

# The Evening Herald

Member of the Associated Press

OFFICIAL PAPER OF  
KLAMATH COUNTY AND  
OF KLAMATH FALLS

**WEATHER FORECAST**  
TONIGHT AND SATURDAY, SNOW,  
WARMER, INCREASING SOUTH-  
EASTERLY WINDS

Sixteenth Year.—No. 6108

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1922

PRICE FIVE CENTS

# ASTORIA IS RAZED BY FIRE

## Entire Business District Wiped Out; Loss Is Estimated At \$15,000,000

ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—The entire district here, comprising 26 square blocks, was wiped out by fire which started shortly after 2 A. M. in a restaurant in the heart of the business district.

One life was lost, that of Norris Staples, automobile dealer and president of the Bank of Commerce, who dropped dead.

At 9 o'clock all the district between Astor street, at the river front, south to Exchange street and east and west between Eighth and 16th streets was devastated. Between 11th and 12th the fire penetrated as far as Franklin street.

Fire Chief Foster said the fire got out of control because it burned beneath the buildings, under the piling which had not been filled in when the city was built on piles, and he attributed the disaster to this fact. Most of the buildings burned were frame but the city's substantial brick buildings are also gone, including the Astoria Savings bank, Weinhard hotel, Budget, Elks Temple, Astoria National bank, Staples Motor company, Covey Motor company and the Skellerud Dry Goods store. All the docks were saved.

Rain was falling most of the time, with no wind.

ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—Thirty blocks in the business district, including a part of the older residence section, leading business houses and banks, and the buildings of both newspapers were fire-swept at noon today.

The fire is spreading east at 17th street, but is generally checked in the west end and north. It has spread some on the south side of the devastated area to Franklin between 11th and 12th.

Dynamiting broke the windows of the courthouse but that building is believed saved.

Fire had practically burned itself out at noon. In addition to Norris Staples, who dropped dead, an unidentified man was reported to have hanged himself. The loss estimated at between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000.

ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—Early this afternoon the fire had practically burned itself out. Apparatus from Portland put six additional hose lines on the fire.

W. A. Tyler, president of the Astoria National bank, estimated the loss between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000.

Astoria business men sent out word that the city needed cash, as all banks have been burned and the money is locked in vaults. All bakeries were burned and bread is needed. Beds for homeless are to be sent from the Seaside hotel. The hotel is to accommodate such as go there for shelter.

The police are making efforts to patrol the burned district to prevent looting.

Great anxiety for the safety of friends and relatives was felt by many here today. F. W. Abbey, auto mechanic employed at Roy Call's garage, received a telegram from his son, a confectioner at Astoria, asking that funds be sent him at once. According to Associated Press reports, there were but two deaths, neither of which resulted from burns.

ASTORIA, Dec. 8.—The plants of both Astoria newspapers, the Budget, afternoon, and the Astorian, morning, were swept by fire.

The Budget occupied a two-story brick building of which the upper floors burned, wrecking the composing room, including linotypes and gas plant. At noon the firemen were trying to salvage the presses and paper stock in the basement.

The Budget is getting out a six column one-page sheet at Seaside as its edition today.

The Astorian recently moved into a new concrete one-story building. The flames swept through this.

# FREIGHT RATE CUT IS ORDERED

## HARDING URGES DRY LAWS GET FULL SUPPORT

### Prohibition Question Dealt With By President In Message to Congress

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—President Harding in his annual message, delivered before congress today in person, deals with nearly a score of subjects, including prohibition, farm credits, transportation, child labor and immigration.

He announced that he would call a conference of governors to adopt definite policies of national and state co-operation in administering prohibition laws. He said the prohibition amendment would likely never be repealed and the nation should adopt a course accordingly. He said that if enforcement of the provisions are contrary to public opinion, which he does not believe, the rigorous enforcement will concentrate public attention on any necessary modification.

Harding proposed that the railroad labor board be abolished with the substitution of a labor division in the interstate commerce commission. He urged co-ordination of all transportation facilities and opposed paralleling railroads with motor truck lines.

He urged more extensive credit to farmers, suggested a constitutional amendment giving congress authority over child labor, and one restricting tax exempt securities, and proposed legislation for the registration of aliens and a more thorough examination of immigrants.

## ALL STARS PLAY H. S. Veteran Basket Throwers Will Battle Students Tonight

Klamath high's basketball team (No. 1) will play its first game of the season tonight with the local "All Stars" captained by John Houston. The game will be played in the hall on Fourth and Klamath at 7:15 in order not to conflict with the American Legion smoker. The second series of girls class games will also be held, the seniors playing the freshmen, and the juniors the sophomores.

The local team has been practicing with the high school this week and is in fairly good condition to give the boys their hardest game of the season. The squad is composed of John Houston, who played in the local high school basketball team before he graduated, and in the University of Oregon squad; Kenneth Perry, who played in the local high school basketball team before he graduated and played in the O. A. C. squad; Paul ("Doc") Noel, who is a graduate of the local high school and played on the school team, as well as on the Portland Dental college team; Frank Howard, basketball coach at the high school last year and who played on the Whitman college varsity and the Y. M. C. A. team at Walla Walla, Wash.; Lowell "Doc" Dunn, who played at Wendell, Idaho on the high school team and has played on numerous town teams since then; Earl Smith, former Grants Pass high school player; and Ralph Swanson, who played on the Chinook, Wash., town team for years.

The high school squad, captained by Clifford Hogue, will be picked from the following squad: Vernon Moore, Pete Molschenbacher, Delmar Robertson, Jennings Washington, "Chuck" Grove, Frank Hall, Arthur Peck, Kenneth Maier, Dale Soule, Zed Barnes, and Herbert Landis.

## Tangle Grows Worse In Chiloquin Contest For Justice of Peace

The case of T. L. Snook against H. C. Spink, contesting the latter's election to the office of justice of the peace for the Chiloquin district, is threatening to develop into a life-sized community disagreement. Friendships are about to be torn asunder and thinly veiled threats have been made that the certain attorneys in the case as well as the county court may become seriously involved.

After a day devoted to the hearing yesterday no decision was reached and things appeared more confused than they were at the beginning, and give promise of so staying until the return of the county judge's legal advisor, W. A. West, who is in Portland at present.

### Used Old Act

T. L. Snook, through his attorney, Bert C. Thomas, filed his petition to contest the election of Spink under the act of congress of 1879 which makes an informal and simple thing out of an election contest, no bonds and no sworn affidavits being required. Regardless of this, William Marx, attorney for the defendant, has brought forward the later Corrupt Practices act and demands that bonds be required and sworn affidavits naming the illegal voters be furnished by Snook. This, it is held will mean an elaborate outlay of funds and which the present incumbent Snook, does not think the position of justice of peace justifies.

### Declared Recess

At three o'clock yesterday Judge Bunnell declared a recess while he considered the matter. Court convened again at four o'clock and the contesting parties were informed that briefs would be required by the court that he might submit them to West upon his return. Monday was the day set for the presentation of the briefs.

## Santa Claus Heard From Sends Radio to Children

(Santa Claus Radio Special)  
SANTALAND, Dec. 8.—Carrying the largest load of toys that ever left here, Santa Claus will leave here for Klamath Falls Christmas eve, arriving about midnight. After visiting the homes of good boys and girls of that city, he will make his annual tour of the rest of the world.

A problem with which Santa is always confronted is to know exactly what his little friends want him to bring them. He is always fearful lest he bring skates for some little boy who wanted a sled, or a pink loll dress for a little girl who wanted a blue one. And so this year he is asking the boys and girls to write to him, care of The Herald, and tell him exactly what they want.

Santa is particularly anxious to learn of poor boys and girls whose Christmas may not be a very happy one. He wants to brighten their lives with some little gift that will bring happiness to their hearts. And he asks that those who know of poor boys and girls write to him, care of The Herald.

Letters addressed to Santa Claus, care of The Herald, will be promptly forwarded to Santaland.

## LOVETT BEFORE I. C. C. Chairman of U. P. Board Admits Expenditures to Sway Opinion

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The financial aspects of the proposed separation of the Southern Pacific railroad from the Central Pacific were put before the interstate commerce commission today by Judge Robert S. Lovett, chairman of the board of directors, Union Pacific.

Judge Lovett freely conceded that the Union Pacific had expended large but unnamed amounts of money to influence public opinion on the Pacific coast and elsewhere in an effort to defeat the campaign of the Southern Pacific.

## TARIFFS HELD UNREASONABLE BY COMMISSION

### Discrimination Against Oregon Cities to Favor California Charged

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Railroad rates on classified freight from Portland, Medford and other jobbing centers in Oregon to consuming territory in southern Oregon and northern California were held today by the interstate commerce commission to be unreasonably high and to constitute a discrimination against Oregon cities and in favor of San Francisco, Oakland, Sacramento, Stockton and Marysville, California. The commission ordered a general reorganization of rates, applying to traffic on the Central Pacific on the principle of reducing slightly the charges on classified freight moving from northern points and increasing slightly the rates to the same destination on similar freight from California cities.

## SELL RILEY TICKETS

Sale Started At Pine Tree Theatre This Afternoon

Reserved seat tickets for the Frank Branch Riley illustrated lecture, Monday evening, went on sale this afternoon at the Pine Tree theater.

The tickets will be on sale every afternoon at the theater box office, until the lecture.

All seats in the house except the balcony are reserved. Riley left Portland last night on his speaking tour of southern Oregon. He will arrive here tomorrow night or Sunday, and will speak Monday noon at the chamber of commerce forum, which has been changed from Wednesday to Monday, solely that local citizens might have the opportunity to get acquainted with Riley at close range.

On the night of December 8, Riley will speak at Ashland, under the auspices of the chamber of commerce, and on the night of December 12 at Medford, under the auspices of the "Craters."

Southern Oregon has long been clamoring for Riley to tell them of his experiences on his lecture trip east last spring, and this is the first opportunity that could be arranged for the visit. On his tour the lecturer visited the chief centers of the east and gave wonderfully effective descriptive addresses that carried the fame of Oregon and the northwest very far, much farther, indeed, than it had gone before. "The Evangel of Oregon" was the title given him on his tour, and the reaction to his presentation of Oregon's charms has been very marked, as inquiries and letters of appreciation have testified.

## MARKET REPORT

PORTLAND, Dec. 8.—Cattle steady. Top hogs 25c lower, others steady; prime light \$9 to \$9.25. Sheep and eggs steady, butter firm.

## No. 3 Courthouse Is Pathetic Picture of Woe; Days About Over

Forlorn and almost deserted, Klamath's courthouse No. 3, the old wooden structure, today presented a pathetic picture. Like an old warrior who has served his many enlistments, and is about to be discarded for younger blood, old No. 3's days are numbered.

The last of the county records have been removed by County Clerk Delap to the Main street building. Ancient calendars, sundry papers, a box of stove wood and a lonesome-looking stove, likewise a veteran, were all that remained. A paradise for mice.

Across the hall, however, the sheriff still holds forth. Moreover, he will continue to do so for a while longer. He has no intention of following Delap's lead and, even as the assessor and school superintendent, will stand pat.

### Holds Upper Floor

Justice of the Peace Gaghagen has the upper floor wholly to himself. In a small room at the rear of the gloomy old courtroom he continues to dispense justice, never forgetting to keep the stove cheerfully burning. For it's cold in the old shack these days. Last night the water pipes froze, to the intense disgust of at least one county official. But Gaghagen will soon move to the city hall. So he should worry.

The county clerk's new office all is bustle and confusion. Workmen hustle here and there placing the record-holders, with Delap happily directing the work. Friends drop in occasionally to offer congratulations or suggestions.

### Fly In Ointment

Eat there's a fly in Delap's ointment. The county court will not permit a telephone to be installed. How, then, is one to call in to ask the price of a marriage license? Ah, but a way will be found! Let the telephone in the old office jangle; one will also jangle in this office before long. Just how this will be accomplished is, of course, a deep, dark secret.

Judge Bunnell, it develops, refused to assist in the moving yesterday. Not that he was not invited, and by one of Delap's fair assistants at that. But he refused. He turned away rather abruptly, the fair one said.

At the rear of the county clerk's former office is the county courtroom. Here, at least, Messrs. Bunnell, Fordyce and Short may rule. True, there is no clerk handy, yet it is possible to get an assistant from the ex-woodshed at the rear. A willing assistant, too; one who is sympathetic with the cause of the peepul.

And so closes another chapter in the Courthouse War.

## BAND DANCE TONIGHT

### Members Feel Attendance Will Measure Desire for Permanency

The support given to the band through attendance at the benefit dance at the Scandinavian hall tonight will measure to some extent, members feel, the sincerity of the desire of Klamath Falls citizens for a permanent band organization.

Band members and leader are devoting a great deal of time to perfecting the organization, and while money is of a secondary consideration, it takes some cash to keep up a band. If the members donate the talent and time, the public, it is felt, if they want a band should aid financially.

The larger the crowd at the dance tonight, the better the prospects for a good band next season.

## IRISH REBELS EXECUTED

DUBLIN, Dec. 8.—Rory O'Connor and Liam Mellowes, together with two other Irish rebels, were executed at Mount Joy prison today.

## AMERICA MUST PREPARE, AVERS GEN. PERSHING

### Need For Better Air Service Shown; Equipment Held Inadequate

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—America must be prepared to "take the immediate defensive" in the air in case of war, and to so expand its air strength that it eventually can assume the offensive, General Pershing declared today in his annual report as chief of staff of the army.

"This is the basis of our present defense policies with all our arms and should be considered a minimum," the general of the armies continued. "A very important part in such a defensive would be the operations of an effective air service."

### Shortage Exists

General Pershing said he desired to call attention to the condition of the air service today and the fact that there existed a "present shortage of facilities and personnel for a completely balanced and adequate service of this vital component of defense."

"No man can estimate with present certainty the value which can be ascribed in a few years in the possession of an adequate resourcefulness in the air," he said. "It is certain, however, that the influence of air power will become increasingly great and that the nation can not afford to neglect this arm."

"The air service which we develop should be capable of offensive application. This does not mean that we must immediately build an air service that could take the offensive against any great power or group of powers. It does mean, however, that we should have a force that can take the immediate defensive, and that can, during a reasonable period of operations, expand to the strength required for an offensive."

### Facilities Lacking

The report said the reserve of air planes for such a policy and even facilities for personnel training were lacking, and that "industries and the air ways of our country are not prepared for an emergency."

"I earnestly hope therefore," General Pershing added, "that early steps will be taken to bring about the effective co-operation of states with the agencies of the national government to the end that this vital need can be effectually filled."

Discussing the development of the army and post war reorganization, the general said he had "witnessed with approbation the accomplishments of the present administration in attaining efficiency and economy of operation, and it has been a source of distinct pride to observe the response of our military personnel." He pointed out, however, that he regarded the army at its present strength of 12,000 officers and 125,000 men as "below the minimum required for effective performance of our various missions."

## WEATHER PROBABILITIES

Barring a slight fall in pressure about noon today, the Cyclo-thermograph at Udenwood's Pharmacy registered but little change during the last 24 hours. Clear cold weather will probably prevail tonight. Forecast for next 24 hours: Generally clear, continued cold.

The Tycoos recording thermometer registered maximum and minimum temperatures today as follows:

High ..... 25  
Low ..... 8