

CRATERS WILL AID IN ENTERTAINING CLUB CONVENTION

The American Legion show at the Rialto, the "Hindu" performance at the Page and other events cut down the usual attendance of the Craters club meeting in the Dinty Mohr banquet hall last night. In spite of a small attendance, however, a pleasant evening was enjoyed. Three matters of importance were discussed; the participation of the Craters in a community gathering of the Table Rock district on May 18, the sending of Crater delegates to the Portland annual Rose Festival in June and the co-operation of the club in entertaining delegates to the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs.

Owing to the problem of finances, the Craters will find it difficult to send a representative to the Rose Festival and a serious discussion of this matter will be a feature of the next eruption. It was decided to arrange an entertainment for the Table Rock Community meeting a week from next Friday in response to an invitation extended to the Craters by the Table Rock district. Crater members will assist the members of the Greater Medford club in entertaining delegates to Oregon Federation of Women's clubs which will be held in Medford this month. Tours around the valley will be a part of this entertainment.

To fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Earl Roberts, Ben Sheldon and Frank Farrell, Royal Lee, Bert Thieroff and Milton Schuchard were elected to membership. R. H. Day, sales manager of Sgobel & Day of New York, G. C. Spangle, traffic manager of Sgobel & Day, Sheriff Terrill and William Dayton were the guests of last night's banquet and the first two gave short talks. Aubrey Smith, school superintendent, presented a few facts on the local school district.

The next meeting of the Craters is slated for May 21st, when several important matters will be considered.

Winter Wheat Decreases.
WASHINGTON, May 8.—A winter wheat crop of 578,287,000 bushels, or 1.4 per cent less than the 1922 crop, was forecast today by the department of agriculture. The forecast was based on the condition of winter wheat May 1, which was 50.1 per cent of a normal, and on the area remaining May 1, to be harvested, which was 39,750,000 acres or 6,829,000 acres (14.3 per cent) less than planted last autumn.

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WANT CHANGES IN FISH LADDER AT GOLD RAY DAM

A trip to the Gold Ray and Savage Rapids Dams was made yesterday by deputy state game warden, W. R. Coleman, accompanied by Frank Miller, W. E. Brayton and a representative of The Mail Tribune.

"The fish ladder at Savage Rapids is the best ladder on the coast, said Mr. Coleman, "and I'll prove it to you."

Upon arrival at Gold Ray the party went down through the power house to the ladder. A big run of Chinook salmon was on and hundreds of fish could be seen lying in the riffle about 20 feet below the lower lead wall between the end of the ladder. Every now and then one of the big fellows would take a tremendous rush against the current in an attempt to get over the wall and into the channel of the ladder.

The current at this point must flow ten miles per hour, yet the fish with fins and tails vibrating make torpedo-like speed against it. The splashing and sizzling of their fins can be heard above the roar of the water pouring over the dam. They shoot like torpedoes at the wall. Then spat! They butt their noses against the wall and fall back stunned.

The wall is too high. Only about one out of five fish that attempt to get into the ladder get over the wall and into the channel. The majority waste their wonderful energy, battering their bodies against the wall and fall back into slower water to rest for another attempt.

"Now that you have seen this," said Coleman, "I want to tell you that these fish don't come down the river or up the highway. They're going up the river and they come over the ladder at Savage Rapids. Now let's watch 'em go up this ladder."

The party climbed along the side of the Gold Ray ladder to the top. The top pool had a number of beautiful big salmon in it that had conquered the wall at the bottom. Many of them were badly battered and few had made the climb unscathed.

The final rush from the top pool of the ladder, where the water fizzes and bubbles like a giant seltzer powder, to the still water beyond the dam is the hardest step of the ladder with the exception of the leap over the bottom lead wall. The pool is too small for the big fellows to get a flying start in.

Following the visit to the Gold Ray dam the party drove down the highway to Savage Rapids dam and walked across the wall at the bottom. Many of them were badly battered and few had made the climb unscathed.

No difficulty is experienced by the fish at the bottom of this ladder which is exceptionally easy to enter. The water in the pools is deep, the ladder is not as steep as that at Gold Ray and the fish mount it easily. In addition the bottom of the ladder is much easier to find. Although many of the big fellows fight the current at the other side of the river, the same as they do at Gold Ray, the fish that start toward the bottom of the ladder enter it with ease and make the trip up in a few minutes.

Coleman advocates alterations in the lead wall at the Gold Ray ladder that will make it easy to enter from downstream. By enlarging a hole a considerable distance up the ladder, entrance from the upstream side can also be made much easier.

"The proof that the Savage Rapids ladder is working can be had by looking at the number of fish that have come over it and that are fighting to get into the Gold Ray ladder," says Coleman. "The Gold Ray ladder is the one that needs improvement and needs it badly."

The fighting power of the salmon is wonderful. Yesterday only the middle gate of the great Savage Rapids dam was open and more than five hundred thousand gallons of water per minute was dropping forty or fifty feet into the river with a continuous crashing roar. Spray was flying thirty feet in the air and every few minutes a salmon could be seen ten feet in the air, in the midst of the white spray, attempting to mount

the falling column of tons upon tons. It is the hope of the majority of local sportsmen that the game commission and the organizations with the power to do so will make the necessary improvements at Gold Ray to make the trip of the salmon to the spawning beds easier.

BANDITS DEMAND \$2,000,000

(Continued from page one)

ded with a rifle butt," said Day. "We had to take the roughest paths. It was useless to protest and strict silence was enforced. Anyone speaking was mercilessly hit. I was struck on the forehead with a Mauser for talking to my neighbor."

The fair of the bandits, Day continued, was a place in the hills encircled by a stone compound. Within one hour or two after the arrival of the prisoners, soldiers appeared outside the town and soon a lively engagement was in progress.

Knocks Out Guard

The brigands' chieftain persuaded Day to take a note to the commander of the military forces, informing him that if the fire did not stop the captives would be shot. Day had a harrowing experience in making his way across the open ground to the troops, as he was fired on by both the military and the bandits, some of the latter being ignorant of his mission.

Day delivered his message, whereupon the commander of the troops ordered them to cease firing, but the force did not withdraw.

Remaining with the military, Day started a search for some of the other prisoners and came upon Miss Schonberg sitting on a boulder, exhausted. She, like the others, had escaped when dispatched as a message bearer.

Jacobson knocked out his guard with a large stone and ran off. Miss Schonberg said her party had been fired on by the bandits.

The tuchun of Shantung has sent reinforcements to the scene and the British, French and Belgian consuls from Nanking have also gone to Li-cheng.

The strength of the bandits is estimated at between two and three thousand men. It is said that the troops had been trying to round them up for several days and that a pitched battle had been fought only a few hours before the train was attacked. The brigands retreated across the railway line and it is believed that they then conceived the idea of holding up the train.

RICHMOND, Va., May 8.—F. W. Pratt, mentioned in dispatches from Shanghai as being among the foreigners held captive by the Suchow bandits is alleged to be the Rev. Frank Pratt, pastor of the First Unitarian church of this city. He was given an indefinite leave of absence from his church work here on April 15, 1922, and was married in Boston the following month. The couple left on a honeymoon around the world soon afterwards.

2 Foreigners Killed.

SHANGHAI, May 8.—(By the Associated Press)—Two foreigners, including one unidentified American, have been killed in the shooting incident to the bandit raid on the Peking express train, according to a list compiled here today. One of the foreigners was Joseph Rothman, a British subject. Two escaped Chinese prisoners, arriving at Tsinan, related that the captives were marched fifteen miles into the hills and there classified by the outlaw chieftain according to their probable worth. After questioning, it was decided that foreigners would be held for a ransom of \$50,000 each; Chinese of the "first class" for \$20,000 each, those of the second class for \$10,000 and those held to be of lower value for \$2,000.

The Chinese newspaper Shun Pao, published in Shanghai reported that Kang Tung-Yu, its Sunday editor, was captured and released.

The brigands are said to be splitting into groups with their captives and scattering into the hills 20 miles from the railway.

A regiment of Kiangsu provincial troops has been sent from Nanking.

SHANGHAI, May 8.—(By the Associated Press)—Fifteen foreigners, all men, nine of them Americans, still are in the hands of the Suchow train bandits, according to a list compiled here today. Two others escaped and have reached Tsinanfu. Two lives were lost. Joseph Rothman, British, shot down at the scene of the holdup Sunday, and an unidentified American killed in fighting between the bandits and pursuing troops Monday.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Further reports from Minister Schurman at Peking on developments in connection with the capture of Americans and other foreigners on the train held up by Chinese bandits in Shantung province and efforts to secure their release was anxiously awaited today by the state department.

Just what steps he is taking toward securing the release of the Americans, of whom he reported nineteen were believed to have been on the train held up, has not been revealed by officials here.

Serious consideration was being given the question of initiating a concentrated military action with the other powers against the bandits. Such a step taken in co-operation with the Peking government and in event the Chinese authorities proved impotent was expected to be considered, with other possible measures at a meeting of the foreign ministers at Peking today.

Available for such use, which, it is pointed out, would be sanctioned by the general principles of international law, are the United States forces, 25 officers and 888 men stationed at Tsin Tsin and those of Great Britain, France and Japan, each of approximately a thousand officers and men, in addition to the smaller units maintained by other nations in China.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The council of ministers in Peking has decided to make urgent representations to the Chinese government and

recommend that punitive measures be taken by it to secure the release of foreigners still held captive by Chinese bandits who held up the Shanghai-Peking express train.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Minister Schurman reported that the bandits had released all of the women taken prisoner when the train was wrecked but still held fourteen men for ransom. The department issued this statement paraphrasing its reports from its officials in China.

"The department has received information to the effect that Miss Alrich, Miss MacFadden and Miss Schonberg are now safe in Tsinanfu."

"Mr. T. H. Day of Ridgewood, N. J., escaped from the bandits, and arrived safely in Tsin Tsin."

"Mr. Robert Scripps was not on the wrecked train and has arrived at Peking."

"Messrs. Henry Zimmerman and V. Hainovitch escaped after the wreck and reached Tsin Tsin, May 8."

"The following having not been heard from and evidently are still being held captive: Major Pinger and son, Mr. Henley, Mr. Levy, Mr. L. C. Solomon, Mr. J. B. Powell, Mr. L. Friedman, Mr. Lehrman, escaped and Mr. Thomas Day of Oliver and company, New York City, has been released."

"It is reported that all the women have been released, while the men are being held for ransom."

"Fourteen men, Americans and other nationalities, are still held."

"The department has been advised by Minister Schurman that at a conference with the dean of the diplomatic corps (the Portuguese minister) and the British and Italian ministers, it was decided that the dean on the morning of May 7 should make urgent representations that the Chinese government ransom our nationals and that punitive measures should be taken against the bandits afterwards."

Rail Strike in Brussels.

BRUSSELS, May 8.—All rail traffic in the direction of Antwerp was held up today by a strike of the railway men, who announced they were acting in sympathy with the protest of employees in the Antwerp freight yards. Three thousand telephone workers also were out.

Governor Preus to Resign.

ST. PAUL, May 8.—Governor Preus, according to present plans will resign tomorrow and thereby become eligible to appointment as United States senator from Minnesota in succession to the late Senator Nelson, his political friends said today.

Liberty Bonds.

NEW YORK, May 8.—Liberty bonds closed: 3 1/2's 101.6; first 4 1/4's 97.14; second 4 1/4's 97.13; third 4 1/4's 98.10; fourth 4 1/4's 97.18; Victory 4 1/4's (uncalled) 100.1; U. S. Treasury 4 1/4's 99.5.

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TAKE MOVIES OF COLUMBIA BASIN

SPOKANE, May 8.—C. J. Blanchard, moving picture director for the federal reclamation service, and his cameraman, left Washington today for Spokane to secure 2000 feet of views of the Columbia basin irrigation project, according to a telegram received today by Fred A. Adams, educational director of the Columbia Basin irrigation league.

Watersheds of the project from Flathead lake to Albany Falls, on the Pend O'Reille river together with views in the heart of the project and pictures on the coast and the Yakima valley to show the industrial side of the project.

A. J. Turner, chief engineer in charge of the original investigation of the project by the state, will arrive here tonight to accompany Arthur P. Davis, federal director of reclamation and F. M. Goodwin, assistant secretary of the interior, on their trip from Albany Falls to Spokane tomorrow.

Round Up Irish Rebels.

Dublin, May 8.—(By the Associated Press)—A round up of Irish irregulars is progressing in the mountains near Blessington, county Wicklow, where large numbers of them are reported to be hiding, according

to reports received by the Central News. Heavy firing was heard this morning near Blessington. Later more than a dozen prisoners were brought into that town.

NEW YORK—Fifty persons were overcome last night by smoke during the rush hour when a short circuit started a fire in the east side subway.

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