

## 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.

Volva has organized a strike against Dorn in Zion.

The anthracite miners and operators have finally agreed.

Britain and Turkey each stand firm and prepare to fight.

Russian democrats propose to give all land to the peasants.

Five restaurants are proposed to feed the destitute of San Francisco.

The president will cooperate with the several states in Standard Oil prosecution.

Leading architects estimate that the rebuilding of San Francisco will take but one year.

Heavy frosts in Wisconsin, Iowa and Nebraska have greatly damaged gardens and early fruit.

A Newport News, Va., man killed his wife because it was her wish. She had been released from an insane asylum but a short time and was again losing her mind.

Franz E. Creffield, chief of the Holy Rollers, has been shot and killed at Seattle by George Mitchell, brother of two of the women the self-styled "Jehovah's" led astray two years ago, when excitement over the new religion was high at Corvallis.

Trepoff and the dowager empress now rule the czar.

Turkey is rushing troops to Sinai to fight Great Britain.

Ohio is preparing to oust the Standard Oil from that state.

Advocates of international arbitration oppose a larger navy.

Attorney General Moody is at work on Standard Oil indictments.

Anthracite coal miners will avoid a strike by accepting the old wage scale.

Smallpox has broken out in Zion City, and the Dowry party calls it Divine punishment.

Twenty-one students at an Indiana college have been suspended for having one of the professors.

Losses by the San Francisco fire have caused the bankruptcy of the Traders' Insurance Company of Chicago.

The president has won his fight on the railroad rate bill and an amendment has been inserted carrying out his views.

The battleship Rhode Island went aground in Chesapeake bay. No damage has been done, and it is expected she will be floated soon.

A bill has been introduced in congress authorizing the reappointment of a number of West Point students who were recently expelled for hazing.

Senator Heyburn's illness has become more serious.

The czar is in a panic over what parliament may do.

The Southern Pacific has hauled 1,066 cars of supplies to San Francisco.

General Greely says there is sure to be more suffering in San Francisco.

The house committee has killed the bill abolishing land office receivers.

San Francisco has plenty of food on hand for ten days, with more on the way.

The management of San Francisco has been restored to the municipal officials.

The new Russian cabinet claims to be liberal, and denounces Witte as an oppressor.

Great Britain has sent an ultimatum and a fleet to Turkey. She is supported by the other powers.

Geologists investigating the cause of the San Francisco earthquake have found an immense crevice in the mountain range near Redwood City.

The new Russian cabinet is composed of reactionaries.

San Francisco's water supply is now safe, but short.

Idle men in San Francisco are refused food and made to go to work.

San Francisco banks have reopened and are doing a good business.

A new copyright law has been completed, but its passage by congress is doubtful.

Military forces are after another bandit band in the province of Cavite, Philippine Islands.

Attorney General Moody is preparing to prosecute the Standard Oil and railroads for rebating.

Two passenger trains of the Pennsylvania road collided near Altoona, Pa. Twenty-five people are dead or injured.

People of Zion City fight shy of meetings held by Dowry, at which he attempts to explain recent events.

The United States has been accused of buying the plans of the British battleship Dreadnought from a naval officer who stole them.

James D. Phelan says the condition of thousands in California is pitiful, and it may be necessary to issue another appeal for public aid.

Dowry is fatally ill with droupy.

Hermann's trial has been set for the first week in June.

China opposes the immediate opening of Manchurian ports.

## LAWS OUT OF DATE.

Inquiry Into Second-Class Mail Matter Is Proposed.

Washington, May 7.—Postmaster General Cortelyou has recommended to congress the appointment of a commission to inquire into the subject of second-class mail matter, with a view to ascertaining what modifications of the present second-class laws are necessary to render its report to congress not later than December 1, 1906.

In order that all interests shall be represented, he has recommended that the commission consist of seven persons and be made up as follows: One senator, selected by the president of the senate; one representative, selected by the speaker of the house; one officer of the postoffice department, selected by the postmaster general; one representative of the publishers of daily newspapers; one representative of the weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly newspapers; and one representative of the publishers of periodicals and magazines, the last three to be appointed by the president of the United States from among those recommended to him by representative publishers of such newspapers and periodicals, and a seventh member to be selected by the whole, whose manner of selection is so specifically provided. An appropriation of \$25,000 is recommended to defray the cost of the investigation.

The postmaster general in his recent annual report recommends to congress a thorough review of the whole subject of second-class mail matter and the enactment of a statute to take the place of those existing, which would render unnecessary the consideration of such questions as those upon which second-class matter now depend. In now recommending this commission, the postmaster general in his communication to the committee on postoffice and post roads of the senate, says:

"The existing statutes regulating the second class of mail matter are out of date; they do not meet modern requirements of the publishing industry, and the administration of them unnecessarily and unreasonably hampers the publishers of bona fide newspapers and periodicals."

"As an indication of what is involved in administration, it may be stated that the question of what is a bona fide newspaper or periodical is one about which there may be and often is much difference of opinion. The same is true of what constitutes a known office of publication, of what constitutes a publication originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, what is devoted to literature, the sciences, art or some special industry, what is a legitimate list of subscribers. All of these questions must, however, be determined in each case before second-class entry can be granted; but a publication having met all requirements is positively prohibited admission if it be 'designed primarily for advertising purposes or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates.' That such questions, especially the latter, are subtle and complex and render administration extremely difficult surely need not be stated."

Postmaster General Cortelyou expresses the belief that such commission, if appointed, will be able to make recommendations that will be equitable to publishers, relieve them from present annoyance and restrictions, and at the same time protect the interests of the government.

## SLIDE DAM CREEK.

Mass of Soft Earth Holds Back Immense Quantity of Water.

Sacramento, Cal., May 8.—A special from Woodland to the Sacramento Union says:

"The threat of flood in the Capay valley, resulting from the slide of earth that has fallen from the mountain side and dammed the waters of Cache creek, is growing increasingly serious. It may be assumed that the slide in question occurred in the result of the recent earthquake, and it is now found to be 1,000 feet wide and to close completely the water course. Ever since the occurrence the waters have been steadily piling up behind it, and was found by measurements taken this morning that a depth of one hundred feet had been reached."

If it had been taken at an earlier stage the dam might have been blown up with dynamite and the waters released without danger to any locality, but it is now too late to do this, as it would be to precipitate the flood that is feared. The dam is of soft earth and debris, and there is some hope that it may absorb the water or cut out gradually and the water pass in harmless quantities. Should it give way to the pressure the results will be very serious and a large area of country will be flooded."

## Greely Given Ready Money.

Washington, May 8.—Following representation made to the war department by General Greely, Secretary Taft has placed at the disposal of that officer an amount approximating \$300,000 for the relief fund of \$2,500,000 appropriated by congress for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers. With this money General Greely will pay for supplies already purchased and the tents from the quartermaster stores, etc., and which had been charged against this appropriation of \$300,000, will be returned to the army and are available for future use.

## Exports to Brazil Fall Off.

Washington, May 8.—A bulletin issued by the department of commerce and labor says that the trade of the United States with Brazil aggregates in round numbers \$110,000,000, a larger sum than any year with any country in South America. Imports from Brazil for the fiscal year 1905 aggregated \$99,483,004, and exports were \$10,985,000. The bulletin shows the total exports to Brazil show a falling off from \$15,165,079 in 1895, to \$10,985,000 in 1905.

## Line Out to Mazatlan.

Mexico City, May 8.—Engineers of the Mexican National Railway have succeeded in cutting a line from Durango to Mazatlan on the Pacific coast. The locating work has been going on for a year. It is probable that the interoceanic railway will build an extension to the oil fields from Teziutlan.

## Expect Heavy Fruit Crop.

La Grande.—Grande Rondo growers report the fruit prospects flattering for this season. It is expected that the crop will be twice as large as any previous year, and that there will be at least 500 carloads shipped from this valley. The apple and cherry yields will be very large.

## OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### ASSESSMENT TO BE COLLECTED.

Klamath Water-Users' Association Will Assert Its Corporate Power.

Klamath Falls.—Directors of the Klamath Water-Users' Association at a recent meeting instructed their attorney to proceed to enforce the collection of the assessment from the delinquent members, after giving reasonable notice that such action would be taken if payments were not made at once. About 120 of the 520 members are delinquent, averaging about \$7 for each stockholder thus delinquent, and the association will now assert its corporate powers. Books of the association closed since January 1 have been reopened for subscriptions, but landowners will hereafter be obliged to pay an enrollment fee or penalty of 50 cents an acre in order to become stockholders.

### Land Office Collections.

Salem.—Secretary Brown, of the state land board, has turned over to the state treasury cash received in his office for the month of April as follows: Common school fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, \$23,467.61; common school fund principal, payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure, \$907; common school fund interest, payments on certificates, \$3,633.87; common school fund interest, rents and payments on sales of land acquired by deed or foreclosure, \$484.55; agricultural college fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, \$1,379.25; agricultural college fund interest, payments on certificates, \$391.76; total, \$30,164.04.

### Fire Risk Increase at Eugene.

Eugene.—Several months ago a representative of the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific visited Eugene and announced that nearly all the business houses of the city were improperly wired, and were not up to the standard set by the code. Effort was made by owners of buildings to have defective wiring made right, while others disregarded the notice. Now comes the information to fire insurance agents of this city that insurance rates have been advanced on account of defective wiring. The average increase is 50 cents per \$100. The announcement has created a stir among property holders, and steps will be taken to secure better wiring.

### Examinations for Forest Service.

Roseburg.—Examinations will be held at Roseburg, Ore., May 14, for the position of forest ranger. Aspirants for positions who have not filed applications for examination with the United States commission at Washington should file at once with S. C. Barrum, forest supervisor at Roseburg, from whom application blanks may be secured. The positions are under civil service. Examination will be along practical lines relating to forest patrol. Men between 21 and 40, of sound bodily condition, are eligible. Civil service examinations for the position of forest supervisor will be held in Portland, Astoria, Baker City and Eugene, May 18.

### Salmon in Grand Ronde.

La Grande.—Superintendent Allen, of the Walla Walla hatchery, was in La Grande recently, and stated that the hatchery released a few days ago 3,000,000 fry and about the same amount will be ready to be released within a short time. Operations at the Walla Walla hatchery so far are considered satisfactory. Salmon have commenced jumping in the Grand Ronde river at Oro Dell, a mile above La Grande. The salmon, which in the early history of the valley came up the river in abundance, have for the past number of years almost entirely disappeared. It is now hoped that the hatchery will be the means of restocking the river.

### Improve Orchard Tract.

La Grande.—The Red Apple Orchard Company, which owns a large tract about three miles north of town in the foothills, is planning extensive improvements. About seventy-five acres will be cleared and the ground put in condition for the planting of apples. There is already a large area of growing trees, including fifteen acres of 12-year-old apple trees and forty-five acres of 2-year-old trees. There are five or six springs located on this tract, and it is the intention of the company to enlarge some of them, forming a lake, which will be stocked with fish.

### Hoboes Indolent and Numerous.

Albany.—Hoboes in the Willamette valley have increased in number since the San Francisco disaster. Notwithstanding notices in almost all valleys offering work at good wages in logging camps and sawmills, the unemployed continue their migration. "We are all coal miners, not loggers," or "We are all fishermen," are the answers when officers tell them there is plenty of demand for labor in the logging camps.

### Scouring Mills Resume.

Pendleton.—After being shut down since last October the Pendleton scouring mills will resume operations May 14. The mills are now being given a thorough overhauling and will be placed in first-class condition by that time. W. M. McDonald, of Boston, has arrived to take charge as superintendent.

### Plant Big Orchard.

La Grande.—W. Lyman and L. Oldenburg have finished planting an apple orchard of ninety-five acres near Imbler. There are 4,500 trees of three varieties, including 2,500 Rome Beauties, 1,000 Ganos and 1,000 York Imperials. The balance of the tract, about six acres, was planted in potatoes.

### Expect Heavy Fruit Crop.

La Grande.—Grande Rondo growers report the fruit prospects flattering for this season. It is expected that the crop will be twice as large as any previous year, and that there will be at least 500 carloads shipped from this valley. The apple and cherry yields will be very large.

### SHEEPMEN PROTEST.

Oregon Men Not Satisfied With Allotment of Wenaha Reserve.

Pendleton.—Sheepmen of Umatilla county have made vigorous protest against the action of forest reserve officials at Walla Walla in standing by the allotment recently made of the range in Wenaha reserve. A remonstrance from Umatilla county has been filed with D. H. Sheller, forest reserve superintendent at Walla Walla.

Stats and figures are given in support of the contention of Oregon stockmen. These in substance are as follows: Of the total land in the reserve, 790,000 acres, more than half lies in Oregon. Only 35,357 Oregon sheep were admitted to the reserve, whereas 123,000 Washington sheep were allowed. To add insult to injury, 58,169 of the Washington sheep were allotted to range in this state. No Oregon sheep were allotted range in Washington. In scaling the number to be allowed in the reserve, the Oregon men were cut down 50 per cent, while the Washington men were allowed practically all they asked.

It is held by the Oregon stockmen that forest reserve rules were violated by the manner in which the reserve was allotted. The rules specifically provide that in allotment of range in reserve, stockmen of the state in which the reserve is located shall be given preference. Accompanying the general remonstrance were affidavits from twenty sheepmen of this county, setting forth claims to land in the reserve allotted to Washington men.

### JOHN DAY PROSPERS.

People Flocking to That Section from All Parts of Northwest.

Baker City.—Many people from over the Northwest are flocking through Baker City on their way into the John Day country to take up timber claims. A few days ago a party of Idaho people went to Sumpter en route to the timber belt, and another party went from this place.

For the past three months timber seekers have come from Western Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and much valuable timber land has been located. Last week two parties, one of eight and one of five people, went out. These were Idaho people, who were evidently satisfied with their locations, as the last party which passed through here was composed of friends of the former company. All are from Genesee, Idaho.

### July Fourth at Chautauqua.

Oregon City.—At a meeting here of the board of directors of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association it was decided to hold suitable exercises at Gladstone Park, July 4 next, in celebration of Independence Day. The grounds will be thrown open to campers July 2, eight days before the coming of the Chautauqua. No steps have been taken by the people of Oregon City towards celebrating this anniversary, and all will probably unite in the celebration that is planned by the Chautauqua Assembly.

### Specimen Road Work in Marion.

Salem.—Judge Scott has been advised by L. W. Page, director of public roads of the department of agriculture, that A. E. Loder, engineer in charge of the mile of specimen road building near this city, will commence work about May 15. It is expected that many will be present from all sections of Western Oregon to witness the building of this road on scientific principles. A barbecue will be served while work is progressing, one day being planned for special entertainment of visitors.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 71@72; bluestem, 72@73; r.d., 69@70; valley, 70c.  
Oats—No. 1 white feed, 37.50@28; gray, 27 per ton.  
Barley—Feed, \$23.50@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.  
Hay—Valley timothy, \$12@13; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8; alfalfa, \$12.  
Onions—Apples, \$2@3.00 per box; strawberries, \$1.25@1.65 per crate; Oregon, 20c per pound.

Vegetables—Asparagus, 75c@1.25 per box; cabbage, \$2.85@3.00 per hundred; cauliflower, \$2.25 per crate; celery, \$5.00 per crate; head lettuce, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@15c per dozen; radishes, 20c per dozen; rhubarb, 3@4c per pound; spinach, 90 per box; parsley, 25c; turnips, \$1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.  
Potatoes—No. 1, 3c per pound.  
Onions—Fancy graded burbanks, 60@70c per hundred; ordinary, 50@60c; new California, 4c per pound.  
Butter—Fancy creamery, 17¢@20c per pound.  
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18¢@18½¢ per dozen.  
Poultry—Average old hens, 14¢@15c per pound; mixed chickens, 13¢@14c; broilers, 20¢@22¢; young roosters, 12¢@13c; old roosters, 11¢@12c; dressed chickens, 16¢@16½¢; turkeys, live, 17¢@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20¢@25c; geese, live, 10¢@11c; geese, dressed, 10¢@11c; ducks, 17¢@18c.  
Hops—Oregon, 1905, 12¢@12½¢.  
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16¢@17c; valley, 24¢@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 28¢@30c.  
Veal—Dressed, 3¼¢@7c per pound.  
Beef—Dressed hogs, 3c pr pound; cows, 4¼¢@5½¢; country steers, 5¢@6c.  
Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8¢@8½¢ per pound; ordinary, 5¢@6c; lambs, with pelt on, 9¢@10c.  
Pork—Dressed, 7¢@8½¢ per pound.

## DISEASE APPEARS.

Typhoid and Ptomaine Poisoning Dangerous of San Francisco.

Oakland, Cal., May 7.—Poor old San Francisco, with its old landmarks a mass of tangled and still smoldering wreckage, and its thousands of suffering people! The place tonight presents a scene which no pen can describe. What has passed during the nineteen days since the earthquake and fire is slowly creeping into history. During the past nineteen days San Francisco has been a living hell. In the weeks and months to come, yes, even in the years that are to follow, this state of hell will continue.

It is all well enough for the prominent business men of San Francisco, the government officials and those connected with the Red Cross Society, to be sanguine over what is being done to relieve the suffering of San Francisco's stricken people and of the future.

It is all well enough for these men to say: "Well, we'll build a better and more beautiful city." It is all well enough for Dr. Devine to say: "We have the situation well in hand, and no one will go without food or clothing." This is a right and hopeful view to take of the matter.

These big committees will care for the masses after their fashion of doing things on a big scale, but there are hundreds who are bound to be overlooked, thrust aside by the scramble for supplies, and this is not all.

Yesterday and today gave an intimation of the disease and sickness which physicians have feared would break out. The drinking water of the stricken city is polluted with typhoid fever germs. The constant cry of the health department officials for days has been "boil the water before drinking." This is easy advice, but when people are cooking outdoors on shattered stoves and rudely constructed ovens made of broken brick, with the wind day after day blowing a gale, it is no wonder that the warning to boil the water is ignored.

Those in charge of the city's affairs across the bay have steadfastly maintained there was no danger from an epidemic. This was the truth a week ago. It was too early for infection, but now the period of incubation has run, and what the physicians have been preparing themselves for—the outbreak of typhoid—has struck the city.

Yesterday fourteen cases were taken to the Presidio hospital, and today a dozen more cases were recorded. Ptomaine poisoning is developing. This naturally must follow the constant diet of corned beef and other canned goods upon which the people have been living since the earthquake. This is one way that sickness is spreading in San Francisco.

The other and even more dangerous way will come from the supply depots. At these places wagon loads of bread, after being carted through the streets, dust-strewn and filthy, are unloaded at these camps. Typhoid germs will find their way into the bread and into the stomachs of the people, just as they would by drinking polluted water. So much for this.

Now for the half-hysterical and nerve-shattered people who still cling to the stricken city. Hardly a day has passed since Wednesday, April 18, but that the city has been rocked by an earthquake. Last Wednesday there was a terrific shock, and this morning shortly after 10 o'clock another hard tremor that sent men, women and children from their homes and buildings into the streets screaming mad in fright. How long the people's nerves will stand this is unanswerable. They are a brave people, these folks who have passed through the earthquake and fire, but there is a limit to all courage. It simply means that, if the earth continues to groan and tremble, the most courageous will give up and quit the city.

Indeed, in some quarters men of authority are talking of sending all of the women and children out of San Francisco. This is talked of by no less authority than Captain Kennedy, who has charge of the United States general hospital at the Presidio.

### Turkey Will Fight.

Alexandria, Egypt, May 8.—Advices received here show that the Turkish troops on the Egyptian frontier are being strongly reinforced, and there is grave apprehension here that the sultan contemplates a hostile movement, should the British carry out their expressed purpose of a naval demonstration against Turkey. A battalion of Turkish troops reinforced the garrison at El Rafeh Monday and all along the frontier, according to reports received here, the movement of the Turks is in evidence.

### Will Paralyze All Building.

Chicago, May 7.—"Within two weeks 20,000 workmen in all branches of the building industry in Chicago will be thrown out of work by suspension of construction work on skyscrapers and factories affected by the strike of structural ironworkers. It may not develop into a lockout, but there will necessarily be a shutdown if the strike continues." This was the statement made by one of the foremost building contractors of the city, and a member of the Building Contractors' Council.

### British Gold to Pay Losses.

London, May 7.—The American steamer St. Paul, which sailed from Southampton for New York today, took \$1,835,000 in gold, most of which is destined for the agents of British insurance companies to meet their San Francisco claims.

## RAPIDLY REBUILDING

All Efforts in San Francisco Turn Towards Reconstruction

## THOUSANDS IDLE WHO CAN'T DIG

Disaster Falls Hardest on Brain Workers—What They Are to Do Is Hard Problem.

San Francisco, May 8.—With the subsidence of the excitement that attended the earthquake and fire comes a more vivid realization of the misery that has been inflicted upon the community. The number of people who have suddenly been cut off from means of earning a livelihood is enormous. The army of clerks, salesmen, stenographers, bookkeepers and tradespeople that poured into the downtown sections each morning and returned to the residential districts and suburbs in the evening finds itself idle and without prospect of employment. Lawyers, doctors, dentists and their assistants are in a like predicament.

But a small percentage of these people are capable of taking up manual labor, the only kind that is now present, and already upon the streets and on the sites for new buildings may be seen many of this class painfully and wearily engaged in the hardest kind of tasks. What is to be done with the great number of men and women who could not get down to the level of the common workman is a question that the city officials have asked themselves and have been unable to satisfactorily answer.

From this time forward the efforts of the municipal officials and existing citizens' committees will be directed almost solely to the task of reconstructing the city. Active sub-committees have been appointed and plans for practical work and accomplishments will be presented to Mayor Schmitz this week. The construction of temporary buildings continues in the burned portions of the town and there are manifestations that the mercantile element is undaunted by its reverses.

The relief work is progressing smoothly along the lines arranged by the army, but a project is now being considered of substituting for the "bread line" a number of cheap restaurants where hot meals will be served at a low cost.

## COST GOVERNMENT \$750,000.

## Shaw's Estimates for Repairs to Buildings Earthquake Shock.

Washington, May 8.—Secretary Shaw today submitted estimates to the house of amounts necessary to be appropriated to repair government buildings in California wrecked by the earthquake. The house committee on appropriations has decided to take this matter up tomorrow and bring in a separate appropriation bill covering the items.

The items include \$10,000 for the appraisers' stores building, \$30,000 for the sub-treasury, the lower story and roof of which are damaged; \$65,000 for the mint, \$300,000 for the postoffice, \$6,000 for the revenue cutter storehouse, which was totally destroyed, making in all \$611,000 for San Francisco. The San Jose postoffice was injured to the extent of \$35,000, and the Oakland postoffice \$16,500.

To make the appropriation ample to cover damage not as yet ascertained, the secretary recommends that \$750,000 be appropriated. The estimate is accompanied by photographs of the buildings, taken after the damage. The secretary takes occasion to submit a brief reference to reports on file in his department, showing the heroic conduct of the federal officers.

## Found No Killed Looters.

San Francisco, May 7.—The records of Coroner Walsh disprove the widely circulated stories that large numbers of people were shot and killed by the soldiers during the great fire that followed the earthquake. Of all the cases handled by this official and his deputies, in only one was it found that death was due to gunshot wounds. The exception was Heber Tilden, killed by a civic guardman, who had the mistaken idea that the automobile in which Tilden was riding was being used for looting purposes. The military authorities have records of two cases of killings for disobedience of military orders.

## Will Paralyze All Building.

Chicago, May 7.—"Within two weeks 20,000 workmen in all branches of the building industry in Chicago will be thrown out of work by suspension of construction work on skyscrapers and factories affected by the strike of structural ironworkers. It may not develop into a lockout, but there will necessarily be a shutdown if the strike continues." This was the statement made by one of the foremost building contractors of the city, and a member of the Building Contractors' Council.

## Cost of New Manhattan Bridge.

New York, May 8.—The lowest bidder for the erection of the Manhattan bridge, a structure paralleling the Brooklyn bridge and requiring an estimated 40,000 tons of steel, is the Ryan-Parker Construction Company, with an offer of \$6,493,223.

## FIRE PANIC IN BIG HOSPITAL.

Blazing Laundry Causes Patients to Flee Half-Clothed.

San Francisco, May 4.—The 700 patients in the general hospital at the Presidio were thrown into a panic at 4:15 o'clock this morning by the cry of "fire."

At that moment flames were discovered in the hospital laundry, which was only a few yards away. The close proximity of the two buildings gave rise to the fear that the hospital would be destroyed.

In anticipation of such a contingency hurried arrangements were made for the removal of the patients to a place of safety.

For a few minutes, until the fire in the laundry was gotten under control and there was no danger of the flames spreading beyond that building, pandemonium reigned among the hundreds of patients.

Those who were not dangerously ill, or could help themselves, jumped from their cots and beds, and, hastily donning what clothes they could find, fled from the hospital out into the cool morning air.

Many of the indispensed men and women did not wait to secure their clothes, but wrapped themselves in bedding and made their exit as quickly as possible.

In more than one instance men and women fled out into the air with nothing but their night clothes. Scores of