

Complete

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

FOURTH YEAR.

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1910.

No. 271

TWO SCORE PERISH IN COAL MINE EXPLOSION

COLORADO MINE IS SCENE OF DISASTER

ONLY ONE MAN HAS ESCAPED WITH HIS LIFE

"Remember Cherry!" Is Cry of Rescuers Who Are Braving Depths in Effort to Reach Seventy Men Still Unaccounted for.

PRIMERO, Col., Feb. 1.—With the death toll growing with each trip the rescuers make from the wrecked Colorado Fuel and Iron company's mine, 42 charred and mangled bodies now lie in the improvised morgue near the mouth of the tunnel.

Although they had almost abandoned hope of finding even one man alive in the earth trap, the men worked all day like mad. One by one they brought to the surface the bodies of the miners who were killed outright when the explosion occurred late yesterday afternoon, or succumbed to the injuries they received.

PRIMERO, Col., Feb. 1.—With the discovery of three more bruised and torn bodies today, the number of men known to have lost their lives in an explosion in the coal mine of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company was increased to 27.

When the explosion occurred there were 150 men in the mine, seventy of these are unaccounted for, and are either dead or entombed in the tunnels under tons of earth and rock. Fifty-three miners escaped with slight injuries.

Fire Breaks Out. Soon after the explosion fire broke out in the main tunnel. It was quenched, it is believed, before it penetrated to the three other tunnels where the men are imprisoned.

The death struggles of the men and praying men, caught underground in a fire-swept mine shaft, attempting to fight their way to safety, were described today by Dr. W. A. ... the first miner taken from the wrecked Primero mine.

Tells of Disaster. Virgen, terribly injured, lay on blankets in a improvised hospital here and in broken sentences told, through an interpreter, all he knew of the disaster.

"There was a deafening roar," said Virgen, "then flashes of fire and then darkness. I remember falling to the ground. Then came a rush of men, screaming, shouting and praying in their attempts to escape.

"I staggered to my feet, but was knocked down by men who with clothing on fire rushed along the tunnel, insane from their agony.

Dragged Himself Along. "I was too weak to get up of my feet, so dragged myself along. Over dead bodies I crawled until I fainted. When I came to I heard the groans growing fainter and fainter. I believed all were dead.

"Then I heard the rescuers. I shouted as loud as I could, but had not much strength except to shout at intervals."

When Virgen was brought to the mouth of the shaft there was a great demonstration by the throng surrounding the mine. His condition is critical, but he has an even chance for recovery.

Rescuers at Work. Battered and mutilated almost beyond recognition, the bodies of 24 of the victims of an explosion in the coal mine of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company lie today in an improvised morgue.

Rescuers are working frantically to save the men who are supposed to be entombed in the wrecked shaft. At least 55 were imprisoned and it was feared they would be dead before help could reach them.

A count today showed that 79 men

LADIES' CLUB OUTLINES WORK COMING YEAR

In Spite of Snow Storm, 125 Ladies Attend Reception and Most Pleasing Afternoon Is Spent—Much Work Outlined for Club This Year.

Nathaniel Hawthorn, that bright star in the firmament of American literary geniuses, in his widely read romance, "The House of the Seven Gables," makes old Hepsibah, the representative of New England aristocracy, reduced by misfortune to the necessity of earning her own bread and butter, utter words to the effect that, "In this world the Lord sends us to mortals only that degree of success that will serve to keep them at a reasonably full exertion of their powers."

With a storm of sleet and snow and a temperature nearing the freezing point, the outlook in the morning was not the most cheering for the ladies of the Greater Medford club, who for weeks had been making preparations for the reception at Smith's hall to the ladies of Medford, which took place yesterday afternoon, but with characteristic resolution the preparations were continued to the most minute details, and the affair passed off with a degree of success and general satisfaction seldom equalled when skies are smiling and walking good.

An artistic arrangement of ivy forming a screen across the rear of the hall afforded an effective background for the ten table, attractively laid with handsome candelabra bearing twelve lighted candles, while at either end were jugs filled with loose-spreading bouquets of long-stemmed scarlet carnations and trailing fern.

Mrs. J. M. Root, assisted by Miss Joan Anderson and Miss Josephine Root, poured, and the ladies of the auxiliary committee were hostesses.

Mrs. J. F. Reddy, president of the club, by her attitude of easy grace, no less than her quickness of decision and grasp of a situation, proves herself an efficient presiding officer, and Miss Emily Janny, chairman of the special committee, is deserving of much credit for the successful efforts put forth.

Fully one hundred and twenty-five ladies were present and much interest was expressed in the excellent program rendered, each number of which called out hearty applause and was given with a style and finish that bespeaks a high standard of local musical taste.

Twenty names were proposed for membership to the club.

Aside from the distinctly social success of the meeting, the ladies feel that the afternoon was significant of the future work to be done by the club because of the impetus given the important matter of securing more land for park purposes by the addresses of J. M. Root and E. M. Andrews.

The matter of parks is one of the divisions of work to which the club has been giving attention since its organization, but Mr. Root, in taking up the matter of public sanitation, opened up another avenue of practical endeavor, to which the ladies will doubtless turn their attention at an early date.

The address of the president, giving a condensed history of the club since its organization, was as follows:

"We wish to thank, in the name of the club and our friends, the artists who have given us such pleasure today. The committee having in charge this afternoon's splendid entertainment has requested me to tell to our guests something about the purpose of the Greater Medford club and the Book club, with a view of having every lady present who is not already a member of both organizations."

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Advertise this Year
As you wish you had advertised last year

It is likely that a thing in connection with the management of your business last year is more regretted than the failure to advertise ADEQUATELY.

To make amends this year—in "good measure"—for advertising that was NOT DONE last year; or, to "Make up" this MONTH for the insufficient advertising of last month; or, this WEEK for last week's non-aggressiveness in advertising—these are the privileges of the business man who is working to WIN.

HERMANN PLACED ON STAND

Denies Bit by Bit Case Built Up Against Him by Government—Henny Takes Copious Notes and When He Starts Cross-Examination the Fireworks Will Begin.

PORTLAND, Or., Feb. 1.—Blinger Hermann is denying bit by bit the case built up against him by Prosecutor Henny for the government. His witnesses have entered absolute denial of the testimony of Henry Meldrum, surveyor general, to the effect that Mays and Hermann discussed the creation of the Blue Mountain reserve in Meldrum's office.

Charles Holmstrom denied the testimony of H. L. Patterson of Oregon, who said that he had seen Hermann and Meldrum and Mays in the office of Meldrum. Holmstrom who was with Patterson, says that he never saw either Mays or Hermann in Meldrum's office. Mrs. Moda Silverstein denies that she was ever spoken to by Meldrum.

Hermann himself, now on the stand, has started in at the beginning of the government's case and is controverting the evidence right down the line. He denies that he ever met Mays in Meldrum's office. He

denies that he ever discussed the Blue Mountain reserve with Mays or Meldrum. He denies that he advised Meldrum to buy school lands. Hermann explains all of his official acts as being diametrically opposed to the government's theory of the case. He was fighting the creation of reserves, not promoting them, he said.

Hermann went on the stand yesterday afternoon and began his story. He has continued his story during the morning session today and will be on the stand on direct examination during all of the afternoon and perhaps part way through tomorrow.

From the painstaking care with which Henny is following the testimony of the witness and the quantity of notes which he is making, it is evident that the big battle of the trial will between Hermann and Henny on cross-examination. When that begins the fireworks of the trial will be set off.

COUNTRY SUFFERS MORE THAN PARIS

Residents of Suburbs Indignant at Undivided Attention Paid Paris by Authorities—Seine Is Slowly Falling.

PARIS, Feb. 1.—During the 24 hours ending at noon today the Seine fell but a fraction over two inches at Pont d'Austerlitz, and fears were expressed that the waters might rise again and renew their attack upon the city. The water at the bridge measured 25 feet 3 inches.

This painfully slow recession, however, was attributed by the fluvial department to a slight rise in the river Yonne, a tributary of the Seine. It probably will not greatly affect the greater river.

A general protest arose in the suburbs today because of the undivided attention the authorities are giving Paris. Aside from the actual work of rescuing persons whose lives were menaced by the flood, the suburbs have been practically neglected, according to their indignant residents.

The property loss in the outskirts of Paris and in the surrounding cities has been proportionately greater than in the capital itself.

CORONER WILL LOOK INTO DEATH OF SWOPE

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 1.—Coroner Stewart announced today that he would begin preparations for an inquest into the death of Colonel Thomas H. Swope, the Kansas City millionaire. He declared that the report of the Chicago chemists stating that a quantity of poison had been found in the stomach and viscera of Swope was sufficient to warrant holding an inquest.

HAMILTON RANCH IS SOLD; TO SUBDIVIDE

RECALL FIGHT IN ASHLAND IS NOW ON IN EARNEST

Petition Formally Filed and Charges Laid Bare—Said to Be Progressives Against Mossbacks in Struggle to the Death.

ASHLAND, Feb. 1.—The much-talked-of recall petition against Mayor R. N. Snell was filed this afternoon with Recorder Eggleston. Following are the charges upon which the petition is based:

"To M. F. Eggleston, city recorder, Ashland, Or.: Whereas, the present mayor, R. N. Snell, having been in the office of mayor of the city of Ashland, Or., for one year; and,

Whereas, he has shown himself generally incompetent in the administration of his office as mayor; and, Whereas, he has been instrumental in improperly expending the public funds on improvements made particularly for the benefit of his private property, thereby limiting funds available for necessary public improvements; and,

Whereas, he has summarily dismissed the superintending engineer of the municipal electric lighting plant, thus precipitating a suit in the courts, the expense of which will have to be met by the public funds; and,

Whereas, he has shown his favoritism and incompetency in the appointment of certain committees for the current year.

"Therefore, we, the undersigned legal voters of said city, availing ourselves of the provisions of section 18 of article 2 of the constitution of Oregon, hereby demand a recall election to be had whereby R. N. Sneyy shall be recalled from the office of mayor of said city."

It is claimed that these so-called charges do not constitute sufficient grounds upon which to ask for a recall election, and Mayor Snell's friends say that it looks very much as if the taxpayers would have to foot the expenses of an election merely to gratify the whim of a number of men who do not agree with Mayor Snell in his public policy.

Friends of the law under which the action was taken are indignant that it should be used with so little reason, thus bringing it into disrepute as a law.

Who Signed It. A close perusal of the list of signers, 229 in number, throws some light on the matter, say the mayor's friends. A leader of the progressive element sums the situation up, saying:

"A few who call themselves progressive citizens have signed, for reasons best known to themselves. Quite a number of Socialists seized the opportunity to register a kick against the government, and every well-meaning but unenlightened mossback in the city and every avowed obstructionist jumped at the chance to give progress a black eye by signing the petition to recall the most progressive mayor the city has had for ten years."

No Resignation for Snell. The correspondent of the Medford Mail Tribune interviewed Mayor Snell last night and found him full of fight. "Am I going to resign?" he shouted. "Well, not on your life! Why, man, look at the charges," he continued. "First they say I am incompetent. Well, that is a matter of opinion. Then they allege that I have used public funds to improve a street that runs past a piece of my own property. Great guns! Am I to refuse to improve a mile of street because I happen to own a piece of abutting property? The third charge is par-

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SAN FRANCISCO POLICE ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—Intimations that the district attorney's assistant will investigate the action of the police department in its alleged tampering with evidence in connection with the trial of former Police Captain Michael J. Conboy, were made today by persons familiar with the details of the case.

Conboy is tried on a charge of manslaughter for the death of Bernard Lagan, who was shot by the police captain. Conboy's claim is that he shot Lagan in self defense. Today the district attorney's assistants are endeavoring to ascertain how certain rips and cuts were made in the coat Lagan wore on the night of the shooting. The blood-spattered garment, pierced by bullet holes made by missiles from the revolver of Captain Conboy, was given into the care of the police property clerk shortly after the shooting.

ILLINOIS PEOPLE TO GATHER THIS EVENING

The new organization of Native Sons and Daughters of Illinois is to meet this evening at the Presbyterian church at 7:30 o'clock. Fifty-nine have enrolled. Everyone eligible to membership is requested to be on hand.

STANDARD OIL WAREHOUSE BURNS IN BALTI

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 1.—A branch warehouse of the Standard Oil company caught fire here late this afternoon. The entire fire department of the city has been ordered out to fight the flames.