

MAYOR CHARGES INVESTIGATORS SHOWED BIAS

Reference also was made in Mayor Struble's letter to the announcement of another candidate for the highest office within the gift of the voters of the municipality immediately following the publication of the state fire marshal's report. Mayor Struble said he had not been favored with a copy of the report and that the first knowledge he had of the document was when he read it in a Klamath Falls newspaper which he declared was hostile to the city administration. Politics, he said, he believed was the basis of the "unfair report."

In conclusion Mayor Struble declared that he had been done an injustice and urged the governor to institute another investigation under no special interest in the affairs of Klamath Falls other than encouraging justice and fair play to all concerned.

It was stated today that Governor Olcott had referred Mayor Struble's letter to A. C. Barber, state fire marshal, who has the investigation of all fires under his jurisdiction. Whether the state fire marshal will take any further action in the case had not been determined tonight.

The deputy state fire marshals were sent to Klamath Falls by Governor Olcott following receipt of an appeal from Mayor Struble and the health officers asking that the destruction of the hotel be thoroughly investigated. The report complained of in Mayor Struble's letter was the result of the investigation.

SALEM, Ore., Oct. 19.—That the report prepared by Gilbert Allen, H. H. Pomeroy and George W. Stokes, deputy state fire marshals, in which certain officials of Klamath Falls were charged with "passing the buck" and indifference in connection with the investigation of the fire which destroyed the Houston hotel there with the loss of ten lives, was inspired with the intent to defeat the present city administration at the coming election and was not based on the facts as they existed were the charges made in a letter written by Mayor Struble of Klamath Falls and received at the executive offices here today.

Mayor Struble alleged in his letter to the governor that Mr. Pomeroy, who operates under the title of special arson investigator for the state fire marshal's office, and Mr. Allen conducted their inquiry behind closed doors and neither he, the mayor, nor a number of other persons friendly to the city's executive and members of the council were given an opportunity to testify.

EVANS WILL GET ANOTHER TRIAL

SALEM, Ore., Oct. 19.—The supreme court today granted a new trial to Lark Evans, convicted in Jackson county of robbing W. C. White, a taxi driver, and leaving him bound in the brush. The court held that the defendant was entitled to the benefit of new evidence set out in support of the motion for a re-trial.

Evans was arrested in Klamath Falls about nine months ago while employed in a local garage. He is an automobile mechanic.

WITZEL GIVEN 11 MONTHS' SENTENCE

PORTLAND, Oct. 19.—R. J. Witzel was today sentenced to serve 11 months in the Multnomah county jail, following a plea of guilty in the federal court to the charge of transporting Mrs. Mary Rose from Chico to Klamath Falls in violation of the provisions of the Mann act.

EXPRESS COMPANY ASKS RATIFICATION OF RATE

SALEM, Ore., Oct. 19.—The Oregon public service commission was today asked by the American Express company to set a date for hearing the company's application for an order making effective in Oregon the 26 1/2 per cent increase in rates for hauling milk and cream, recently authorized by the interstate commerce commission.

FARMERS ARE FOR STANFIELD

Portland, Oct. 19.—Oregon farmers have fully awakened to the danger of hard times that lie ahead unless they are given tariff protection. This is the view of Robert N. Stanfield, republican candidate for United States senator, expressed on his return from a tour of the state.

"The farmers are of one opinion; they are united on insisting that the democratic administration with its protectionless tariff stand must go," declared Mr. Stanfield in a statement on the tariff situation.

"I have talked with the wheat men, the wool producers, the cattle and livestock men, the fruit raiser, the poultry producer, the dairymen, the walnut growers—and I cannot too strongly impress upon the voters that our agricultural and livestock producers must have relief," said Mr. Stanfield.

"No relief can be hoped from the democratic administration. At this juncture the democratic candidates are ignoring the tariff issue because their party stands for free trade policies.

C. OF C. WILL MEET TONIGHT

The regular organization meeting of the membership of the Klamath county chamber of commerce will be held at the city hall tonight. The meeting will be called to order at 8 o'clock sharp.

Several committees will report on important matters and several talks of an important nature will be given on matters of community progress. Two special committees will report on matters of county wide importance, one being the committee appointed to consider the proposition of having a social worker in the county under the direction of the American Red Cross, the other is the report in regard to the matter of the state market commission bill, which will be voted on at the coming election. Both reports will be worthy of the consideration of every individual.

The last time the chamber of commerce meeting was well attended and much enthusiasm was shown, and tonight it is expected the room will be full. Women as well as men are requested to be present.

Final arrangements will be made for the town and country dinner to be held at the White Pelican hotel on the evening of October 28th which will be one of the biggest events pulled off in Klamath county this year.

The weekly forum meeting will be held tomorrow at the Rex cafe, the luncheon starting at the new hour, 12:15 o'clock.

A new method of preserving without using ice keeps fish fresh for five days.

CALIFORNIA LABOR TAKES UP WOOD CASE

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Oct. 19.—(Special to the Herald.)—City, state and federal labor organizations at a special meeting here last night joined hands in demanding a full investigation of the charges made by Harry Wood, vice president and organizer of the International Timberworkers' union, that he was forced to leave Susanville, Cal., by a mob who seized and blindfolded him and threatened him with lynching if he returned.

The meeting was presided over by Daniel Murphy, president of the state federation of labor. Paul Scharrenburg, secretary of the state organization, and other prominent labor leaders were present.

Wood was in attendance to present his accusations. He was accompanied by W. F. Kay, secretary of the central labor council of Klamath Falls, Ore.

Labor men charge that newspaper reports from Susanville make it appear that local authorities there are seeking to "pass the buck" and that their attitude makes it apparent that it will be impossible to secure a fair investigation through Lassen county officers. It is the intention of labor to present their case in full to Governor Stephens and other state officials and demand that the state make a full and impartial investigation.

COAL STRIKE GROWS, ENGLAND

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Great Britain's coal mining industry is almost paralyzed by the strike which began Saturday night.

Sir Robert Horn said at the opening of parliament today that factories closing each day throw ten thousand persons out of employment daily.

Big crowds gathered today in front of the parliament building and in Whitehall and Trafalgar square. There was no disorder.

"Citizen" Also Observes Absurdity Of Local Courthouse Situation

Klamath Falls, Ore., Oct. 18, 1920

Mr. Editor: Instinctively, almost, your readers must have known as they perused the article on the front page of the Herald Saturday evening on the courthouse situation that it was not written by any of the old-timers. Comparatively a new-comer myself and having been pretty thoroughly impressed with the foolishness and financial folly and the unwarranted chances being taken on the safety of the county records, I confess that the utter ridiculousness of the situation had not fully dawned upon me until I had finished reading the article referred to. The opportunity to see ourselves "as other see us" was certainly presented in a manner well calculated to carry conviction to the new-comer, at least.

It is without doubt a "present" condition and not a theory of vindictive or of attorney's fees, or of blasted hopes, or of hope deferred, that confronts the people of the county and city.

There has stood completed upon block 35 (to which the county, I understand, holds the legal title) a modern courthouse, an ornament to any county, conveniently accessible to the farmer and the city dweller, and ready for immediate occupancy. Why was there any delay in moving the records of the county and the offices of the county to a place of safety in the new structure soon after the keys were turned over to Sheriff Humphrey? Every county officer, and the circuit court, could have been comfortably and conveniently quartered there ever since that date, at no greater cost, in any event, than in being paid out for rentals and inconveniences at the present time. Safety of the county records alone

DROP IN PRICE OF FARMSTUFF HITS U. S. HARD

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Shrinkage of the value of farm products so far this season will result in the American farmers receiving \$2,500,000,000 less for their products than they would have received under the 1919 prices, the secretary of agriculture Meredith told the convention of the American Bankers association here today.

He declared that the situation demands the best thought and sympathetic consideration of the bankers of America and all the people of the country.

Mr. Meredith estimated that decline in corn prices had cost the producers a billion dollars.

FIRE CHIEF TO ENFORCE LAW

Fire Chief Ambrose stated today that tomorrow he will begin inspections to determine how far owners of local rooming houses have complied with instructions issued a month ago to provide their places with fire protection appliances.

Owners were given 30 days to install proper lights and exit signs, the rope fire escapes required for two story buildings, remodel doors so that they will open outward, etc. For installations of metal fire escapes and such things as make necessary sending out of town for material 60 days was granted, so that only the first class will be affected by the inspections starting tomorrow.

All have had ample warning, the chief stated, and any persons who have complied with instructions will be prosecuted under the state law. Chief Ambrose is acting as an enforcement officer under the appointment of the state fire marshal and violators will be dealt with by the state and not under the city ordinances.

Ireland has 350 co-operative creameries.

CAMPAIGN DONATIONS TO BE PUBLISHED

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 16. Five days before the coming election complete records of the collections and disbursements of the republican and democratic parties will be submitted to the public through the senate committee investigating campaign expenditures, which today directed the chairman of senatorial and congressional committees to file such reports.

HILLIS LECTURE SERIES COMING

Announcement has just been made that some, if not all, of the Newell Dwight Hillis lectures will be given here throughout the fall months. The first lecture will be given at the Presbyterian church next Thursday night at 8 p. m.

These lectures, prepared at great expense by Newell Dwight Hillis, one of the foremost Chautauqua lecturers in the United States, consist of a series of ten, each illustrated by some 30 or 35 colored slides. They have been given by Dr. Hillis in the largest centers in the east and middle west and have held large audiences spell-bound.

The lectures are meant to make better Americans and are endorsed by all who have heard them. They are offered here through the courtesy of the local chapter of the Way Work Council, Y. M. C. A. of which Rev. E. P. Lawrence is chairman, and are given under the auspices of Klamath Post No. 3 of the American Legion.

It is hoped that there will be a large attendance not only of ex-service men, whose trials in the past three years have already made better Americans of them, but also of the public at large, and especially of the young element of our population. There is no entrance charge and no collection will be taken.

SALVAGE DEPARTMENT FEATURE OF BAZAAR

The "Salvage Department" is to be one of the important features of the Catholic Bazaar, which is to be held December 1, 2, 3 and 4. Everyone is supposed to contribute to this department anything and everything that they want to dispose of—from "white elephants" to "calathumpians," and from pins to pianos. If the gifts cannot be delivered to the assembly rooms of the Catholic church, phone 143 and leave address and they will be called for. Of course, the ladies who have this in charge will be very glad to have these donations in repair, but it is not necessary.

If the hat doesn't fit, send it to the salvage department; if the shoe pinches, send it to the salvage department and let someone get the money's worth out of it.

LEGION AUXILIARY WILL MEET TONIGHT

The president of the women's auxiliary of the American legion is extending an urgent request to all mothers, wives and daughter of service men to meet with the auxiliary tonight in the west hall of the I. O. O. F. building at 8 o'clock.

One of the purposes of the meeting is to make arrangements for aiding in the observance of Armistice day, November 11, which has been proclaimed a general holiday by Governor Olcott.

The local auxiliary was organized a week ago with about 35 charter members. It is open to all women relatives of service men and plans to make an active effort to extend its membership.

FIRST REAL SNOWFALL OF SEASON RECEIVED

The first real snow of the season fell last night, and the landscape this morning was covered with two or three inches of "the beautiful." There have been a couple of previous flurries. Most of the last snow fell between 7 and 9 o'clock last night. Motorists who were not prepared with skid chains had their troubles. The storm causes some anxiety to the farmers who have not finished threshing.

MORE SECRET METHODS ARE GIVEN LIGHT

Exposure in the supreme court hearing of the courthouse litigation in Salem last week of the fact that the county court has insured the Main street courthouse—taking out the insurance secretly, the attorneys for J. M. Dougan alleged—may or may not have direct bearing on the case, but it has raised the question in the minds of many local citizens as to why the county court did not pursue the logical course that would apparently follow and occupy the building until the matter is finally decided by the courts.

A communication from a citizen published elsewhere in this issue—that no special sanctity doth hedge about a lawsuit, and that the county might as well have moved into its completed building, providing convenient quarters for its officers, facilitating the convenience of citizens who have business with the various officers, and removing from jeopardy the valuable public records now in constant danger from destruction by fire—expresses a growing opinion.

Eventually the courts will decide the matter. In the meantime everyone would have at least been comfortable and more willing to let the lawyers wrangle as long as the public treasury could stand the strain.

There's considerable sentiment developing since the insurance matter cropped out—and the matter of the county court taking the keys from Sheriff Humphrey and turning them over to the Red Cross—that the county court has been straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel.

Surely if the Main street courthouse was not the property of the county there was no reason or need for the county court to place upon it \$112,000 worth of insurance.

Not that we on file in the county clerk's office have insurance policies, aggregating \$37,250, a contract between the county commission and J. F. McGuire, local insurance agent, to cover protection of the Main street courthouse from destruction by fire.

J. H. Driscoll testified at Salem that he had drawn up policies for an equal amount of insurance on the building but they had never been delivered. This merely evades the situation, as anyone who has ever bought an insurance policy knows. Mr. Driscoll answered the question truthfully as far as he went, but as a matter of fact the delivery of the policy to the insured is not necessary to validate it.

Fred Buesing, another local insurance man, took the remaining third of the \$112,000 policy on the Main street courthouse. His policies are not on file. The McGuire agency is the only one that has filed its policies and made them available for public record, but the other policies are in existence and binding.

According to the Portland Oregonian, Judge Bunnell denied in the court hearing that the Main street structure had been insured.

"Judge Bunnell," says the Oregonian, "says that he had discussed with insurance men the protection of any interest that the county might have in the building. However, he says that no insurance was paid for and no action was taken by the county court."

The policies on file in the county clerk's office, however, declare on the face that they were executed in consideration of a certain specific premium, on July 30, 1920, to insure the building and furniture on block 35 for the term of three years.

In regard to the keys, the Portland paper says Judge Bunnell "admitted that he got the keys to the structure, but did so to prevent other officials from moving into the building and thereby jeopardizing their (the county's) case."

The main keys were turned over to the county court, according to Sheriff Humphrey, who had them from the architect, and the sheriff took the court through the new building and showed them where keys to interior doors were kept.

It was in the latter part of August when the court got the keys. The Houston hotel fire occurred September 6 and the Red Cross got the keys