

OREGON MIST

Issued Each Friday

ST. HELENS.....OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

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

The torpedo flotilla has reached Magdalena bay for practice.

King Edward is severely criticised by his people for leaving his post at a crisis.

Naval experts say many new records were made by the battleships fleet at Magdalena bay.

Howard Gould is suing his wife for a divorce. Drinking is her worst offense, according to his story.

Oliver C. Dallas, under arrest at Helena, has admitted making many false reports on mineral surveys.

Harriman denies that he has maintained a monopoly of the transportation business in Oregon and California.

The Canadian Pacific railway has decided to build a second line through the Rocky mountains to the Pacific coast.

The Italian car in the New York to Paris automobile race has arrived at San Francisco and will take a steamer for Alaska.

Representative Hobson, of Alabama, says the navy needs more ships. That Japan could easily whip the United States at present.

On her return from San Diego to Magdalena the Connecticut exceeded her trial speed, and that after the long trip from Hampton Roads.

A bitter prohibition campaign in Illinois is near an end.

Philippine Democrats have endorsed Bryan for president.

Japan is to abolish the stigma of caste on the lower classes.

Great Britain is alarmed at the growth of Socialism.

The chief of the Crow Indians defends Indian Agent Reynolds.

Russia is inclined to the demands on the control of Manchuria.

Delaware Republicans will send un-inducted delegates to the convention.

An entire trainload of oranges has just been sent from California to Iowa.

Japan is making extraordinary war preparations to continue the expansion policy.

The old Fifth avenue hotel in New York has closed and politicians are homeless.

The German diet has forbidden the use of any language at public meetings but German.

Harriman officials announce that extensive improvements to San Pedro harbor will be made by the Southern Pacific.

It is announced that the coal mine at Hanna, Wyo., in which a score of miners were killed, will probably never be reopened.

A general strike in Rome has followed a labor riot.

Ruef's last objection to a trial has been overruled.

The Brazilian cruiser Bergamia Constant is to visit Honolulu.

Andrew Carnegie has given \$5,000,000 more to pension university professors.

Hard times have forced Helen Gould to retrench her charities. Two industrial schools in which she is interested are to close.

Retired clearing house certificatees of Chicago to the amount of \$14,000,000 have been sold to a cardboard factory and reduced to pulp.

Charles Fisher, aged 17, dropped dead in the streets of Bedford, Ind. He was addicted to the cigarette habit and had one in his mouth when death came.

The proposition to build a new subway in New York from the Battery to the Bronx, under Broadway and Lexington avenue, to cost \$80,000,000 has been approved.

For the third time in six weeks the Ohio river at Cincinnati is above flood stage.

A Chicago jury has decided that \$50 hats are excluded from the "necessary household expenses" for which a husband is liable when incurred by his wife without his approval.

Indiana Republicans are boosting for Fairbanks.

Germany is preparing to float a loan of \$162,500,000.

Diamond workers of Germany are on strike for higher wages.

PREMIER RESIGNS.

Many Changes in British Cabinet to Follow as Result.

London, April 7.—Great Britain is in a peculiar position, being without either premier or ministry. The long expected resignation of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the prime minister, was officially announced Saturday night. According to the court circular, he resigned on the urgent recommendation of his medical advisers, and, as the constitution provides no automatic successor, it resting with the king to choose a new head of the government, and in accordance with the custom and precedent, the whole cabinet resigns with the premier, no step to appoint a ministry can be taken until Herbert H. Asquith, chancellor of the exchequer, who has been summoned to Biarritz for the purpose, has seen the king.

The position of the country is quite unprecedented, there being no previous example of a change occurring in the premiership while the sovereign was abroad. On this account the course of procedure to be followed is in some doubt.

Sir Henry's condition remains unchanged, according to the physicians' bulletin. The king, in telegraphing his acceptance of the premier's resignation, conveyed an expression of his regret and esteem, with best wishes for Sir Henry's recovery.

POLICY IS CHANGED.

Japan Much Influenced by Coming of American Fleet.

Tokio, April 7.—A few days ago Count Okuma received a deputation from the Japanese residents of Sacramento, Cal., and from the Japanese newspaper men of San Francisco, who wished to solicit his views on the emigration problem. The count is reported by the vernacular papers to have said that it was very difficult to find out wherein lay the object of the dispatch of the American battleship squadron to the Pacific at this time. A good deal has been made of the movement by the European press and it was looked upon there as an occurrence of unusual significance. Japan, however, had received the assurance of the United States government that it was not intended as a menace to Japan, but as merely undertaken for the purpose of training officers and men.

Nevertheless, whatever the real object of the movement might be, it was indisputable that Japan's emigration policy had been considerably affected thereby and it was not easy to sever entirely the dispatch of the fleet from the policy Japan had lately pursued toward the United States in this connection.

FLEET ASSURES PEACE.

Evans Says Voyage to Pacific Was Well Timed.

San Francisco, April 7.—Admiral Robley D. Evans, in an interview printed in the Chronicle today, said: "The greater interest of the United States today is in the Pacific. The coming of the fleet to this coast has not only demonstrated to the world that we have 16 battleships which can be brought together for a long cruise at a moment's notice, but it has called the attention of the people of our own country to the fact that we have a Pacific coast as well as an Atlantic coast, and that it will be defended just as much as every inch of land around New York, and that our interests in the Pacific today are greater than in the Atlantic.

"This is the short road to the countries of the Far East, where the greatest commercial development is to be. With development will come war, but it will be a commercial war, fought with brains and dollars and not with 10-inch guns. It will be generated by such men as Harriman, and the part of the navy is only to be always ready. We do not plan nor fight commercial battles.

"The coming of the fleet was most opportunely timed by the president, and its arrival in the Pacific has resulted in the present assurance of peace. Not that I ever believed that there was any actual danger of war. The people of both countries realized too well what a dreadful calamity such a war would have been."

Collect Money by Autos.

San Francisco, April 7.—With a "flying squadron" of ten big automobiles pressed into service for the occasion and a corps of volunteer collectors, extraordinary efforts will be made by the fleet committee to bring the total of the fleet fund to \$70,000, and to cease work in that connection by Wednesday. Before the collectors wind up their efforts Tuesday night they will visit 2,300 saloons and 600 restaurants within the boundary of the city and expect the to secure pledges of between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

Transport Sherman Sails.

San Francisco, April 7.—The transport Sherman will sail at noon tomorrow for Manila with a large number of first class passengers besides 100 enlisted men of the Twenty-fifth coast artillery, and 130 recruits for the troops in the Philippines.

WEST MUST UNITE

Important Legislation Pending at National Capital.

TEAM WORK WOULD CARRY DAY

Dry Farm Homestead Bill, in Which West is Greatly Interested, Among Measures.

Washington, April 4.—There are several important bills pending before senate and house, or in their committee, of great interest to the West, any one of which can probably be passed if Western senators and congressmen will get together and make a united effort. Most conspicuous among them at the present time is the 320-acre dry farm homestead bill, a measure that means a great deal to the states west of the Missouri river, in many of which settlement is practically checked because the best lands have passed to private ownership, and what remains cannot be successfully entered under the existing homestead law.

Another most meritorious measure hanging in the balance is the Borah bill, providing funds for building schools, installing sewer and water systems and making other municipal improvements in towns established on government irrigation projects. This bill proposes to donate to such towns all moneys derived from the sale of town lots, a fund which, in most instances, will be ample for the purpose.

Experience has shown that towns on government projects have been slower of development than towns on Carey act projects. The latter have grown rapidly. Large schools have been erected, adequate water and sewer systems have been installed, streets have been improved, etc., whereas in towns on government projects the citizens have been obliged to go down into their own pockets to provide and maintain schools and property holders have been compelled to bear the entire expense of all civic improvements.

The national drainage bill, which contemplates the reclamation of swamp and overflowed lands in all parts of the United States, stands little chance of passing this session. Though it is a measure of great merit, there does not seem to be that interest that is essential to force through a bill of such magnitude and importance. It is difficult to explain this lack of interest, too, for there is scarcely a state that has not some lands that would be benefited by a national drainage law.

There is one bill that congress will certainly not pass this session, yet one that should have been enacted long ago—a bill repealing the timber and stone act and substituting some more practicable statute providing for the disposal of government timber. It has been amply demonstrated that the timber and stone act is vicious and unjust.

POPULISTS NAME TICKET.

Watson and Williams Their Choice for National Officers.

St. Louis, April 4.—For president of the United States, Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia.

For vice president, Samuel W. Williams, of Indiana.

This ticket was nominated yesterday by the People's party convention after two stormy sessions, throughout which the Nebraska and Minnesota delegations, working in the interests of W. J. Bryan, strove desperately to bring about an adjournment till after nominations had been made by the Democratic and Republican parties. Hopelessly outnumbered, and without any chance whatever of gaining their object, the Nebraska men fought desperately to the last, and when Jay A. Forrest, of Albany, N. Y., mounted the platform to place Mr. Watson in nomination, they withdrew from the convention, attended by the Minnesota delegation.

Smelter Trust Pays Big Fee.

Helena, Mont., April 4.—After a year's contest, the American Smelting & Refining company today admitted its defeat by sending to Secretary of State A. N. Yoder a check for \$3,685, as a fee for the filing of a certificate showing an increase of capital stock from \$65,000,000 to \$100,000,000. The corporation contended that the payment of this fee in New Jersey made its payment unnecessary in Montana, but Attorney General Albert J. Malen ruled otherwise. The fee is the largest in the history of the department.

Will Fight Two-cent Law.

Chicago, April 4.—A combined attack on the 2-cent passenger rate is promised by the railroads that operate in Illinois, Minnesota and Missouri. It is probable that the suits will be filed next week. The call for a conference to meet, at which officials of the Illinois roads will be present, was issued today, and plans for the fight will then then be laid.

HOPELESS SPLIT.

Interstate Commerce Cannot Agree on Spokane Rate Case.

Washington, April 6.—After having the Spokane rate case under consideration for more than one year, the Interstate Commerce commission is apparently hopelessly divided regarding the decision which should be rendered. The case is the most important upon the docket of the commission, and upon it hinges the entire rate fabric of the United States.

If the commission should decide with the shippers of Spokane, the theory upon which the railroads have made rates from the earliest days will be upset and past decisions on the short and long haul clause of the commerce act will be more or less nullified. On the other hand, if the commission refuses to disturb the present adjustment, a long step toward establishing the justice of the ratemaking methods of the railroads will have been taken. Recognizing the import of the case, the commission went into a most careful and elaborate investigation and hearing of all the facts and listened to arguments from a large number of the business, railroad and commercial lawyers in the West.

Since the arguments were heard the commission has had numerous conferences regarding a decision, and it develops that there are at least three different views which thus far have proved irreconcilable. The commission has struggled in vain to get a major report and apparently is in a deadlock.

The case is one which had been both entering the railroads in the Northwest for years prior to the commission's being given greater powers. Owing to water competition, according to the railroads, the rates to Spokane from the Eastern seaboard are the rates to the Pacific coast, plus the local rates from the Pacific coast back to Spokane. The latter city insists that this is unfair.

FIGHT FOR SALT BEDS.

Deposits of Enormous Value Discovered in Utah.

Washington, April 6.—Title to lands in the state of Utah containing salt deposits of an extent and purity hitherto not only unknown, but undreamed of, is involved in a sensational contest now being fought out in this city. About 38,000 acres of lands lying along the western border of Utah have been discovered to be overlapped with salt, and an attempt is being made to acquire them by the filing of placer mining claims on the part of individuals. The value of the lands was today estimated by one of the claimants at \$90,000,000.

Deposited by nature on the lands over which the contest is being made is a bed of pure salt, which in some places lies to a depth of six feet. This salt is of so fine a quality that it has been found unnecessary to refine it. It can be marketed direct from the deposit and tests have shown it to be 98 per cent pure. Elaborate preparations have been made for the control of the land by individuals, who have thus far kept the discovery of the deposit out of the newspapers.

For two or three months they were successful, but now the state of Utah has awakened to the vast possibilities of this salt deposit and the aid of the senate of the United States and the president has been invoked in an effort to retain the product, which the commonwealth claims under a section of the enabling act making it a state.

SOON DECIDE LUMBER RATES

Then Commission Will Act on Opening Portland Gateway.

Washington, April 6.—The Portland gateway case, which was argued last fall and which involves the shipment of lumber eastward from Puget sound via Portland, will not be decided until the Interstate Commerce commission has rendered an opinion on the lumber rate cases which were recently argued here. The commission will this week hold its first conference on the lumber rate case and its decision in that case may not be forthcoming for many weeks, though there is a disposition to settle this question with as much expedition as possible, as it involves the lumber industry of the entire Northwest.

Increases Fire Hazard.

San Francisco, April 6.—The present unsatisfactory condition of San Francisco's water supply, especially from the point of view of protection against fire hazard, was forcibly outlined in a communication sent to the board of supervisors today by the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific. The report sets forth that the water system of the city is a gravity system, with "pressures not standard," and says that the distributing reservoirs and tanks within the city "do not contain five days' supply."

Police Assist Burglar.

Philadelphia, April 6.—An amazing story of alleged dishonesty in the police department of this city was told today by Harry Rothenberger, aged 19 years, who was arrested charged with larceny. The youth made a confession, in which he says he was aided and abetted in a number of burglaries in the wholesale district of the city by four policemen.

ROADS ARE BLOCKED

Blizzard and Snow Tie Up the West Traffic.

TEMPERATURE GETS NEAR ZERO

From Manitoba Through Minnesota and West to Montana, Gale Carries Clouds of Snow.

St. Paul, April 2.—A terrific blizzard blowing here today and is bearing cold wave down from the North according to the United States weather bureau. The cold wave will cause drop in temperature to about 10 degrees above zero.

Very low temperature prevailed today at most places in Manitoba territories. It was two degrees below zero at Medicine Hat today and below at Prince Albert.

A dispatch from Grand Forks, N. D., says:

"A heavy snowstorm, accompanied by wind, caused delay to trains North Dakota today. The east-bound Oriental limited of the Great Northern arrived four hours late and reports that the storm raged all the way to Great Falls, Mont. All trains to the East were from half an hour to hours late this morning.

The snow is drifting and it is believed traffic will be tied up west of Grand Forks. About a foot of snow has here in the last 24 hours. It is reported that the Soo line from Arden to Kenmare is badly tied up."

In the Grip of a Blizzard.

Crookston, Minn., April 2.—The entire Red river valley has been in the grip of the worst blizzard of the winter.

PORTLAND'S ROSE CARNIVAL

Great Preparations Being Made for Floral Event.

Portland, Or., April 2.—This is the management of the Portland Rose festival, which will give a \$50,000 contribution during the first six days of June, inaugurated a campaign of publicity throughout all sections of the country. The campaign consists of sending out by mail of 250,000 leaflets fully colored and artistic advertising "inserts," in which plan all the salaried and retail houses, hotels, restaurants, public schools, drug stores, etc. have been enlisted. Great deals have been made for these attractive inserts already and they will be sent regularly until the festival opens June 1.

One of the fine features of the jubilee will be the grand water polo to be held one evening during the week. Every individual, firm or corporation that owns a pleasure or business boat that piles in the waters of the Sub-west has been invited to enter a craft in the magnificent decorative illuminated aquatic pageant.

Capt. J. C. Spier, harbor master at this port, chairman of the water polo committee, has been in communication with many associations along streams and rivers of this section who are interested in water sports and many of them have assured him that they will be glad to participate in that event.

Quite a number of towns and cities of Oregon, outside of Portland, have come to the front to help make the festival a huge success. Some have appropriated as high as \$500 and \$1000 to defray the expense of building a decorated and illuminated float for the splendid night parade "The Spirit of the Golden West."

Work on these floats is already well way and new committees are being heard from every few days. The time is short, so the management urges that towns that desire to take part in the demonstration to communicate with the festival management at once.

Commercial bodies from all parts of California will come here for two or three days of the festival. A special business men's excursion under the auspices of the California state board of trade, which will embrace organizations from all the leading cities of the commonwealth, has already been arranged for.

All Anxious to See Fleet.

Melbourne, April 2.—Alfred Deakin, prime minister of Australia, has received a cable message announcing that the American battleship fleet, which will be divided into two squadrons of eight warships each, will arrive here September 1. The fleet will arrive at Sydney September 13. The Australian cruisers, however, will not visit Australian waters. Mr. Deakin has outlined Washington that it is the desire of other Australian states that the fleet should visit Hobart, Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane.

Buffalo Bill Breaks Down.

Chicago, April 2.—Colonel William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) is seriously ill here at the Stratford hotel, suffering from a general nervous breakdown.