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NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The strike has spread to Transcaucasia.

The reign of terror continues in Poland.

Another Russian squadron is to sail for the Far East in May.

German mine owners have rejected overtures from the strikers.

Heavy rains in Southern California have washed out railway tracks.

An agreement has been made for a parcels post and quick mail service with Britain and France.

All the smaller harbors of the New England coast are frozen over and others are blocked with ice floes.

A storm of snow and sleet has swept over the South, stopping communication and killing cattle and fruit.

Soininen Soininen, prosecutor general of Finland, has been assassinated by an unknown emissary of the terrorists.

Another great storm is raging in New York state and cold weather is predicted for the entire section east of the Rocky mountains.

Henry B. Miller, consul general at Nanchang, China, will be promoted to one of the best Oriental posts on account of his good work during the Japanese-Russian war.

An insurrection has broken out in Argentina.

Taft recommends a revision of the Philippine tariff.

The weather has greatly moderated in the middle states.

Atlantic coast ports are blocked with ice and navigation is stopped.

The crews of the Russian Black sea fleet are on the verge of mutiny.

It now seems certain that Snoot will be able to retain his seat in the senate.

Fire in Birmingham, Alabama, destroyed property worth not less than \$500,000.

The governor and a committee of Massachusetts solons will visit the Lewis and Clark fair.

Governor Mead, of Washington, has broken ground for a state building at the Lewis and Clark fair.

Many Poles are fleeing from Russia into Germany. The entire working population of Poland is on strike.

The terrible weather in Manchuria has forced a truce. As soon as it moderates the Russians will be confronted with the alternative of withdrawing in order to avoid being intercepted by a Japanese column or of undertaking a general advance.

General Gripenberg has been forced to resign his command in Manchuria and General Myloff will succeed him.

One death and four cases of illness in one Chicago family have been caused by supposed ptomaines in canned goods.

So much money from the interior has been pouring into the New York banks that the clerks cannot count it as fast as it arrives, and some banks have to rent outside vaults to store it.

The Japanese are reported to have forced a breach in the Russian center. The dispatch has been received at St. Petersburg and papers have been refused permission to mention it.

The Interstate Commerce commission finds the Santa Fe road guilty of willfully violating the law by granting the Colorado Fuel & Iron company lower freight rates than other companies pay.

Joseph Racinet, a wealthy Californian, who is said to have had \$100,000 on his person, went out into the country near Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., a few days ago, and has not returned, and is supposed to have been murdered.

News of riots in Russia is causing disaffection in Kuropatkin's army.

The new Excelsior Roller mills at Marysville, Kan., were destroyed by fire. Loss \$150,000.

Professor H. Cole, of Chicago, has discovered what is believed to be the largest spot on the sun. It covers one-tenth of the sun's surface, is egg-shaped, and can be seen through smoked glass.

Fire in the Cramp shipbuilding plant at Chester, Pa., destroyed valuable blueprints, models and charts, including plans of the battleships Idaho and Mississippi, and the cruiser Tennessee, but work on these ships is not much delayed.

The New York chamber of commerce has asked the legislature to spend \$100,000 on the Lewis and Clark fair.

The bursting of a large water tank on the roof of the Denver dry goods store, a large department store, caused damage to stock estimated at over \$50,000.

A number of senators are opposing the Malheur irrigation bill.

The Japanese have captured another vessel bound for Vladivostok with contraband of war.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Tuesday, January 31.

The senate today continued the consideration of the joint statehood bill with Nelson as the principal speaker. A number of bills were passed, including one largely increasing the fees for stock companies in the District of Columbia.

In the house the senate amendments to the army appropriation bill were disagreed to and the bill was sent to conference. Williams, (Dem., Miss.) started a lengthy debate by bringing up the treatment by General Miles of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, when he was a prisoner at Fortress Monroe. The postoffice appropriation bill was debated for an hour.

Wednesday, February 1.

Clark (Mont.) Dillingham and Teller today continued the discussion of the joint statehood bill. Proctor reported the agricultural appropriation bill and gave notice that he would ask to have it considered. Bills were passed granting certain lands to the Oklahoma Agricultural college; amending the land laws so as to permit settlers on public lands to make transfers for public uses before completing title; amending existing laws so as to require captains of passenger vessels to supply information regarding the age and sex of immigrants.

The postoffice appropriation bill occupied the house the major portion of today. With an understanding that the discussion of the question should be continued tomorrow, the bill was laid aside and other matters taken up. The conference report on the fortifications bill was adopted. The bill carries \$6,747,893.

Senator Ankeny will endeavor to have a provision made in the naval appropriation bill for the allowance of a differential of 4 per cent to Pacific coast shippers competing on government warship contracts.

Thursday, February 2.

The postoffice appropriation bill was the main topic of discussion in the house today and its consideration was not completed. During the day bills were passed as follows: Amending the law so as to reduce the amount of bond required of agents acting for consignees on imported goods; providing for the construction of irrigation and reclamation works in certain lakes and rivers in Oregon and California; granting certain lands within the Flathead Indian reservation, Montana, to certain Catholic societies for religious purposes.

The senate spent much of today discussing the distribution of ordinary farm and garden seeds by the Agricultural department. When adjournment was taken consideration of the bill had not been completed. A further conference was ordered on the fortifications appropriation bill.

Friday, February 3.

The house today passed the postoffice appropriation bill, carrying \$180,787,415.

In the senate today Judge Swayne made formal response to the articles of impeachment against him. The answer was a formidable document in point of size. In every case the charge was admitted, but explained from Judge Swayne's point of view, they were not of a character to justify proceedings for impeachment. The senate issued an order requiring the house to file its reply by next Monday, and directed that all pleadings shall be in by February 9, that the trial may proceed on February 10. The senate sitting as a court, then adjourned and resumed legislative consideration of the joint statehood bill. That topic occupied the rest of the day.

Saturday, February 4.

Long occupied most of the time given by the senate today to the statehood bill with a speech in support of the bill as it stands. There was an extended debate on a provision in the agricultural appropriation bill relating to forest reservations.

The house today passed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, carrying \$2,107,047, which is an increase of \$78,713 over the concurrent appropriation. A number of minor bills were disposed of by unanimous consent.

Monday, February 6.

Following weeks of hearings and consideration by the committee on interstate and foreign commerce, the house today began debating the proposed legislation looking to the regulation of freight rates.

Denate on the joint statehood bill closed in the senate today.

Many Killed at Riga.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 5.—The latest reports received by Consul General Watts, from the American consuls in Russia, indicate a cessation of the trouble in most of the industrial centers. The consul at Riga reports that the rioting at that place was precipitated by the students and rowdies, who fired on the police. The police and troops returned the fire, and 53 persons were killed and 150 wounded. At Reval the soldiers were obliged to defend a factory on Saturday against a mob. Three strikers were killed.

Sold Mining Stock on Routes.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Postmaster General Wynne today removed three letter carriers in the Toledo, O., post-office, ordered a fourth man to show cause why he should not be removed, and suspended 30 other carriers, all of the Toledo office, for 30 days on the charge of selling mining stock and of collecting the assessments thereon. It is charged that the men sold this mining stock while on duty as carriers, as well as when off duty.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

IN THE LEGISLATURE.

Salem, Jan. 31.—A bill was introduced in the senate today to suppress pool-selling and poolrooms. Eleven other new measures were introduced.

Nine bills were passed, one of them appropriating \$15,000 for fish hatcheries. This bill has already passed the house.

The senate bill authorizing the Lewis and Clark fair corporation to condemn private property was passed by the house.

Ten new bills were introduced in the house, one of them being the anti-cigarette bill, identical with that introduced in the senate.

The house rejected the senate concurrent resolution for a joint assembly tomorrow to consider a constitutional convention. This stops any further possibilities of a constitutional convention.

Electric bells at railroad crossings is the object of a bill introduced in the house today. They are to be of sufficient weight and sound to be heard 100 yards and are to be placed at every crossing where a public road crosses a railway track where the view is obstructed either way.

The house committee on mining favors the passage of the bill relieving such mining companies of the annual license tax as have an annual output of less than \$1,000.

A new bill in the house provides that all sheep driven into the state for pasture shall be taxed 20 cents a head and 5 cent a head shall be paid for each county through which the sheep are driven.

The Cascade county bill will appear in the senate tomorrow or Thursday.

Salem, Feb. 1.—Twelve bills were passed by the senate today and 15 by the house. Five new bills were introduced in the senate and seven in the house.

Two bills were killed in the senate today: For a constitutional convention and to permit corporations to act as administrators.

The house this afternoon voted down the bill for the appointment of a board of internal commerce commissioners and appropriating \$25,000 for the opening of the Willamette river from Portland to Eugene.

A bill of Representative Steiner's fixing the terms of circuit court beginning on the second Monday in May and the third Monday in October, passed the house this morning.

To permit district attorneys and their deputies to bid in for counties, lands sold for delinquent taxes, a bill of Representative West's passed the house today. Under the present law the county judge is required to do that function, but sometimes is not present.

A bill to empower juries to fix punishment in criminal trials was indefinitely postponed by the house this morning. The bill came from Smith, of Josephine.

Salem, Feb. 2.—The senate today passed the house bill appropriating \$1,000 for the widows of the prison guards who were killed by Tracy and Merrill at the time of the outbreak three years ago.

The senate bill appropriating \$25,000 for maintaining the portage railway was passed by the house.

The bill to exempt from annual corporation tax mining companies whose annual output is less than \$1,000 was also passed by the house.

The senate committees on counties has practically decided to report favorably on the house bill for the creation of Cascade county and the probabilities are that the bill will pass the senate.

Abolition of the Drain normal school will be recommended tomorrow by the house committee.

From five to 20 years' imprisonment in the penitentiary is the punishment allowed under the senate bill to prevent train holdups passed by the house.

The house sanctioned two appropriations of \$1,500 each for district fairs in Eastern Oregon.

The senate amended the flat salary bill today by striking out the items for justices of the supreme court and the provision that the law shall not go into effect as to the secretary of state and state treasurer until June 1, 1907. It is probable the bill will pass.

Salem, Feb. 3.—Nineteen bills were introduced in the house today and four in the senate.

Appropriations asked of the Oregon legislature at this session aggregate \$2,340,000, but Chairman Farrar, of

lone to Have Water Works.

Ione — The Ione city council has signed a contract with Charles M. Robinson, of Portland, for the construction of a complete water works system. The price for the work is \$9,737, and extra work will run the cost to \$10,000. The contract price includes ample power to pump the water for the city, and also for an electric light plant to be put in by the city the coming summer. Work on the city reservoir will be begun next week.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 86c; bluestem, 91c; valley, 87c per bushel.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.35 at 1.40; gray, \$1.40 at 1.45 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$14 at 16 per ton; clover, \$11 at 12; cheat, \$12 at 13.

Potatoes—Oregon, 75c at 85c; common, 60c at 70c.

Apples—4-tier Baldwins, \$1.25; Spitzenberg, \$1.75 at 2.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 28c at 29.

Butter—25c at 30c.

Hope—Choice, 27c at 28c per pound.

JURY DRAWS NET.

Two Indictments Said To Be in Order for J. N. Williamson.

Portland, Feb. 7.—The last week of the present Federal grand jury is at hand. The long series of investigations which have been taking the time of the jury for the past two months is drawing to a close and will end on Saturday, if the plans of the government attorneys carry.

The present week will be a busy one, for it will bring to light some of the entanglements of those high in the confidence of the state and the nation and will show still further the extent and scope of the land frauds which have been carried on in many cases to completion and in others practically to that stage during the past few years.

During the week it was rumored that Representative J. N. Williamson will come under the notice of the Federal grand jury, not once, but twice. It is said that the next few days will see the junior representative of the state indicted for his alleged connection with various land deals in the vicinity of his home at Princeville and also for fraudulent transactions in the Blue Mountain reserve.

Just what the complaints are is a mystery which the government officials alone would be able, at this time, to tell. They have nothing to say. But in spite of this reticence, it is made known from various sources that the end of the week will see more persons implicated in the land frauds than have as yet hinted at or thought of.

In addition to the names of Mr. Williamson are mentioned those of various of the former special agents of the government, and several of the ex-special agents who have been sent to this territory to look into the alleged irregularities of the land department. Beyond a rumor that several of the special agents are under the eye of the grand jury, nothing definite can be learned. However, it can be stated with a reasonable degree of certainty that former employees of the Interior department in Oregon will be brought to book for irregular work done by them during their terms of office. It is further safe to predict that Saturday will see the adjournment of the jury until the March term calls the men once more to the task of probing into the irregularities of the land transactions of Oregon.

IMPROVE VANCOUVER BARRACKS

Large Allotment from Army Post Fund Likely To Be Secured.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The army appropriation bill, recently passed by congress, carries a large appropriation for the improvement of army posts. This money is distributed by the secretary of war, he approving allotments which are made up by the quartermaster general. Senator Ankeny and Representative Jones have arranged to call upon the secretary of war and ask for a liberal slice of that lump sum for making much-needed improvements at Vancouver barracks.

Reports which have been submitted by the officers at Vancouver show the urgent necessity for many new buildings to replace the antiquated and dilapidated structures now standing. Of course they ask for more money than can be had, something over \$1,000,000 in all. Nevertheless, an attempt will be made to get a liberal portion of this fund.

The largest item recommended is \$250,000 for erecting a new building for headquarters offices, a building of brick, with stone trimmings, large enough to accommodate all the officers assigned to headquarters, together with the clerical force of the post. It is also asked that four additional double infantry barracks be erected at a cost of \$230,000, and in addition quarters for 59 officers as follows: One commanding officer's residence, six field officers' quarters, nine captains' double quarters and nine lieutenants' double quarters, to cost in all about \$500,000. In addition \$10,000 is asked for a new main sewer, \$8,000 for cement sidewalks, \$2,000 for extending the electric lighting system, \$5,000 for water mains, \$45,000 for grading and filling, \$15,000 for improving the parade grounds and \$70,000 for two new artillery stables.

Foreign Mines Shut Out.

Tokio, Feb. 7.—After the most heated debate which has yet taken place in the Japanese house of representatives, the amendments to the mining law prohibiting foreigners to work Japanese mines was passed during Monday's session. The bill was fought bitterly by the foreign residents having mining interests in Japan, and the government has been severely censured for advocating a measure which must needs antagonize certain influential interests whose good will, it is believed by many, to be important and necessary at this time.

Japanese Colony in Texas.

San Antonio, Texas, Feb. 7.—In an interview today B. F. Youkum gave out the following details concerning the recent visit to Texas of a number of commissioners from the Japanese government: "As a result of this visit a great Japanese colony will be planted in Southwestern Texas for the growing and manufacture of silk. A splendid tract of land has been secured, and upon each five acres of this will be settled a Japanese family."

Reservists Are in Arrest.

London, Feb. 7.—The London Daily Chronicle prints a dispatch from its St. Petersburg correspondent stating that 6,000 reservists at Peterhof have mutinied and are under arrest in their barracks.

READY FOR PEACE

Grand Dukes Admit Inability to Cope with Japan.

TOO MUCH TROUBLE AT HOME

With Nation in Rebellion Reserves Cannot Be Sent to Cope with Those Sent by Japan.

London, Feb. 7.—The highest authority is claimed by the St. Petersburg correspondent of the London Daily Chronicle for the statement that the grand dukes party has suddenly decided that Russia must sue for peace.

The correspondent states that the grand dukes and their supporters have held frequent conferences of late at which they discussed the Far Eastern war and came to the conclusion that the country could not afford to continue the war under the present conditions. The immediate cause for this change of mind on the part of the very men who have right along stood in the way of peace is said to have been the recent disaster to the Russian arms on the Hun river.

Coupled with the news of this defeat has come to the grand dukes the realization that they cannot compete with Japan's ability to throw army after army into Manchuria, especially in view of the internal situation, which may render further mobilization of reservist troops almost impossible.

The correspondent states that, accordingly, the Russian embassy at Paris has been asked to gain the good will of Great Britain with a view to mitigating the terms which Japan is likely to impose.

STREET CAR OVERTURNS.

Portland Wreck Causes One Death and Thirty-one Injuries.

Portland, Feb. 7.—One man was killed and 31 persons injured, some of them fatally, by the wrecking of a car of the Portland Consolidated railway company on the Montavilla line, at the corner of East Twenty-eighth and East Gilsen streets, at 7:20 o'clock yesterday morning. The accident occurred on a sharp curve at the base of a steep incline. The car's momentum was so great that it was unable to make the turn and was overturned. There were 66 passengers on the car at the time of the accident, the majority being business men and employes on their way to work in the heart of the city.

It is a question whether the motorman lost control of the car or whether he did not use the usual precautions until it was too late. Five blocks from the scene of the accident the car was running at a speed greatly in excess of the rate specified in the city ordinances governing street car traffic. One passenger, who stood on the front platform of the car beside the motorman, declares that no effort was made to govern the speed of the car until it was almost rounding the curve. The street car company says the brakes had been set as shown by the fact that the wheels were worn smooth by sliding.

READY TO FIGHT.

Warlike Talk of High British Official Causes Kaiser to Anger.

Berlin, Feb. 7.—At the foreign office it was said this afternoon that Germany would ask England for an explanation of the provocative anti-German speech made at Eastleigh, February 2, by Arthur H. Lee, civil lord of the admiralty, in which he said that Britain would smash an unnamed enemy in the North sea before that enemy had time to realize that war had been declared. The foreign office said: "We hope that nothing will result from Lee's speech. We prefer to believe he spoke more as a naval expert than as a statesman or cabinet officer. Yet it is impossible not to put a political construction upon his utterances. We shall, of course, take up the matter."

Canal Zone is Healthy.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Secretary Taft today received a report from Governor Davis of the Panama canal zone, stating that reports of health conditions on the isthmus are "exaggerated and that the sanitation of Panama is progressing as efficiently as that of any city in the United States." He says that the total number of yellow fever cases originating in the zone since the American assumed control is 32. The report says there is no plague, no typhoid fever and very little dysentery.

Cannot Depend on Troops.

Berlin, Feb. 6.—German military experts familiar with the inner conditions of the Russian army declare that the autocracy cannot depend on the loyalty of any of the troops outside of the few regiments serving as bodyguards to the czar and the grand dukes. Military men here, in the light of history and tradition, therefore regard the recent mutiny of soldiers and marines at Sevastopol as the most dangerous event of all the recent turmoil in Russia.

Kuropatkin Tenders Resignation.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—General Kuropatkin has tendered to the czar his resignation of the command of the forces in the Far East. General Gripenberg has been removed from the command of the Second Manchurian army at his own request, having declared that he had been dishonored by Kuropatkin's orders to retreat at the battle of the Hun river.

KLAMATH BILL IS PASSED.

President's Approval Alone Needed to Execution of Irrigation Project.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The Klamath irrigation bill now lacks only the signature of the president to make it a law. The senate has accepted the house amendments, which are entirely satisfactory to the reclamation service. As finally enacted the bill reads:

That the secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, in carrying out any irrigation project that may be undertaken by him under the terms and conditions of the national reclamation act and which may involve the changing of the levels of Lower or Little Klamath lake, Tule or Rhet lake and Goose lake, or any river or other body of water connected therewith, in Oregon and California, to raise or lower the level of said lakes, as may be necessary, and to dispose of any lands which may come into the possession of the United States as the result thereof by cession of any state or otherwise, under the terms and conditions of the national reclamation act.

Had it not been for Senator Folton's insistence, Chairman Mondell, of the house irrigation committee, would not have withdrawn his objection to this bill and it would not have passed.

CALIFORNIA WILL HELP.

Bill Affecting Klamath Irrigation District Is a Law.

Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 6.—Two senators bills became laws today upon being signed by the governor. One was the Coggins bill, permitting the lowering of the water levels of certain lakes in the northern part of the state in furtherance of irrigation and reclamation work of the reclamation service of the United States. A similar bill has recently been enacted by the Oregon legislature, and important legislation by congress bearing on the work in question, has been passed by both houses and is ready for the president's signature.

Under the authorization now given by the California and Oregon legislatures, it is understood that \$4,000,000 will be expended by the federal government on reclamation of the Klamath district, in Northern California and Southern Oregon, and that 200,000 acres in California and 100,000 in Oregon will be placed under irrigation.

The other bill signed by the governor is the bill appropriating \$70,000 for a California exhibit at the Lewis and Clark exposition. The last legislature appropriated \$25,000, so that \$95,000 is now made available for the exhibit.

FINISH CANAL IN TEN YEARS

Report of Minister Barrett Says Progress is Good.

Washington, Feb. 6.—In connection with the lack of public information as to the status of the work of canal digging on the Isthmus of Panama, and as to the exact amount of work executed so far by the Americans since they took up the task, the American minister to Panama has, after consultation with Chief Engineer Wallace and a close personal inspection of the route of the proposed canal, submitted to the state department a report upon this subject. The communication is practically a brief summary of the vast amount of detail statistics and facts that will eventually be produced by the canal commission, showing the actual construction on the canal accomplished since July 1 last, when Mr. Wallace took charge of the engineering department. The most important statement in the report is this:

"If the next six months show a progress corresponding to that of the last six months, it is the conviction of the best engineers in Panama that a sea-level canal can be constructed in ten years and be ready for large vessels by January 1, 1915."

The report says there is no ground for the current reports that little has been accomplished in advancing the construction of the canal during the last six months.

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