

DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL.

SALEM, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 27, 1906.

NO. 179.

THE ASYLUM WAS IN FLAMES

FIRE RAGED FOR NEARLY TWO HOURS

Special Local Service, Aided by Salem Fire Department, Prevented a Calamity

By the most strenuous efforts on the part of the Salem Fire Department and the fire squad of the asylum, the Oregon State Insane Asylum was saved from complete destruction by fire this forenoon. As it was, the north wing was badly damaged, causing a loss of \$5000. The well organized attendants managed the patients so well there was no disorder, and not an accident occurred. The flames raged for an hour and a half, but were out at noon. There is no insurance on the building.

age was kept down to about \$5000, and there was no loss of life; no one was injured, and practically there was no disorder. From half past 10 o'clock until noon the hundreds of insane persons were guarded in the gardens of the asylum grounds under the closest surveillance of the attendants, and every minute it was expected that bedlam would break loose and pandemonium reign. Intense excitement reigned in the city, and almost every person who could do so went to the asylum. Horses and vehicles were pressed into service, and the street cars were loaded to the limit.

Farmer Brown Saw It.

The fire was discovered by Farmer Thomas Brown, who was driving into town, and saw the flames pouring from the roof and cupola of the north wing at 10:20 o'clock. Mr. Brown at once gave the alarm, and the fire bells were rung. Engineer Strang, of the asylum, has an efficiently organized fire company of attendants, and he at once went to fighting the flames. W. N. Gatens, private sec-

retary to the governor, was at the state penitentiary at the time. He and Superintendent James ran over to the asylum and telephoned for the Salem fire department. In the meantime Dr. Calbreath, superintendent of the asylum, was exerting all his efforts to the safety of the patients.

Patients Were Out Doors.

Nearly all the inmates of the asylum were out on the grounds when the alarm was given. The attendants at once placed all the female patients in a small garden and stationed as many attendants as could be spared from other duties on guard.

The men had been out for their morning exercise, and were being marched back into the building. They were at once marched back into the grounds, and corralled in an enclosure and strongly guarded.

Dr. Calbreath then put all the attendants left at work removing all the patients from the north wing and the top story of the entire pile of buildings to the lower floor and farthest away from the fire. This left in the asylum only about 100 of the most dangerous patients, and these would have been kept in the building until there was absolute and urgent danger of the entire structure being destroyed.

Origin of the Fire.

It is not known how the fire originated. When first seen by Farmer Brown the flames were pouring from the roof and cupola of the north wing. It is the opinion of Dr. Calbreath and Engineer Strang that it was caused from an electric wire. The building is strung with wires for lights, power and telephones, and all of these go through the attic. No other reasonable cause has been suggested.

Eleven Convicts Aid.

When the alarm was given eleven convicts from the state penitentiary, who are trusties, were sent over to augment Engineer Strang's firemen, and all of these did heroic work. No members of the paid fire department ever worked better, or hesitated less in the face of danger. The Salem fire department was on the grounds in a very short time, and, considering the limited facilities at hand, did splendid work. The one lone engine was put where it would do the most good, and a steady stream of water was kept playing on the blaze all the time. Dr. Calbreath, a number of attendants, the convicts from the state prison were all on top of the burning building, assisting Fire Chief Savage and his assistants at the arduous work of fighting the flames.

Inmates Eagerly Watch.

While the blazing flames were raging the hundreds of inmates, bereft of reason, with bleary eyes and insane glare, were eagerly watching the flames. Few of them realized the significance of the excitement. Some of them were waving their hands; others were merrily laughing; some were singing, and all were talking at once. It was a trying hour for the attendants. At any moment it was expected the outbreak would come. The experienced attendants little knew what the crazy unfortunates would do next. It was expected there would be a rush for liberty, and that perhaps some of them would rush past the guards into the burning building.

No Insurance.

There is no insurance on the asylum. It has been the policy of the governing board to have the state carry its own insurance, which means there is no insurance at all.

While it is difficult today to make an accurate statement of the monetary loss, the most conservative estimate places the damage done to the building and contents at \$7500, or anywhere from \$5000 to \$10,000.

All the damage was confined to the roof of the north wing, which is practically ruined, and to the contents of the upper story of the north wing. The damage done to the furniture was chiefly from smoke and water. The entire floor was drenched and furniture and bedding had to be thrown from the windows to the ground below. While this was being done, the firemen were on the roof,

using almost superhuman efforts to check the progress of the flames.

Fortunate Time of Day.

The fire occurred at the most fortunate time of day. Had the blaze occurred in the night when the entire population of the institution were in their wards and asleep, probably human power could not have prevented a terrible catastrophe.

As it was, nearly all the patients were outside the building taking their daily exercise, and the entire force was on duty.

The lives of 1600 people were endangered.

The number of insane persons confined at the institution is 1420; the attendants and other employes number 178, making a total of 1598.

Engineer Strang Talks.

Engineer A. E. Strang, who has had charge of the mechanical work in the building for many years, says it is a fact that the fire originated in the attic, but as to the actual cause it cannot be fixed. It must have been caused from the electric wires, as no chimney passes through the attic, but Mr. Strang is confident that the wires were in good order, and doubts that this could be the cause. The chimneys are all on the outside of the building, and do not touch this attic, hence the origin of the fire remains a mystery. The alarm was turned in through one of the thermostats in the attic. There are a series of these instruments which will convey the alarm after a certain degree of heat reaches them. Mr. Strang's first effort was to get into the attic at the east end and prevent the flames from communicating with the other part of the building through a connection door, which is located at this point. This was done and then the men began bringing up the hose, and turning a stream upon the fire. The next move was to enter the same attic at the south end through the roof, and here men commenced throwing water on the flames. Thus, they were fighting the fire from both ends to the center of the wing. This process went far toward saving the building. The institution has 2500 feet of hose, three hose carts, and two fire companies, and, with six streams of water on the fire, maintained 600 pounds pressure. This efficiency in the fire department of the institution, with the valiant assistance of all their men, as well as the city fire department working on the outside, no doubt saved the day.

Supt. Calbreath Very Cool.

The superintendent was seen after the worst was over. He was cool as a cucumber on ice, wading through the wards and giving instructions on every hand for a prompt clean up. The superintendent corroborates the views of the engineer concerning the origin of the fire. He thinks the fire walls, which were put into the attic two years ago, were responsible for their ability to confine fire to one wing, as, without these walls, it would have been very difficult to control the flames.

Dr. Calbreath is very grateful to all for assistance. The patients, who have been faithfully drilled for such occasions, marched out as calmly and orderly as soldiers. In fact, they were less affected than the employes, having no responsibility.

The chief damage is to the roof by fire, and to the ceilings by water. Substantial furniture is not damaged, although bedding and more fragile articles are much the worse for smoke and water. The state carries its own insurance on this institution, and will consequently suffer the entire loss.

Dr. Calbreath says that friends from the penitentiary, including 11 trusties, who were working about the building, rendered exceptional service, as did also delegations from the sheriff's office and the police department.

As the fire was in the attic, people in the tall building were the last to discover the flames. The first news was brought in by Farmer Brown from the outside and some prisoners as well as passersby discovered the flames first. When the heat became sufficient to touch off the nearest thermostat, of course, the alarm came sounding down the wire,

(Continued on page eight.)

DIETZ TOOK THEM

Sheriff and His Party Go to Arrest Dutchman and Don't Come Back

Madison, Wis., July 27.—Since the battle at the Cameron dam yesterday, the sheriff who led the attacking party and all his posse, including the wounded soldiers, have all disappeared. Reinforcements went today, but found no trace of them. They were not strong enough to attack Dietz, and returned with a report that the main party was either captured by Dietz or lost in the woods. Governor Davidson says the soldiers in the fight acted without his authority.

WANTS ANOTHER CHANCE

Washington, July 27.—The argument favoring Burton's appeal for a rehearing was filed in the supreme court today, to be perused by the justices in full bench.

Can Preach, but Not Practice.

Zion, Ill., July 27.—Judge Laodis exercises personal supervision over the affairs, and will protect the interest of its members. The title of all the investors is recognized, and the officers of the church are divested of all power, except to expound the scriptures. The government of Zion City will practically be a republic under the guidance of the federal government.

All questions must be submitted to a referendum, the majority to rule, men and women voting. The elections will be controlled by judges appointed by state election commissioners.

Upton Sinclair for Congress.

Trenton N. J., July 27.—The Socialists of Mercer county will hold a convention here this afternoon for the purpose of nominating candidates for the coming fall campaign. It is almost a certainty that Upton Sinclair, the author, whose book "The Jungle" led to the exposure of the methods employed in the Chicago packing houses, will be nominated for congress. It is quite certain that Mr. Sinclair will accept the nomination, as he has already expressed his readiness to do so. He lives in Princeton, but is a prominent member of the Mercer county Socialists.

Coaling Problem of Navy.

Washington, D. C., July 27.—The navy department is looking thoroughly into the important problem of coaling at sea. It has under consideration several systems, one an English, the other an American invention which are to be tested soon. The naval general board has come to the conclusion that coaling at sea is quite as important as the maintenance of a floating dry dock with its machine shop auxiliary.

Plead After Conviction.

Fargo, N. D., July 27.—Huldeke Bros., owners of the Little Missouri Horse Company, and W. A. Clark Company's manager, pleaded guilty this morning to illegally fencing 5000 acres of government land. The case was fought in the courts for five years.

ORDERS SHIPS HOME

Czar Wants Battleships Just Laying Around Handy for Use

St. Petersburg, July 27.—Orders have been sent to commanders of Russian warships at foreign ports to return to Kronstadt immediately. The principal item in the reform plan of the Czar is granting land to peasants upon easy payments and terms. The government has appealed to the people to use good sense, and put down the revolution.

Russia Is Bubbling.

Moscow, July 27.—Agrarian troubles in this district and in Tver are so extensive that 600 arrests have already been made in the efforts to quell socialist and revolutionist uprisings.

SAGE WILL FILED

New York, July 27.—Sage's will has been filed. He leaves principally all to his widow. His nephews and nieces each get \$25,000. His sister, Mrs. Chapin, now dead gets \$10,000. The widow of Dr. John Munn and Chas W. Osborn are executrix and exutors. Any beneficiary objecting loses all.

Honor Gov. Geary's Memory.

New Cumberland, Pa., July 27.—The Geary celebration in honor of the memory of former Governor Geary begun here this morning with a grand civic and industrial parade, in which the merchants of the various cities in this district and many civic organizations participated. In the evening there will be a band concert, singing by a large chorus and addresses by Governor Pennypacker and Congressman M. E. Olmsted. The celebration will be continued tomorrow, when the firemen will hold a big parade. Another band concert will be held tomorrow evening, and it will be followed by public exercises, at which Judge Wilbur F. Sadler, Robert Snodgrass and others will deliver addresses. On Sunday a big union service will be held in the public square, beginning at 10 o'clock.

Watermelons for the Bluejackets.

New York July 27.—The refrigerating ship Glacier has nearly completed its loading and will be ready to sail for Dominican waters tomorrow. The ship will carry a large load of good things for the officers, bluejackets and marines of the American fleet which has been patrolling the Dominican coast for some time. There will be enough fresh meats to last the sailors two or three weeks, all sorts of fresh vegetables and 25,000 big watermelons. These good things are sent to the fleet as a token of the satisfaction of the navy department with the manner in which the officers and men of the fleet have discharged their duties during the tiresome and monotonous patrolling cruises.

Summer School of the South Opens.

Knoxville, Tenn., July 27.—The fifth annual session of the summer school of the South, at the University of Tennessee closed today, after an unusually successful session. The average attendance was considerably over 2000.

Dr. J. F. Cook Moved to 340 Liberty street, where he will meet all old and new patients. For any disease, call on Dr. Cook. Consultation free.

CHICAGO STORE

PEOPLES BARGAIN HOUSE

THE CROWDS THAT DAILY VISITS

OUR STORE IS THE CONVINCING PROOF THAT THE CHICAGO STORE IS THE STORE THAT DOES THE BIGGEST BUSINESS IN SALEM. WHY SHOULDN'T WE? OUR GOODS ARE ALWAYS NEW AND FRESH AND OUR PRICES THE LOWEST. WE BACK UP OUR ADVERTISEMENTS WITH THE GOODS AND PRICES AND WILLING CLERKS ALWAYS READY TO WAIT ON YOU. READ ON:

- 95c Ombre Plaid dress goods, the very latest, price yard.....59c
- 15c black and white silk checked suitings, new, price yard.....9c
- 46-inch mohair dress goods.....49c
- Standard patterns on sale.
- \$1.39 36-in black taffeta silk, yd 98c
- 45c wash India silk, yd.....25c
- Thousands of yards of fine new dress silks at sale prices.
- Black and colored dress goods, sale price, yd 18c 25c, 35c, 49c, 75c.
- Thousands of yards of challies, lawns and dimities.....4c
-4c, 5c, 6 1/4c, 8 1-3c and 10c.
- Remnants of dress goods half price.
- 1000 yards calicoes, yd.....4c
- \$1.00 shirt waist patterns.....49c
- 20c baby Irish laces, yd.....12 1/2c
- 45c all-over laces, yd.....25c
- 85c all-over laces, yd.....45c
- Valenciennes laces from 2c yd up.
- 30c pair white stockings, pair.....10c
- 1000 yds ribbons, yd 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c.
- Ruchings, all colors, price.....5c
- \$1.50 silk hosiery, price.....98c
- Children's 15c black stockings, 10c
- Children's 25c black stockings, 15c
- Ladies' fancy collars.....5c, 10c, 15c and 25c

- 45c chiffon, special, yd.....25c
- Ladies' white embroidered belts 15c
- Ladies' 95c white undershirts, 65c
- Ladies' muslin gowns from 49c up.
- All our muslin and white goods special sale prices.
- Embroideries, yd.....15c
-10c, 3c, 5c, 8 1-3c, 10c and 15c.
- Ladies' hose supporters 10c, 15c 25c
- 8c white pearl buttons, doz.....1c
- Best darning cotton, ball.....1c
- Best Saus silk, ball.....2c
- Best spool silk, spool.....4c
- Special sunbonnets, price.....10c
- Wrappers, all prices from 49c up
- Men's black and white work shirts.....35c
- Men's summer underwear.....25c
- Children's overalls.....25c
- Children's and misses ready made dresses, bargains, 25c 35c, 49c up.
- Ladies' \$2.00 long gloves.....\$1.25
- \$1.50 white lingerie shirtwaists 75c
- Ladies' shoes, special, pair.....\$1.35
- Children's shoes from 25c up.
- Men's best overalls.....49c
- You should visit our Cloak, Suit, Millinery and Shirt Waist Department. We are showing great values

SALEM'S GREATEST GROWING STORE.
MCEVOY BROS. Corner of Commercial and Court Streets