, 25 per cent; if three, 18 3-4 per cent; if more than three, nothing at all.

This arrangement is sure to appeal strongly to the thrifty French, who strive more than any other people, perhaps, to build up family estates and leave as large a heritage as possible for their children. This very characteristic has been most responsible for the customary limiting of French families to two children.

So France proceeds to put into effect, in this and other ways, the biggest lesson she learned from the war. There was a time when there were more French than Germans. France limited her population while Germany mutilated hers. It was this numerical superiority that gave Germany her great opportunity and advantage.

Whatever may be thought of the moral issue involved, there is no doubt of the practical expediency of the new French policy. While any German peril remains the French must strive against "race suicide" in order to avoid national suicide.

What is a good policy for France may not necessarily be good policy for other countries. There are nations that make all sorts of trouble for themselves and the world simply because they are too prolific. But that is a question which, for many reasons, is difficult to discuss in the present state of public opinion.

Speaking of intensive cultivation—save a few dollars now, and when prices come back to normal see two dollars growing where only one grew before.

Banish Blue Monday From the Home With a

Crystal Electric Washing Machine

Being of the cylinder type it will not tear or injure the clothes.

Complete with Swinging Wringer—

Sold on Easy Payments

Ask us for a demonstration in your own home.

RALSTON ELECTRIC CO.
310 West Second St

Comments of the State Press

Bryan's Birthday

Bryan will have a birthday Friday and he's "going like sixty" for the next few weeks. Portland is not on his itinerary, but it looks like Hon. Milton A. Miller might entice him this way—Oregonian.

Business Man for President

It is up to the people of both parties to throw overboard the whole paraphernalia and propaganda of self-seekers, of politicians and partisans and force the nomination of some broad-visioned businessman, like Hoover, who is spurned by the politicians, but who is recognized by the people as the type of man needed in the White House.—Capitol Journal.

Blind Justice

There is no need of wanderment as to why justice is pictured with a bandage over her eyes, if we will but consider the Centralia murder case where seven of the vilest murders that have been tried in the annals of jurisprudence are let off with second degree verdict.

Blind is right.—Gazette Times.

Same Germans

Chancellor Kapp says the new German government is not reactionary but on the contrary is a progressive movement. Let's see; the same set of men said that Germany did not start the war.—Eugene Register.

Naval Base

Congressman Hawley of our own district Saturday wired the Astoria Chamber of Commerce as follows: "Washington morning papers state initial steps for construction of naval base at Astoria are provided in forthcoming naval appropriation bill."—Astoria Budget.

Electorate Responsible

The Medford Mail Tribune makes some very pointed remarks on the alleged scandal in the state treasurer's office. It in effect holds the electorate of Oregon responsible for whatever of incompetency or dishonesty may be revealed by the investigation into the affairs of the office—and it may be that Medford editor is at least partially right in his deductions.—Eugene Guard.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Festival of St. Patrick, the patron saint of the Irish people.

Oklahoma today will hold its annual celebration of Arbor Day.

In English literary circle the centenary of the birth of Jean Ingelow, poet and novelist, will be celebrated today.

The birthday anniversary of the Camp Fire Girls will be celebrated today by members of the organization in many countries.

Boston celebrates today as Evacuation Day, the anniversary of the departure of the British troops from the city during the Revolution.

Today is the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Patrick E. Connor, an Irish-American soldier and pioneer, who established the first daily paper in Utah and located the first silver mine in that territory.

A. Mitchell Palmer, Attorney-General of the United States, is scheduled to open his campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination with a speech to be delivered in Michigan today.

Virginia Republicans are to meet in state convention at Roanoke today to select delegates to the national convention at Chicago next June and complete their organization for the coming campaign.

MANY MOTORISTS DUE THIS SEASON THROUGH OREGON

SPokane, Wash.—By A. P.—Twice as many motorists as traveled over the National Parks highway or at least 1,000 miles of its length from Chicago to Crater Lake National Park in Southern Oregon, last summer, said a statement today from Frank W. Guilbert, executive secretary of the National Parks Highway association. Last year, the association estimated, 20,000 automobiles, with an average of three persons to the machine traversed the highway for at least 1,000 miles. Plans for next season contemplate a travel of 40,000 to 50,000 machines, or about 150,000 tourists.

Publicity plans of the association for next season includes the employment of a traveling secretary, to lecture in eastern communities preparation of articles for magazines and other publications requesting them; circulation of descriptive maps and booklets, and personal correspondence with prospective tourists. Some 10,000 inquiries already have been received by mail regarding the highway it is declared, and hundreds more have made personal inquiry at the office of the secretary here.

Marking of the highway, completed throughout its entire length except through Wisconsin, where the state has a system of highway marking,

and southward from Portland has been finished, and plans for the coming season contemplate marking the road from Portland south to Crater Lake National park and beyond.

In Argentina eight hundred thousand women are engaged in the liberal professions, teaching, and kindred activities.

UNION LEADERS CALL ON WILSON

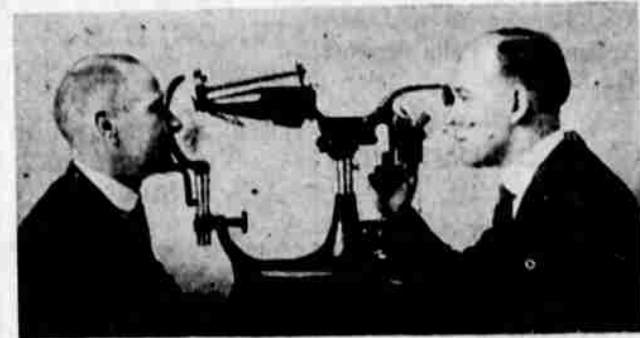
WASHINGTON, Mar. 16.—By Associated Press—John L. Lewis, the president of the United Mine Workers Union to inquire at to the status of

the Bituminous coal strike settlement. They were told that the president had not finished his study of the majority and minority reports.

AUSTRALIA GETS NEW DESTROYERS

LONDON.—By A. P.—The flotilla of six destroyers presented by the Admiralty as a free gift to the Australian navy has just been taken over formally by the Australian High Commissioner, Andrew Fisher, and is timed to arrive in Sydney on Anzac Day, April 25. They are Tattoo, Success, Tasmania, Stalwart, Anzac, and Swordsman.

THE EXAMINATION



Of your eyes for glasses depends on the experience and skill of the operator to use scientific instruments correctly. By the use of the Ophthalmoscope, one of the latest and most scientific instruments known to Optical science, I can detect the smallest defects in the eyes, which assures my patrons of absolute comfort and eyeglass satisfaction. Don't fail to have me examine your eyes with this wonderful instrument next Friday, March 19, St. Francis Hotel all day. All examinations made by me personally.

Friday, March 19, St. Francis Hotel

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Portland Eyesight Specialist

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Saves money, too—because this class of tobacco lasts much longer. The rich tobacco taste stays right with it.

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