

Spectacular Fire Burns Springfield Flour Mill

Main Plant of Springfield Mill and Grain Company Consumed in Night Blaze With a Loss of \$200,000; Business to Continue.

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the main plant of the Springfield Mill & Grain company Tuesday night causing a loss of approximately \$200,000. The 250 barrel mill, machinery, grain, flour and feed stored in the building were lost.

The Springfield Mill & Grain company will continue business and will be ready to serve their customers with their products by Monday according to John Bushman, who with his father, G. G. Bushman, and his brother, Arthur, were the owners of the mill here.

Rebuilding Plans Withheld
Plans for rebuilding the mill will not be made until after the insurance adjusters have completed work, according to the owners. They are concerning themselves at present with finding places to produce their products temporarily so they can fill many orders on hand.

G. G. Bushman and his son, Arthur, left Springfield yesterday afternoon on a visit of several plants in the Willamette valley and were confident that they would be able to begin manufacturing their own brands of flour and feeds in one of the smaller plants now operating.

No One in Mill
No one was in the building at the time of the fire. Workmen in the Springfield Sand and Gravel company noticed a puff of smoke come from the basement of the mill building about 8:00 o'clock and in a few minutes the flames mounted to the main floor of the mill and soon swept the entire plant. The local fire department rushed all of its fire equipment to the scene of the fire and hooked two lines from the water main and two more onto the pump truck. The Eugene department, which had also been called began pumping river water through five hose lines.

Water seemed useless on the fire as firemen spread sheet after sheet of water on the walls of the building without abating the flames. The fire soon became so hot that it was impossible to stand on the road in front of the building.

Scores of local citizens rushed to the scene of the fire and worked all night combatting the flames, while others living in the neighborhood of the mill were kept busy with their garden hose sprinkling their own roofs and grounds to prevent the fire from destroying their property.

Gravel Company Saved
Fire did spread to the gravel company plant and at one time began burning the side of the bunkers and the top of the power pole. No actual loss was sustained by the gravel company, however, other than the inability to operate on Wednesday as a result of the power and telephone lines being destroyed by the fire.

Fortunately for the mill owners, the records and the office of the plant were saved. This will give them an accurate method of checking on the contents of the building. The plant and grain destroyed were valued in the neighborhood of \$200,000 and are a complete loss. Approximately 20,000 bushels of wheat were in the plant as well as all of the mill feeds and several thousand sacks of flour ready for use. Insurance on the plant was about 80 per cent of its valuation. This was all that the owners were allowed to carry, according to John Bushman. The wheat, most of which was being held for farmers, was covered with 95 per cent insurance.

About 15,000 bushels of hard wheat for flour making have been purchased, but had not been delivered at the time of the fire.

Men Work All Night
All Tuesday and Wednesday night men were stationed about the building with fire hose ready to put out any new flames which might appear. Nothing was being done to salvage the gain and feed, all of which was water-soaked, pending the arrival of the adjusters.

The fire, which was the largest in this part of Oregon since the Booth-Kelly lumber mill burned down, was a beautiful spectacle say those who stood on the bridge and saw the flames shooting up among the green trees and watched the reflection of the flames play about on the water of the Willamette river adjacent to the mill.

Mill Has History
The burned mill was built here in 1854. Most of the timber were hewn

out of logs by hand and the early machinery in the plant was brought around Cape Horn on a ship. The mill has since been enlarged and modernized, being one of the best flour mills in the valley at the time it was destroyed.

Power for operation of the mill was provided by a water wheel turned by water flowing through a race way. The race, which is now utilized by the Booth-Kelly company as well as the flour mill, was built by the first man to own the plant. His name was Briggs and his enterprise is still being utilized, the lumber company having made arrangements with the flour mill to use the water also. This arrangement was still effective at the time Bushmans' took over the mill in 1919.

An interesting incident in connection with the fire was related yesterday by Major Huntly who said that he saw a large number of ducks circle around and around above the fire. They seemed to be blinded.

Banquet to Close Baptist Meeting

Rev. Randle of Cottage Grove Discusses Religion at Meeting Last Night.

"True religion to be successful must have three fundamentals," said Rev. L. H. Randle of Cottage Grove in addressing the opening session of the Umpqua association of the Baptist church in this city last night. "Present day religion must be a religion of experience, it must be a manly religion, and it must be a spiritual religion," said the speaker, who used as his topic, "I Know a Man in Christ."

A large number of delegates had arrived for the opening sessions last night and many more were expected to arrive here today for the remaining two days of the conference. The program this morning is being devoted to the work of the various departments of the church and the afternoon will be given over to women's work.

One of the most interesting sessions of the gathering will be held tonight when the laymen of the church gather to discuss their relationship to the church. Rev. Bryant Wilson, pastor of the Baptist church in Eugene will lead this discussion and prominent laymen will read papers on various phases of the work.

Friday will be devoted to business of the conference and to the hearing of all reports not read earlier in the week.

A large banquet at the Methodist church will be served for all interested visitors and local people on Friday evening. The tickets are 50 cents for all over twelve years and may be purchased at the Baptist church today and tomorrow.

The program for the banquet will be provided by the young people. It will consist of devotionalis, songs, and stunts, following which the conference will adjourn to the Baptist church again for the closing exercise.

MRS. CORRIE ENTERTAINS WITH BIRTHDAY DINNER

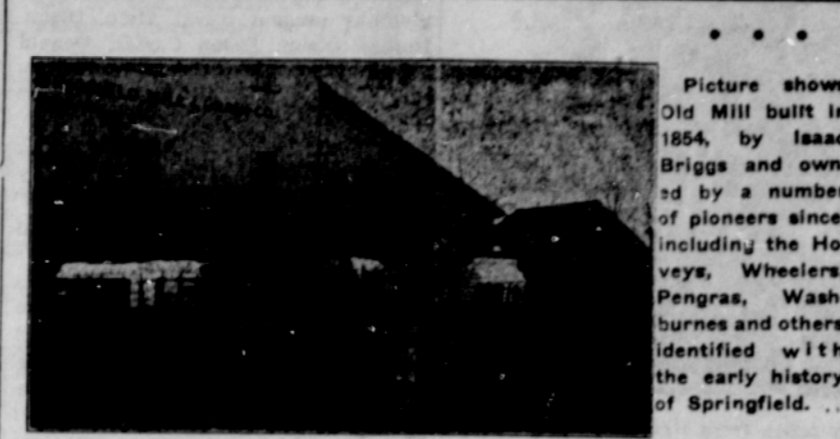
Mrs. Elery G. Fay of Portland, daughter of Mrs. C. I. Gorrie, Sr., was the guest of honor at a birthday dinner given at the home of her mother here on Sunday. Places were laid for Mr. and Mrs. Fay, Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Gorrie, Jr. and son, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. England and family of Eugene, Miss Jeannine Withers, Margaret and Anne Gorrie, James Gorrie, Miss Annie Linklater, and Mrs. Gorrie, Sr.

DR. WINCHELL TO SPEAK AT BROTHERHOOD MEET

Men of the Methodist church will gather at the church on Monday evening at 6:30 for the first fall meeting of the Brotherhood and will hear Dr. P. Winchell of Eugene, who has recently returned from a three months tour of Europe, who will speak on impressions and observation made there. A men's quartette will provide special music.

A potluck supper will be served at 6:30 in the dining room and the program will be held in the Brotherhood room immediately afterwards. Frank Bartholomew is president of the Brotherhood and Dr. N. W. Emery has charge of the programs for the meetings.

HISTORIC MILL DESTROYED



Picture shows Old Mill built in 1854, by Isaac Briggs and owned by a number of pioneers since, including the Hoveys, Wheelers, Pengras, Washburnes and others identified with the early history of Springfield.

County Chamber Program Ready

Will Discuss Poultry at Meeting of Delegates Tonight; Officers to Be Elected.

A banquet, election of officers, an interesting program of music and an address by a prominent poultry specialist will all unite to make the meeting of the Lane county chamber of commerce here tonight one of the most successful ever held in this city in the opinion of W. A. Taylor, president of the local chamber, hosts to the visiting delegates.

The banquet will begin at 6:30 and will be served by the ladies of the Civic club under the direction of Mrs. I. M. Peterson and Mrs. C. E. Wheaton.

Following the banquet the delegates will hear an address by H. E. Cosby, poultry specialist from the Oregon State agricultural college, who will talk on some problems confronting the poultry raisers in this state.

Other entertainment on the program for the evening includes a vocal solo by Mrs. W. K. Barnell, a xylophone solo by her daughter, Barbara, and a violin solo by Mrs. Ernest McKinney who will be accompanied by Miss Winifred Tyson.

The election of officers for the next year will be a closing feature of the meeting. A nominating committee has been appointed and will present their nominations to the convention.

HOWARD FUNERAL TO BE HELD THIS AFTERNOON

Funeral services for Mrs. Sarah Angelina Howard, 76, who died at her home at Jasper on Tuesday morning, will be held this afternoon at 2:00 o'clock from the Bible Standard Mission at Lowell of which the deceased was a member. The Walker-Poole chapel will have charge of the services.

Mrs. Howard was born in Topeka, Kansas on July 22, 1854 and moved to Oregon with her parents when she was 16. She has made her home at Jasper continuously since that time.

Surviving are her four daughters, Mrs. Rachael Vincen, Walton; Mrs. Catherine Russel, Dexter; Mrs. Minnie Glaspey, Dexter; Mrs. Martha Glaspey, Dexter; two sisters, Mrs. Ethel Warner and Mrs. J. C. Hills, both of Oakridge; four brothers, Charles and Ollie Neet of Fall Creek; Wesley Neet, Dexter; and Jacob Neet of Halfway, Oregon.

MISSION GROUP TO SEND FRUIT TO HOSPITAL

Home canned fruit is now being gathered by the members of the Home Mission society of the Methodist church for the Wesley hospital at Marshfield. Barrels of the filled fruit jars will be packed as they are filled and shipped to the coast institution. Any person desiring to contribute to the shipment are invited to leave their fruit at the home of Mrs. Sherman Potter who lives at the corner of C and Third streets.

M. E. SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC HELD TUESDAY

The annual fall Sunday school picnic of the Methodist church was held at the Riverview park back of Skinner's butte in Eugene on Tuesday afternoon. The children left the church in automobiles at 3:00 o'clock and spent the afternoon playing games and enjoying contests. A large picnic supper was served at 6:00 o'clock which was attended by many members of the congregation who went to the park after working hours.

Fish for Steelheads
Dr. W. C. Rebhan and J. C. McMurray left Monday for the Rouge River where they planned to spend a week fishing for steelheads.

Political Activity Started in City

Five Businessmen Declare Intentions of Entering Fall Election for City Offices.

The names of four local businessmen are being circulated about town this morning on petitions nominating them as candidates for city offices. The first two petitions to be circulated were for I. M. Peterson for city recorder, and for W. P. Tyson for mayor. Later petitions in the field are asking the nomination of W. C. McLagan and D. B. Murphy for councilmen.

Wm. G. Hughes announced his candidacy this morning for the post of city treasurer, the office which he now holds.

None of the petitions have been filed with the city recorder yet, and it is expected that other names will be circulated about town before the closing date for the filing of petitions which is Tuesday of next week. Friends of Fred Walker are considering circulating a petition in his behalf for the nomination of mayor.

There will be five offices to be filled at the November election.

A mayor will be elected to serve the last two years of the unexpired term of C. O. Wilson, deceased. Councilmen McLagan and McKlin both end their terms of office in January and their terms of office in January and of four years each. The city recorder and treasurer are elected at each general election.

FORD AGENCY OPENING IS POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY NEXT MONTH

The Ford agency, which it was announced last week, would open in this city on Saturday of this week, will not open until some time around October 1, according to John Anderson, who will have charge of the local garage. The exact date for the opening has not been determined. Lack of time was the only reason which Mr. Anderson gave for not opening on the earlier date.

Mr. Anderson plans to open a first class modern Ford salesroom, parts department, and garage in the building at the corner of Fifth and A streets which has been used by the Rodenbough garage. The latter moved its equipment and tools out of the building last week.

The radio department of the Rodenbough garage has been moved into the Roof jewelry store where all sales and collection will be made.

STREET DEPARTMENT PATCHES CITY PAVEMENT

Many of the breaks in the paved streets of the city are being repaired this week by the street department. The city has borrowed oiling equipment from the county and workmen are patching all the holes with an oil and gravel mixture. The loose filling which had been placed in the holes will soon wash out when the fall rains set in unless a substance is placed there to hold it in place.

TOBIAS ORDINATION TO BE ON OCTOBER 28

The ordination of Kenneth Tobias has been set for October 28, according to Rev. Ralph Mulholland, pastor of the Baptist church. It was planned to have the ordination take place during the annual gathering of the Umpqua association which is now in session in this city, but a lack of time on the program has made it necessary to postpone the event.

Kenneth Tobias is now engaged as a worker for the American Sunday School Union.

Gravel Starts on Airport Runways

Two Diagonal Runways Being Coated This Week; Union Oil to Build Station.

Graveling of two runways at the municipal airport was started this week by the Springfield Sand and Gravel company who is furnishing the materials for this work. Two runways, one 1500 feet and another, 1700 feet will be gravelled by the company. The runways have been laid out and leveled for some time and have been awaiting the first fall rains to make the ground soft before applying the rock coating.

The runways being gravelled are 100 feet wide. They are all laid out to take advantage of the prevailing winds. The 1500 foot runway is one of the shortest planned for the field. The other one being gravelled now will eventually be a 2500 foot runway. The 1700 feet brings the runway to the cross road on the field.

Funds for this development were voted by the taxpayers of the city at a special city election held at time of the school election.

A contract for the construction of a service station by the Union Oil company on the local field has been signed by the city officials and has been forwarded to the home office of the oil company for their approval. The approval of the contract is expected immediately and work on the station will probably start soon.

Thieves Attempt Two Robberies

Flour Stolen From Springfield Mill During Week-end; Try to Enter Eagle Cafe.

One robbery and another attempted one took place in Springfield the first part of the week. The first one was discovered at the Springfield Mill and Grain company when workmen returning to work Monday morning discovered that someone had broken into the mill and had stolen some flour. The exact amount of flour taken has not been determined as no accurate record of the amount on hand was kept. Flour, found near the mill and presumed to have been spilled from a torn bag, evidences the fact that some was taken.

Entry to the mill was gained by crawling under the flume and then tearing off some of the boards which had been nailed over an old window in the basement. The removal of a few other boards enabled the thief to gain entrance to the floor on which the feed air flour is stored.

Evidence of a second robbery attempt was discovered at the Eagle cafe Tuesday morning when Wm. Goodman opened the establishments he discovered that someone had cut a large hole in the screen and after getting the screen door open had attempted to unlock the door, but had not been successful in this effort.

MILL REOPENS MONDAY; LUMBER FUTURE BRIGHTER

All of the departments at the local Booth-Kelly lumber mill resumed operations again Monday following a shut-down of a week. The local mill has been running on a part-time schedule in cooperation with the Pacific Coast lumber manufacturers who made such a request some time ago. The large lumber surplus is gradually being used and the lumber business has a brighter outlook than it had several months ago.

FRENCHMAN'S TROUBLES TOLD BY CITY MAYOR

Springfield people who encountered a Frenchman yesterday who could not understand the English language will be interested to know what it was that he wanted and where he was going. According to W. P. Tyson, who understands French and who talked with the man for several minutes, his name was DuPlessis and he told of having come to America nine years ago working first in a French speaking settlement in Wisconsin and later in Montana. He has been visiting relatives in Portland and was on his way to Alameda, California, to visit other relatives when he stopped here. He is a veteran of the world war, having fought in the French army.

The man was highly insulted to have people think that he was a German, added Mr. Tyson.

Return from Montana—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hancock have returned from Missoula, Montana where they have been visiting. They will make their home with the Page family.

579 STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN CITY

Gains Show at High School and Lincoln Building but Brattain Shows Decrease Over Last Year; More Pupils Expected in Few Days.

Five hundred and seventy-nine grade and high school students assembled at the various school buildings this morning and registered for their work for another year. This is a decline of 47 from last year which is accounted for at the Brattain school where the first day's enrollment is 145 as compared with 202 last year. There are many more expected to enroll there this week, but it is doubtful that the additional enrollments will bring the total enrollment for the year up to last year's figures.

Lincoln and High Gain
Gains were reported at both the high school and Lincoln school. Last year the enrollment in the Lincoln school was 231 on the opening day but this year it was 242. The high school had 172 last year and has already registered 186 at 10:00 o'clock.

The enrollment by grades is given as follows: in the Brattain school there are 13 in the first grade taught by Miss Altie Manning; 17 in the second grade taught by Miss Eva Phetteplace; 18 in the third grade taught by Mrs. Basford; 15 in the fourth grade taught by Miss Mabel Olson; 26 in the fifth grade taught by Miss Ann Gorrie; 22 in the sixth B taught by Mary Walker; 20 in the sixth B taught by Miss Dorothy Girard; and 14 in the sixth A taught by G. B. Wood, principal.

Lincoln Enrollment Given
The enrollment in the Lincoln school is divided as follows: second grade taught by Miss Wilma Scott, 18; first grade taught by Opal Roberts, 35; third grade taught by Miss Crystal Bryan, 37; fourth grade taught by Miss Wilma Platt, 16; fifth grade taught by Mrs. Glenn Riddle, 35; and in the junior high school there were 40 in the 7B, 46 in the 8B, and 15 in the 8A. The teachers here are Mrs. Ella Lombard, Roy P. Quiney, Lawrence Moffit, principal, Miss Elizabeth James, Thelma Sweeney and Crystal Male.

Registration at the high school was progressing more slowly than at the grade schools. At 10:00 o'clock 41 seniors had registered, 41 juniors, 34 sophomores, and 70 freshmen had also made out their registration cards.

Class Work Starts Monday
Students at the grade schools were dismissed immediately after being enrolled. They will meet again tomorrow morning and will bring their work materials with them. Most of the day will be spent getting acquainted with their teachers and their work, the principals state.

Work at the high school will not get under way in earnest until Monday when each student will be expected to bring their books and meet the regular class recitations according to W. E. Buell, principal.

Football players will meet at 1:00 o'clock this afternoon to get acquainted with Norval May, new coach, and to begin actual training.

THREADS ON COUPLING CAUSE OF TROUBLE AT FIRE TUESDAY NIGHT

There is nothing the matter with the fire truck or those who operate it stated Mayor W. P. Tyson, this morning in answer to many queries made as to the reason for the delay in getting the pump working during the fire Tuesday night.

The entire trouble was due to a mistake in filling an order for parts on the part of the company supplying the equipment. A new extension suction hose has just been purchased and was used at the fire. Chief Hugh Joliff had coupled the two hose together and apparently everything was fine until it refused to work at the fire. It was discovered that there was a leak in the coupling and an investigation made yesterday by experts revealed that the threads on the new coupling were almost, but not quite identical with those on the old hose.

To Visit in California—Mrs. L. K. Page and her niece, Miss Eleanor Campbell of Sacramento, California, will leave tomorrow for Sacramento. Mrs. Page expects to be gone about six weeks visiting with relatives at Sacramento and San Francisco.

Taking Vacation—Mrs. Alice Lorah is vacationing from her duties at the Eggmann Candy Kitchen this week.