

Those Who Come and Go.

Tales of Folks at the Hotels.

The past season was highly profitable to the fruitgrowers of Clarkston valley, according to F. W. Dustan of Clarkston, Wash., registered at the Hotel Portland. The town is named in honor of the explorer, William Clark, of Lewis and Clark fame, and it is directly opposite Lewiston, named for Merriweather Lewis. The two towns are joined by an interstate bridge across Snake river. Clarkston is situated in the very southeast corner of Asotin county, Wash., and is a prosperous community of 3000 souls. Some 20 years ago Charles Francis Adams, late railroad builder, financier, writer and once president of the Union Pacific, charmed with the beauty of the Clearwater and Snake river valleys, and perhaps foreseeing that some day the Union Pacific would build its line from Huntington, Or., down the Snake river to Lewiston, laid out a site on a bleak, sandy tract almost without vestige of vegetation, opposite Lewiston, and called it Vineland. He built an irrigation project and covered the tract with water from which has sprung one of the most highly developed irrigation districts in the northwest. Grapes were to have been the chief planting, but since then all manner of fruit has been propagated. The little village of Concord was incorporated in Vineland, but the name gave way to Clarkston as population increased and there was a demand for a more euphonious name. Charles Francis Adams was a direct descendant of two of the nation's earliest presidents of that name. His estate still owns the irrigation and power project and two sons look after the investment and are frequent visitors there.

Grass on the Salmon river range is short, what hay and feed remains there is high, and stockmen are shipping their cattle to Montana for the winter where feed is plentiful and cheap, according to Frank McGrane, pioneer merchant and banker of Grangeville, Idaho, in the city on business and registered at the Hotel Portland. Grangeville is located in the heart of the famous Camas prairie region of Idaho county, where for centuries roamed the aborigines, and at one time the section was regarded as containing the greatest bed of the rich quamish or camas root in the northwest. Indians subsisted largely on this root. The town is the county seat and is located three miles from Mount Idaho, the latter place having first been established in 1862, when the excitement over the discovery of gold at Florence broke loose. Grangeville was only a speck on the prairie at the beginning of the Nez Perce Indian war in 1877, but a few settlers around the locality had built a hall there to hold meetings which they called grange hall. Later when the settlement grew around the hall the town was naturally called Grangeville. Then the town forged ahead so rapidly that in 15 years Mount Idaho was almost depopulated and Grangeville captured the county seat, where it still remains.

"Eight blocks had been destroyed by fire when we left Astoria at 6:30 o'clock in the morning," said Thomas Kennedy Sr., who arrived at the Hotel Oregon with his family yesterday. "The flames were spreading in every direction and we were glad to get away. Early as it was, the streets were filled with people trying to combat the flames and save property. I understood that something went wrong with the fire apparatus and it took an hour and a half to fix the engine so it would work, and in that time the fire got a good start and went beyond control. The streets caved in and it was dangerous getting around in the downtown section." The Kennedy family had crossed from Deep River, Wash., Thursday evening and were aroused from bed by the alarm. They decided to drive on to Portland. Mr. Kennedy reported the highway covered with six inches of snow in spots, with glazed surface and skiddy traveling.

The great bridge across Tanana river in Alaska, with a truss 700 feet in length, will be completed next month, according to Colonel Frederick Mears, executive head of the Alaska engineering commission, who was in Portland yesterday on his way to Washington, D. C. The 508 miles of railroad from Anchorage to Fairbanks is completed, although 40 miles of narrow-gauge are to be changed to standard-gauge at the Fairbanks end. Alaska's interior is about to experience a boom, predicts the colonel. Coal and mineral deposits are about to be developed, thanks to the completion of the government railroad to Tidewater. Dredger tests of the gold placers near Fairbanks are being proposed and some immense coal deposits are being uncovered.

Sprague Riegel of Gold Hill, Or., is registered at the Multnomah. Mr. Riegel is manager of the Morrill orchard in that vicinity, the orchard being quite a show place until the house was destroyed by fire a few years ago. Mr. Morrill, the owner, is a wealthy easterner who takes a special pride in the farm and is popular along the countryside for his hospitality. Mr. Riegel had the experience of being stuck-up a few weeks ago by highwaymen, when he was on his way home from a dance. The knights of the road held a gun on Mr. Riegel at Blackwell hill and relieved him of all his valuables.

Evan Evans, collector of internal revenue for the state of Idaho, is in the city from Boise, and is registered at the Hotel Portland. Mr. Evans is one of the pioneer citizens of Idaho and has long been one of the leaders in republican party affairs in that state. He is a close personal friend of Senator Borah. Mr. Evans was state chairman of his party a few years ago. The collector is on his way to Los Angeles to visit relatives.

Glad to get away from a city in flames, Charles Stewart, a traveling salesman of St. Louis, found a woman driving to Portland from Astoria early yesterday morning, and secured passage. He arrived at the Benson yesterday afternoon. Mr. Stewart was at the Weinhard-Astoria hotel and deserted it with the remainder of the patrons. The traveling man doesn't know what became of his sample cases.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Brusfield of Tacoma arrived at the Multnomah yesterday from San Francisco. They reported that they had difficulty crossing the Siskiyou mountains on the highway, owing to snow conditions. Scrapers are at work trying to clear a path and a one-way route was being cleared through the snow. Mrs. Brusfield complained that the cold in the mountains was intense.

George H. Detwiler, William D. Robinson, Charles Britain, directors of the Summer Lake irrigation project, and Charles H. Lamb, attorney for the district, are arrivals at the Imperial. The directors and attorney are here to consult with engineers.

Volney D. Williamson, mining man and capitalist of Spokane, is at the Hotel Portland.