

CLEARINGS BANK CLEARINGS \$39,154.26

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

WEATHER Fair—Max. 57. Min. 37.5. Mean 42. Warmer.

Forty-First Year. Daily—Sixth Year. MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1911. No. 20.

SECRETARY OF STATE F. W. BENSON DEAD; GOVERNOR WEST APPOINTS BEN OLCOTT

FAILS TO RALLY FROM ATTACK OF LA GRIPPE

Ben Olcott, West's Campaign Manager, is Appointed to Place—Is Said to Be Very Well Fitted for His New Duties as Secretary.

BENSON WAS FOR SOME TIME GOVERNOR OF STATE

Was Born in California and Started His Career as School Teacher.

REDLANDS, Cal., April 11.—Frank W. Benson, secretary of state of Oregon and former governor of the state, died at 2:30 this morning. His death was due to a complication of his long illness, following a general breakdown a year ago. The end was hastened by an attack of the grippe last week, from which Benson failed to rally. Mrs. Benson was present at her husband's bedside. Benson's fight for health carried him from Oregon to Redlands on three different occasions. On his last trip he had not been here four months and was reported greatly improved until last week. He contracted a cold when the temperature dropped 20 degrees at the beginning of the recent cold snap. Grippe speedily developed and he was confined to his bed. Despite the efforts of two physicians, the patient sank steadily, and Wednesday night Dr. Leo Steiner, his physician and life-long friend, was sent for by the family. Steiner is scheduled to arrive here tonight. While no plans have been made for the funeral, pending the state's action, it is supposed Benson's body will be taken to Oregon for interment.

Olcott Appointed. SALEM, Or., April 14.—Following information that Secretary of State Benson died at Redlands, Governor West this forenoon appointed Ben Olcott, secretary of state.

Ben Olcott is well fitted for the position. He directed the West campaign last fall. Ben Olcott, the new secretary of state, is about 35 years old, a republican in politics, but not a politician. He volunteered as campaign manager for Governor West last fall and spent 100,000 dollars freely in West's behalf. He is an expert accountant and until recently was holder of one of the Salem banks, and is well qualified for the position. He owns several farms in the Willamette valley and is considered well to do.

Secretary of State Frank W. Benson, former governor of Oregon, who died at Redlands today, was 52 years of age on March 20. He was born in San Jose, Cal., in 1858. He began his professional career as a school teacher, later branching into the law. He was an official holder for the greater part of his active life and usually was one of the leaders of the ticket, which he ran.

Taught School. At the age of 21 he taught school in Redmond, Ore., and two years later he became superintendent of the public schools of Douglas county. Two years later, in 1885, he became deputy county clerk and in 1892 was elected county clerk for four years.

He married Miss Harriet Ruth Benson in Redmond in 1882. They have two children. They have two children, Clifford, 15, now residing at Gardiner, Or., and Walter, 13, attending school at Eugene, Ore.

Admitted to Bar. At the close of his term as county clerk he was admitted to the bar and for two years practiced law in Redmond. His entry into state politics came in 1906 when he was elected secretary of state. In March, 1907, he took the office of governor made vacant by the resignation of Chamberlain who had been elected to the United States senate.

His health began to break in 1910 owing to a lupus cancer which affected his face, and he spent most of the year in California to repair his shattered health. At the general elections of November, 1910, he was re-elected secretary of state although he was out of the state at the time and it was known that his condition was precarious. He began his second term last January.

Say Recall Unconstitutional. DALLAS, Texas, April 11.—On the ground that their recall was unconstitutional, the recalled members of the senate board today sought to enjoin the state board from transacting business. The case probably will be carried to the supreme court.

Notes Have Passed. EPERNAV, France, April 11.—Comparative calm prevails today in the department of Maine, where the situation still is held and no further trouble is expected.

Just a Fighter



ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE PHOTO BY CURTIS

NEW JERSEY TO GET REFORM LAW

Lower House Expected to Concur Today in Minor Senate Amendments to the Direct Primary and Election Reform Bill.

TRENTON, N. J., April 11.—The lower house of the state assembly was expected today to concur in the minor senate amendments to the direct primary and election reform bill and Governor Wilson, it was said, would sign the measure. The bill provides for the election of officials qualified only after a civil service examination and requires that all convention delegates, either county, state or national, shall be elected by direct vote. The blanket ballot without party designations is also provided for in the measure. The state senate, which is republican, unanimously approved the bill.

SALEM ANGRY AT MEDFORD BOOSTER

Colonists "Misinformed" on the Conditions by Colonist Agent Ed Andrews, Is Claim Made in Capital City.

SALEM, Or., April 14.—A communication was sent to the members of the Salem board of trade last night from Ed Andrews, Salem's representative, who is to meet the colonists who come to Portland in which Ed Andrews, a representative of the Medford board of trade, is president of the Medford board of trade. Andrews is angry at the Medford board of trade for misrepresenting the conditions in the Willamette valley and that the Medford board of trade were never so valuable as those located in southern Oregon, according to Andrews. Andrews of the board of trade has addressed a letter to the Medford board of trade in which he says that the Medford board of trade is misrepresenting the conditions in the Willamette valley and that the Medford board of trade were never so valuable as those located in southern Oregon, according to Andrews.

Representatives of a laboratory vespertine group in Wisconsin appeared at the meeting last night and stated they were somewhat displeased with a plan to be put into effect. The board of trade, however, is not at all displeased with the plan, but did not make known their attitude for fear of a split in the board. It is presumed, however, that the laboratory group has been elected for the past month and are attempting to enter the field.

According to the folks who have been attending the law law attended the meeting at the board of trade, which was held at the Medford board of trade last night. The plan was postponed until a later date, when all the members can be present.

SEARCHING FOR BODIES OF WRICK VICTIMS. MILWAUKEE, Wis., April 14.—With the bodies of Captain Carl Maynard, George Veltke and an unidentified man, mentioned earlier, was recovered today for the four missing members of the crew of the steamer Ottawa which was wrecked at Starbuck near Starbuck bay during a heavy fog.

The steamer lies on a reef about a mile off shore. Had the crew remained aboard it is thought they would all have been saved.

SMUDGE-POTS AGAIN DRIVE FROST AWAY

Temperature as Low as 23 Degrees Was Registered Thursday Night but No Damage is Reported From Different Orchards.

TEMPERATURES RAISED FROM 5 TO 8 DEGREES

Fair and Warmer is Prediction for Tomorrow—May New Tonight.

WARMER TONIGHT. Predictions today are to the effect that tonight will be much warmer than last night. Fair and warmer is the prediction for tomorrow.

SALEM, Or., April 14.—President W. K. Newell of the state board of horticulture, who is in Salem today, says that from half to two-thirds of the fruit crop of the Willamette valley was killed by frost last night and the night before. The cherry crop is damaged to a great extent throughout the valley. The temperature here last night and the night before is reported by fruit men to have been 27 degrees, five degrees below freezing point. Some districts where the frost was especially heavy report the entire prunes crop gone and more than half of the cherry crop.

In spite of the fact that the temperature dropped last night in various parts (Continued on page 2.)

Women Watching at the Mouth of Shaft



WOMEN WAITING FOR NEWS AT MOUTH OF SHAFT OF SCRANTON MINE. The bringing out of the bodies of the 76 men who lost their lives in the shaft 700 feet below the surface of the ground at Throop, Pa., was marked by weird scenes. Frenzied women and hordes of ill clad children watched the bodies for loved ones as the pile grew.

HOUSE AGAIN TAKES STAND FOR DIRECT ELECTION

Senator W. E. Borah Predicts That It Will Pass Senate—Friends of Measure Will Urge Its Passage as Soon as Possible.

33,000 COME FOR NEW HOMES

With Last Colonist Train Due to Arrive Tonight It is Estimated That 33,000 Colonists Have Arrived in Portland.

EXULTANT SONGS WILL ANNOUNCE RESURRECTION

Elaborate Easter Services Are Planned for Every Church in City—Glad Easter Morning Will Be Hailed With Song.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14.—The house of representatives last night (Continued on page three)

PORTLAND, Or., April 14.—With the last colonist train due to arrive tonight it was estimated that fully 33,000 homeseekers have already arrived at Portland since the middle of March.

Will It Help the Child?



MEXICAN LINE IS CROSSED BY U. S. SOLDIERS

Grave Complications Are Expected to Follow If It is Finally Shown That Americans Took Action to Stop Yesterday's Battle.

REBELS WERE FIRING SHOTS INTO U. S. HOMES

Captain Orders His Troops Across to Check It—Many Are Killed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14.—Fearful grave complications if it is finally shown that American troops crossed the Mexican line to stop yesterday's battle at Agua Prieta, General Wood today wired the commander of the American troops at Douglas, Ariz., to report fully as to his action in the matter.

Further fighting is expected at Agua Prieta, and full instructions were telegraphed today to the American commander as to what his action should be in case the engagement is recommenced. Many Killed. DOUGLAS, Ariz., April 14.—With three Americans, 30 Mexican federals and 15 insurgents dead, 12 Americans, 15 federals and 30 rebels wounded as a result of the battle late yesterday at Agua Prieta, just across the boundary, the rebels are busily entrenching and generally making ready for a determined to hold their advantage and repulse any attack by federal troops that may be made upon them.

In Douglas 50 of the vanquished federals who fled across the line after being beaten by the rebels under Colonel Lopez, are prisoners of the American troops, but for whose intervention all of them probably would have been either killed or captured. Fight Two Hours. Fighting had been going on for nearly two hours and many of the residents of Douglas who were watching the fight had been hit by the bullets which the battling Mexicans—federals and rebels alike—poured into Douglas in the course of the volleying. Twice Captain Gaudot, First United States cavalry, sent word to the warring commands that they must cease firing into the American town. Both warnings went unheeded.

Americans on Line. While the fighting was momentarily growing hotter, Captain Gaudot stood on the line and watched the fray. At that juncture Federal Captains Andrea Bascotto and Jesus Vargas, with 29 soldiers, broke from the buildings in Agua Prieta and raced for the American line, the oncoming rebels firing upon them as they ran. Three dropped in the race and when the remainder reached the line they were taken prisoners and marched to a camp park by the American troops.

Americans Act. With only a few of the federals still fighting, the rebels soon became bolder and entered the territory between Agua Prieta and Douglas. Then the fire became so hot that Captain Gaudot decided the time had come to act. Accordingly, he with Charles McKean, a civilian, entered the zone of fire and conveyed instructions from their fugitive officers to the federal troops to surrender. This, after some delay, they finally did, and were escorted by Lieutenant Moore to the American line, where their arms were taken and they were sent to join those of their fellows who had escaped earlier in the fight.

Further Fighting Expected. Today everyone here expects further fighting within a few hours. Colonel Lopez' rebels in Agua Prieta have been heavily reinforced since the battle and they are making thorough preparations to repulse an attack. Just how soon this will come no one can say. It is known that 300 Sonora rurales under Colonel Barron are on the march here, and Colonel Ochoa is at Arizpe, less than two days' march away. There is a possibility that the next fight will take place in the pass between Chama and Agua Prieta. Lopez is known to have left a large force of rebels there to guard the pass, and it is thought that it is through that that Barron's command must come.

There is little doubt that the rebels will make a desperate stand to hold Agua Prieta. It is an important town, with imports of more than a million pesos a month. Colonel Lopez believes that its possession may induce the United States to recognize the rebels as belligerents, especially if Madero, as is expected here, ordered the attack as part of a plan to achieve this end by seizing Agua Prieta, Juarez and other border towns.

WEST SWANSEY, N. H., April 14.—Denman Thompson, the author and playwright, died here this morning at the age of 75.