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TIRE DAMAGE AT BOISE NEAR \$160,000

Moreno Building Destroyed by Flames. Fire Department Fights Blaze for Hours

BOISE—Total loss in the fire which destroyed the Moreno building Tuesday morning, will not exceed \$160,000. Investigations Tuesday afternoon showed. The entire day fire department fought the blaze from 1:15 o'clock to 7 o'clock Tuesday morning while the two new gasoline pumps and a stream pump threw nearly a million gallons of water on the blaze.

The entire building was gutted, leaving nothing but the brick walls, except on the corner occupied by the Hemmway-Moser cigar store, which was undamaged except by water and smoke. Damage to the building itself, owned by the Robert Noble estate, was \$60,000, covered by insurance. The building was erected more than 25 years ago.

Nine stores on the ground floor of the building were destroyed. Boise Saddlery & Findings Co., owned by C. P. Holliday and Geo. E. Cooley, were heaviest sufferers. Their stock was completely destroyed with a loss of \$50,000.

Others damaged were: The XXXX lunch, owned by R. E. Wyckoff, \$1,000 damage from water and smoke; Boise Drum & Saxophone Co., owned by A. M. Barfoot, \$20 loss from smoke and water, no insurance; the Boise shoe and hat store, owned by Tom and William Casey, \$20,000 loss from fire and water, no insurance; Hemmway & Moser cigar store, \$7,000 loss from water and smoke, covered by insurance.

Dr. E. S. Owen, head of the Boise Optical Co., said Tuesday morning his big loss would be in prescription files but investigation of his office showed the files had escaped from flames. Practically all of the damage to Doctor Owens' office was by water and smoke, amounting to \$5,000, covered by insurance.

The Dawson candy shop on Main street, owned by Geo. P. Dawson, suffered a \$20,000 loss through fire and water. Dr. Towle's optical store where the fire was first noticed, was completely destroyed with a loss estimated at \$10,000. About 50 per cent is covered by insurance.

The Bake-Rite Bakery, owned by Stanley Berry, was totally destroyed with a \$10,000 loss. Insurance had been taken out about three days before the fire, following a fire which destroyed a friend's house. Heavy machinery broke through the floor and was a total loss.

At this part of the building a brick fire wall saved the rest of the block. \$100 worth of damage was done to the Pure Food restaurant, next to the Bake-Rite, by water and smoke. Damage to the Weston hotel over the restaurant was done by smoke and water and it will cost \$100 to clean and clean the hotel.

Considerable damage was done by water which stood three or four feet deep in basements under the burned section. The two new gasoline pumps, which were first used Tuesday when they ran steadily for six hours, are now being repaired by A. Foster. "I am confident," said the chief, "that the whole block would have gone if we had not had the pumps. They were not stopped for anything during the six hours. It not even to put in gasoline. Thirty-five gallons of gas was burned by the stream pump and four gallons of oil, while the smaller machine burned 25 gallons of gas and two gallons of oil.

Although nearly a million gallons of water was used on the fire, it did not do the water at the pumping station. Only two pounds, according to the chief. Fifteen feet of water was left in the reservoir.

Investigation showed the fire was started by an overheated furnace in the rear of the Dawson candy shop. Chief said, "That Monday night about 10:30 he had gone into the basement to wash and on returning up stairs had remarked that the furnace was 'nearly red hot all over'." Twenty-five minutes after the city building inspector.

WATCH PARTY

The United Christian Missionary society held a watch party at home of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Fuller Wednesday evening, there being about 50 members and guests present. The program was in charge of Mrs. Maurice Roberts. After several musical numbers a very interesting report was given of the Golden Jubilee, or world convention of the United Christian Missionary societies recently held in Cleveland, Ohio, by Mrs. Rosella Polly of Emmett, the delegate from this state. The most delectable chicken pie supper was served later, with music to fill in the idle moments. Rev. Bennett, an evangelist of southern Idaho, who has recently held meetings in Payette and Pocatello, gave a very interesting talk, after which music and social chat filled in the time until the magical moment when they could bid the old year farewell and welcome the new. This was indeed a most delightful affair.

MARRIED

Miss Verdie Brown of Alice, Oregon, and Chris J. M. Stackland of Cove, Oregon, were married here yesterday at the Methodist parsonage. Rev. R. C. Lee officiating. Mrs. Stackland is a very popular Alice girl while Mr. Stackland is known as the "cherry king" of the Cove. Their many friends will wish them happiness during their married life.

LOLLEY-HALE

Monday, Dec. 24, at 4:30 p. m. with the mercury pushing at the bottom of the thermometer, at the Christian parsonage occurred the marriage of Albert Hale of Weiser and Miss Elsie Lolley of Washington county. Rev. W. Taylor of the Church of Christ, officiating.

The only witnesses were the minister and Omar Lolley, brothers of the bride. The bride was gowned in satin faced crepe de chine trimmed in cream silk lace with slipper match.

She is an accomplished young woman whose parents live on Mann's Creek and well known to the Washington county residents. She has accomplished the merited position of being a nurse, having taken a course at the Ontario hospital.

The groom is a meritorious young man residing with his father in this city and well known to the people of this community.

For the time being the happy pair will make their residence in Weiser, but in the early spring expect to migrate to California to build their future home. The sincere wishes of their many friends go with them, with the heartiest hopes for a long life and much prosperity.

Alarm the fire had gained such a headway that a second alarm was sent in. At 1:40 a third alarm was sounded and every man on the fire force was put on the fire. At 2:15 the fire broke out through the roof of the building and the extension of gas was burned by the stream pump and four gallons of oil, while the smaller machine burned 25 gallons of gas and two gallons of oil.

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No plans will be formulated for rebuilding, according to Frank Noble, until the matter is taken up by the board of trustees of the Noble estate. Present walls may be used if they are not declared unsafe by the city building inspector.

Happy New Year

With grateful appreciation of the cooperation we have received from you, our readers and patrons, during the past twelve months, we come to you at the dawn of a new year with the wish that 1926 may be full fraught with all the good things of life—health, happiness and prosperity—for you and yours.

We know that we are serving as splendid a people as there is anywhere on earth and at this time we will renew our pledge to try always to give you the kind of paper that will merit and be worthy of your continued courtesies.

The Weiser Signal.

DEFENSE STARTS IN FORBES CASE

EIGHT WITNESSES DECLARE THEY WOULD NOT BELIEVE MORTIMER UNDER OATH

CHICAGO—Eight witnesses for the defense testified in the Forbes-Thompson veterans' bureau conspiracy trial Monday that the general reputation of Elias H. Mortimer, the government's star witness, for truth and veracity was bad and that they would not believe him under oath.

Four other witnesses were called to refute various allegations of the prosecution regarding administration of the veterans' bureau under former director Charles R. Forbes, and the latter's relation with Mortimer, who was at that time, 1922, contractor's agent in negotiation with the bureau.

J. W. Thompson, wealthy contractor, whose firm executed a \$160,000 contract for the veterans' hospital at Northampton, Mass., is co-defendant with Forbes on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government.

The jury which was out longer than any other in the history of the county, had been locked up for 78 hours when the verdict was returned Monday night, and had been in actual deliberation 24 hours.

Twenty-four ballots were taken before the fate of the former prize fighter was read in open court. The jury was composed of nine women and three men.

Superior Judge C. S. Craig had no comment to make other than "I believe it was the best they could do."

Several hundred persons, many of them women and members of southern California boxing circles, filled the halls outside the court room as the verdict was returned.

Sentence will be passed Friday at 10 a. m. Defense attorneys filed that notice of appeal would be filed at that time.

Mrs. Mors, divorced wife of Albert Mors, and joint owner with him of the Mors antique shop in a fashionable shopping district here, was found dead at 9 a. m. August 19, of a bullet wound, in an apartment house owned by "Mr. and Mrs. N. Shields."

M'COY VERDICT MANSLAUGHTER

LONG DEBLOCK OF JURY IS BROKEN—COMPROMISE DICT. BEST THEY COULD DO

LOS ANGELES—Kid McCoy, former pugilist, was convicted in superior court late Monday of manslaughter in connection with the shooting here August 12 last of Mrs. Theresa Mors. The penalty for manslaughter is from one to ten years imprisonment.

When the verdict was read McCoy's eyes became tear dimmed as he sat at the end of counsel table.

"I don't believe it was a just verdict," he said. "If I am not guilty as charged I am not guilty at all. It was not a just verdict."

The prisoner then arose and in custody of bailiffs walked across the court room to comfort his three sisters, who were weeping.

Forman P. Coulter of the jury said the verdict was a compromise of "the best we could do."

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FRENCH STAND EASES TENSION ON WAR DEBT

U. S. is Informed Officially That France Recognizes Obligations and will Honor Its Debt

HER ARMS FROZEN

Viva Slide, 45-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Slida, who reside south of Weiser, is still suffering from a pair of badly frozen arms she received while on her way home from school the day before Christmas. Her home is more than a mile from school and she did not know that her arms and hands were frozen until she reached a field near her home and tried to open a gate. She was unable to do this and according to reports fell into the snow, she was chilled so badly. B. Wright saw her at this time and took her to her home where her arms were packed in snow. It was believed at first that she would lose both arms to the elbows, but now hopes are held that she may get through with little ill effects.

MARRIED

James I. Emert of Weiser and Miss Zella Cox of Satorbia were united in marriage Saturday at the Methodist parsonage with Rev. R. C. Lee officiating. They will make their home in this city. Both have hosts of friends in their respective home communities who will wish them all success during their married life.

POWELL-JENNINGS

Miss Addie L. Powell of Portland and Emmett J. Jennings of Butte, Mont., were married here Monday noon at the Methodist parsonage, Rev. R. C. Lee officiating. Following the ceremony, they left for Salt Lake city, where they intend to reside.

LITTLE DAMAGE TO GAME

Frank Towley, deputy game warden, reports that little damage has been done to game so far as a result of the cold weather. He has been out more or less himself and has talked with farmers from different sections of the county and states that as far as he has been able to learn, only a few quail have perished while Chinese pheasants have come through all right. The heavy snow, however, of the past few days makes feed harder to get and he is planning on sending out feed to the number of places where the birds gather. He also asked that anyone who knew of the whereabouts of any Hungarian pheasants planted in this section a year or so ago, or any other game that should have attention, to leave word about it for him at the Metropole.

BRADEN-LOLLEY

Christmas day at noon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Braden, overlooking the city of Weiser, Ralph A. Lolley, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Lolley, of Mann's Creek, was united in marriage to Miss Irene B. Braden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Braden, the union being solemnized by Minister W. Taylor of the Church of Christ, the city. The wedding party was played by Mrs. W. Taylor. About 75 guests were present, including the parents of both bride and groom. The ceremony was first service. After his address the meeting went into "good of the order" and enjoyed a spread of hot coffee and fresh doughnuts in the ante-room of the church.

REVIVAL MEETINGS

The union meetings now being conducted at the Methodist church, started off with a good deal of enthusiasm last night. Dr. Taylor, the leader, arrived in the city and took matters in hand promptly for the first service. After his address the meeting went into "good of the order" and enjoyed a spread of hot coffee and fresh doughnuts in the ante-room of the church.

At 10:30 sharp the old-fashioned switch night service opened and with addresses by Dr. Fowler, Miller, Douglass, Patterson and Lee, led in a keynote address by Dr. Taylor, interspersed with enthusiastic singing, brought the meeting to its feet in instant prayer as the bell tolled its message of the dying year going over the top.

It was an impressive meeting and much enjoyed by every one present. Meetings will continue steadily on for some time.

SHOWS M. L. LINKOUS

Shows M. L. Linkous was in the capital city Wednesday attending to business matters.

PARIS

M. Clementel, French finance minister, has set before Myron T. Herrick, American ambassador, various observations on the minister's insanity of France's finances indicating France had no thought of repudiating her war debts but requested leniency and application of the principle of the Dawes plan of settlement.

WASHINGTON—The Washington government was in possession Wednesday night of official information transmitted by Ambassador Herrick in Paris after his conversation with Premier Herriot and M. Clementel, French finance minister, which obviously removed much of the uncertainty that has characterized the discussion of the Franco-American war debt.

Ambassador Herrick's report has eased tension where war debt interests predominated but from none of the administration officials was any word forthcoming concerning contents of Paris cables nor would the state department officers admit even the receipt of such reports. Inquiries were met with flat statements that the subject of Herrick's report was not one that could be commented upon.

Unofficially advised from Paris reciting the statement of M. Clementel to Ambassador Herrick in which the French minister recognized the obligation of his government to the United States and declared its intention to honor the debt were received by administration leaders with no little satisfaction.

Much of the same attitude marked officials here respecting reports of the arrival in New York Tuesday of Montague Collet Norman, governor of the Bank of England, and Sir Allen Garrett Anderson, director of the same institution. At all important offices in the treasury and state departments and even at the British embassy, it was said merely nothing was known regarding the mission of the distinguished financiers to this country.

Treasury officials admitted only that they had received word of the visit when Governor Strong of the New York Federal Reserve bank requested that the department extend customary courtesies to Messrs. Norman and Anderson when they arrived. Secretary Mellon did not know officially of the visit nor did Secretary Hughes.

One official, discussing the visit of the British financiers, said it appeared to him personally that they had not left the Bank of England at this time to come "enough shooting." It was more likely, it was said, that Mr. Norman and his friend, as fiscal officers for Great Britain, had a keen interest in the question of war debts between the United States, France and England and the matter of claims collections from Germany by the United States which already had been a subject of note exchange between London and Washington. It was also suggested the financiers might be interested in matters of the United States toward questions to come up for discussion before the allied finance ministers in January at Paris.

POULTRY SHOW AT CALDWELL

Caldwell is making elaborate preparations for the state poultry show which will be held in that city Jan. 5 to 9. Besides other attractions, a feature never before attempted will be added to the show, in which eggs will be shown in dozen lots and the best lots will be awarded prizes, both white and brown eggs. This part of the show and institute is for the purpose of encouraging better production of high class eggs. It is probable that 300 exhibits will be shown, according to officials.

C. W. Luck was a business visitor in Boise Wednesday.

