THE DAYTON HERALD

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DAYTON..... ... 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.

Norway will ask the United States for recognition.

Travel to the Lewis and Clark fair surprises Eastern railroads.

Rumors are thick in St. Petersburg of plots to dethrone the czar.

Newark, N. J., offers a bounty on pests which infest shade trees.

Witte says other powers may be called into the peace conference.

Russia is making arrangements to double track the Siberian railway.

Both Norway and Sweden are preparing for war while trying to keep peace.

There is a great increase of immigration to the United States from Norway and Sweden.

British cotton manufacturers have combined to promote the growth of cotton in the island possessions of Great Britain.

President Roosevelt says he has done his part in bringing the warring nations together and will not meddle in the peace conference.

The governor of Alabama has called out the satte cavalry to prevent the lynching of a negro confined in the Linden, Marengo county, jail.

Japan has succeeded in raising the battleship Bayan, sunk at Port Arthur. Five Russian vessels are said to be in such shape that they can easily be put into commission.

Portland is shipping cattle to Japan.

King Oscar says he does not favor a forcible union with Norway.

A severe wind storm has wiped out the town of Anawa, Wisconsin.

All telegraph operators on the Northern Pacific railway are ready to go on strike.

The Union passenger depot at Louisville, Kentucky, has been burned. Loss, $350,000.

A Boston man has been arrested in Kingston, Jamaica, for taking photographs of the fortifications.

Witte says that while he favors peace with Japan, he will not agree to it at any terms that may be offered.

Unusually heavy rainstorms are reported in various parts of Germany. Immense damage has been done to crops.

The Chinese government is sending a number of its aristocrats to various countries to study foreign ways. It is regarded generally as a step in the right direction.

Within nine days 98 infants under one year of age have died in Cleveland, Ohio. The health authorities are making a close investigation into the sanitary conditions of the milk supply.

The Japanese are driving the Russians north.

New York City has purchased a home for consumptives.

Sweden will send an ultimatum to Norway and is ready for war.

Japan is well pleased at the appointment of Witte as a peace envoy.

Terrorists have attempted to take the life of the governor general of St. Petersburg.

It is fully settled that Witte is to be one of the Russian peace enoys and will be given full powers.

During the past two years the United States government has spent $73,000,000 more than it has taken in.

A move is said to have been started to force the czar to abdicate and that he will turn the affairs of the government into other hands to administer for his son and heir.

An aged man living under the name of Livingston has his home at Freeport, Illinois. He greatly resembes pictures of John D. Rockefeller's father and it is believed by many that he is.

The president has signed a proclamation opening to homesteaders and townsite entry the Unitah reservation in Utah. The reservation contains 2,445,000 acres, but lands reserved for military, forestry and other purposes will leave only 1,069,000 availabe for entry.

The kaiser is trying to prevent Norway from becoming a republic.

The mutineers of the Russian battleship Potemkin have all been shot or are in chains.

A party has been formed by prominent Italians for the exploration of the upper Amazon river.

Minister Witte has had a stormy interview with the czar and may refuse to act as a peace envoy.

Major Langfitt, government engineer, with headquarters at Portland, is to be succeeded by Major Boessler.

During a high wind, following a severe rain and electric storm, the walls of a brick building in course of consturction at Winnipeg, Manitoba, fell, burying a nmuber of people. It is feared at least ten are dead.

Indiana officer have arrested 11 men believed to be a gang who have been systematically robbing freight cars of silk.

Chief Forester Pinchot has ordered that forest supervisors must accept no fees for services performed, under pain of dismissal.

The battleship Oregon holds the troph for high scores in gunnery among all battleships of the American navy.

The salaries of the Russian plenipotentiaries have been fixed at $200 per day each, besides an allowance of $7,500 for traveling and other expenses.

DEFENSE WAIVES ARGUMENT

Submits Timber Land Case to Jury Without Debate.

Portland, July 19.—After 12 days of trial, the reputation of three of the prominent men of Oregon was given into the keeping of 12 jurymen yesterday afternoon. When the last testimony for the defendants, Representative J. N. Williamson, Dr. Van Gesner and Marion R. Biggs, had been heard, as well as District Attorney Heney's opening argument for the prosecution, Judge Bennett sprang a surprise. He refused to discuss, on behalf of the defendants, the case that had been made against them, or the reasons why the verdict should be one of acquittal. The whole contention was left to the judgment of the jury, without argument. Judge Bennett, in making this request to the court, said:

"May it please the court, I do not feel that the opening statement of the district attorney was very full or very fair in this case, and in view of the fact that the jury has been here now for 12 days, trying this case, and has listened to all the testimony offered by the government, and the evidence and explanations on behalf of the defendants, and must thoroughly understand our position in the case from the arguments that have arisen during the course of the trial, we feel that we would not be justified in keeping them here for two or three days more to listen to an argument in the case. Therefore we have made up our minds to submit the case to the intelligence of this jury on the evidence in the case and the instructions which your honor shall give."

Yesterday morning when the Federal court convened, those present heard, after a few remaining questions had been asked of the last witness called in the case, a short statement of what the government had attempted to prove, as told by Mr. Heney. It was milder than those who had followed the trial had expected. The defendants were not called to account in any great measure for what the evidence of the government seemed to show them to have done. Invective and attack were wanting. It was, as styled by Mr. Heney, a birdseye view of the case and the evidence.

AIRSHIP FLIES OVER PORTLAND.

Wind Too Strong for It to Return to Exposition Grounds.

Portland, July 19.—Man tried again yesterday to conquer air. It was the same old story of partial defeat. He must try yet again before he can slip the metaphorical harness upon the atmosphere and make it serve him as the giants steam and electricity have been brought to serve.

For nearly two hours yesterday afternoon the airship Angelus hovered over Portland and vicinity. To the casual observer it looked like a great bird moving slowly across the sky with ease and perfect control of itself. In fact there was a battle going on every second; a battle against a strong wind which has proved the evil genius of airship inventors since the first. Every inch the brave vessel moved to the southward was an inch to the credit of the contending elements. It is noteworthy, however, that the Angelus bucked the capricious air currents yesterday with a greater degree of success than any previous air vessel. Captain T. S. Baldwin, of California, the inventor, is satisfied with yesterday's showing. He will make some delicate alterations and pit his vessel against the wind at once. He has no doubt that his boat could navigate in any direction under favorable atmospheric conditions. He intends to make it sail under any conditions.

The Angelus made the first airship flight in Northwest history and the first of the exposition competition. It was witnessed by many thousands. It started from the exposition grounds and drove southeast bucking a strong wind from the north. Lincoln Beechey, of Los Angeles, went up with the machine, and displayed remarkable skill and courage in his work. After being drifted along an irregular southward course for about six miles he tacked east and made a safe landing on a dock at a Willamette river pleasure resort. The vessel was not damaged to any great extent and arrangements were made for its conveyance back to the exposition whence other test flights are to be made this week.

Lay Siege to Vladivostok.

London, July 19.—A Japanese army has been landed north of Vladivostok and the complete envelopment of the fortress is imminent. The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph wires: "Thus Japan carries the war into undisputed Russian territory on the main land. Undoubtedly, too, a strong Japanese fleet is outside Vladivostok. Japan's navy has nothing else to occupy it at the moment. The investment of Vladivostok is regarded here as a strong argument in favor of peace."

Scores Killed by Sun.

New York, July 19. — An era of oppressive heat that brings to mind with unpleasant vividness the record breaking summer of 1901 has settled down over the Eastern and New England states, already numbering hundreds among its victims and causing indescribable suffering to people in this and other cities. From all points tonight came the story of the hottest day of the summer, attended with frequent prostrations and not a few deaths. Philadelphia reported a maximum temperature of 98.3, the highest noted.

Shipping Trust's Deficit.

New York, July 19.—A deficit of $1,142,098 for the year ended December 31 last, as compared with a surplus of $1,797,797 for the preceding year, is shown in a statement given out by the International Mercantile Marine company at its annual meeting at Hoboken, N. J., today. President Bruce Ismay ascribes the poor showing largely to the continued depression in freight rates on the North Atlantic during the latter part of 1904.

Battleship Ohio Accepted.

Washington, July 19.—The Navy department has finally accepted the battleship Ohio, flagship of Rear Admiral Train, commander of the Asiatic fleet. The Ohio was built by the Union Iron works, of San Francisco.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

BIG CROPS IN LINN COUNTY.

Hay, Wheat, Oats and Hops Giving Great Promise.

Albany—The hay crop of Linn county is greater this year than ever before, and thousands of tons of hay will be shipped away. In addition to the extra acreage is the yield. It is unusually good. Hay is selling for $4 and $5 loose, and $6 and $7 baled—low prices even for the opening market. Haying has been in progress for some time, and this week will see the crop cut and in the cock. Most of it will also be in the barn or stack ere the end of the week.

Never did wheat in Linn county look better. Binders will begin moving the yellow grain this week, much of it being now fully ripe and ready for cutting. The aphis mentioned early in the summer during the rains have all disappeared, leaving no mark behind. The output of the county will not be much larger than in the past, for the acreage is not much larger than usual, but the yield is the greatest in years.

Threshing will begin the last of July or the first of Aguust, on the fall sown grains. Three or four weeks later work will begin on the spring grain, which is looking fine where sowed early enough, but that sown late will ripen very close to the ground, making binding difficult.

Oats are looking fine, and will be a fairly heavy crop. The acreage is not as large as in some years, but the yield is excellent.

One of the bumper crops of the county will be hops. There is every indication of a full crop—better than last year. No damage has been done by the lice, the hot weather coming in time to put an end to the ravaegs of the little pest. The few yards that were infested with lice have been sprayed, and the crop is not affected in the least. If we have warm weather until picking season is over, the crop will be a full one. A prominent Albany hopgrower estimates the output of Linn county at about 150,000 bales.

Indians Go Into Law.

Chemawa — Among the 32 young men who were recently admitted to practice law before the Supreme court of Oregon were two Indians, graduates of the Chemawa Indian school. Both young men were successful, and give great promise of a creditable career. They were Oscar Norton, of California, who graduated in 1898, and George Bernier, of Oregon, of the class of 1900. Word has also reached here that Richard Graham, another California Indian, who was a student of Chemawa in 1897, has been admitted to practice law in the courts of Washington City. Mr. Graham has been a government department clerk for a number of years, and has attended and graduated from the Columbia law school.

Frozen Wheat Short.

The Dalles—Through the High Ridge and Fifteen-Mile country, the section of Wasco county where grain was most seriously damaged by the freeze of February, and where much reseeding was necessary, crops are looking fairly well. Some of the spring sown wheat is short and rather thin, but is of good color, and with favorable weather will make a comparatively good crop. Farmers in that section estimate that their spring grain will average 15 bushels to the acre. In that section the fall grain that was not frozen out will yield from 35 to 40 bushels to the acre. Everywhere throughout the county fall grain is ripening rapidly, and heading has already begun.

Bohemia Men Want Smelter.

Bohemia—At an important meeting of the Bohemia Mineowners' association this week steps were taken to interest some smeltermen in Bohemia camp. One mining man stated that in case interested parties put up a smelter, he woould sign a contract to deliver 50 tons of ore per day. With this amount of ore from one man, it is considered an assured fact that a smelter would pay if once put in operation. Men who are now doing nothing with their properties would proceed to active development.

Clackamas School Statistics.

Oregon City—The annual report of School Superintendent Zinser for Clackamas county shows there are in the county, between the ages of 44 and 20 years, 4,224 males and 3,960 females, a total of 8,184. Of that number, there are on the school registers of the county 3,130 males and 2,939 females, a total of 6,069. The services of 199 teachers are required, and of that number 34 are males. The number of legal voters in the county is 4,275, representing 120 districts. The average number of months taught was 7.4.

Clerk Robinson Suspended.

Pendleton — Charles M. Robinson, clerk of the Umatilla Indian reservation, has been suspended from office by Major J. J. McKoin, United States agent in charge of the reservation, pending an investigation of the affairs of Robinson's office. This action on the part of the agent is understood to be a result of the investigation of the affairs of the reservation, by R. G. Valentine, private secretary to Indian Commissioner Leupp.

Albany Summer Normal.

Albany—A summer normal school for the benefit of public school teachers is being conducted in Albany this summer by County School Superintendent W. L. Jackson, City School Superintendent Hayes and I. E. Richardson. A large number of the teachers in the public schools of Linn county are attending this summer school, where instruction in practical pedagogy is given.

State Land in Klamath.

Salem—State Land Agent Oswald West has returned from a trip to Swan Lake, Klamath county, where he inspected a large tract of land believed to be swamp in character, and therefore the property of the state. He found 5,000 acres to which he believes the state is entitled to a patent, and he will take steps immediately to perfect title.

RAILROAD FOR WALLOWA.

Independent Capitalists Will Build a Branch to Joseph.

La Grande—A corps of engineers are at work establishing a line for a new railroad down Grand Ronde river to the mouth of the Wallowa river, thence up the Wallowa to Wallowa valley. The right of way has been secured to the mouth of the Wallowa river. The new road will be independent of all other lines and is backed by New York capital.

A construction company is ready to begin grading as soon as part of the line is established, and will be at work within the next 30 days, and it is stated the road will be completed to the Wallowa bridge this year and will be extended to Joseph next year.

This activity has caused agents for the O. R. & N. to go to Elgin this week and busy themselves securing rights of way on all deeded land through which their final survey as established about five years ago.

The probable purpose of the new promoters is to get the right of way in the Grand Ronde and Wallowa canyons away from the O. R. & N., which it is supposed has already expired or soon will expire by limitation.

The outcome will likely be the forcing of the O. R. & N. Co. to build on its proposed line. If it does not in some way renew its pre-emption of the surveys already made, it will lose its rights, and this the O. R. & N. Co. is not expected to do. In any case, Wallowa county has a better prospect for a railroad than ever before.

Ready to Start Cut-Off.

Eugene—C. S. Freeland, construction engineer of the Southern Pacific company, is in Eugene with a force of men preparatory to the construction of the bridge across the Willamette river at Springfield for the Henderson-Springfield cutoff branch line, which will be built immediately. The people of Eugene herald the news of the beginning of the work on this line with great satisfaction. They have looked for it long and earnestly. It means the making of Eugene a terminus for all trains on the Woodburn-Natron and Springfield-Wendling branches, increasing the population of the city considerably by the addition of the trainmen and their families, and affording the people residing along the aforesaid branches a quicker and better means of reaching this city to do their trading.

Platinum on Santiam.

Lebanon—George B. Whitcomb, who lives about 30 miles above Lebanon on the South Santiam river reports having discovered platinum in paying quantities. A quantity of black river sand was sent to the government assay office at Washington, D. C., and partly concentrated sand went $50 to the ton, while reconcentrated sand went as high as $175 to the ton. Mr. Whitcomb has sent other samples to the government assayer at the Lewis and Clark fair. He expects an expert in a few days who will make a thorough examination.

Lice and Missed Hills.

Eugene—The hop situation in this county is much improved over that of last week, but much damage is being done by the large amount of lice, notwithstanding the efforts made by the growers to prevent the spread. In many cases there is also noticed a decrease in the number of vines, and many hills are missed when one goes over the yards. Fully realizing the alarming condition which exists, the growers in this county began to spray their hops the first of last week, and this work is in full blast all over.

Mr. Krebs at Dallas.

Dallas—Growers report the Krebs hop pool meeting in Dallas a success in every respect. All those present are said to have signed up, and the scheme in this vicinity seems to be progressing, while news comes from other hop localities in this county indicating that Polk county will be quite generally in the pool. Evidently the project is giving speculators considerable concern. It is reported that Salem speculators were here the day of the meeting.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat — Club, 82@83c per bushel; bluestem, 89@90c; valley, 85c.

Barley, —Feed, $21.50@22 per ton; rolled, $23@24.

Oats—No 1 white, feed, $29@30 per ton; gray, $29.

Hay — Timothy, $14@16 per ton; clover, $8@9.

Fruits — Apples, new, $1.50@1.85 per box; apricots, 90c@$1 per crate; peaches, 80@90c per crate; plums, 65c @85c per crate; Loganberries, $1.25 per crate; blackberries, 10c per pound; cherries, 7@12½c per pound; currants, 8c per pound; prunes, 85c@$1; raspberries, $1.25 per crate.

Vegetables—Beans, 1@4c per pound; cabbage, 1@1½c per pound; cauliflower, 75@90c per dozen; celery, 90c per dozen; corn, 20@27½c per dozen; cucumbers, 40@75c per dozen; lettuce, head, 10c per dozen; parsley, 25c per dozen; peas, 2@5c per pound; tomatoes, $1.25@3 per crate; turnips, $1.25 @1.40 per sack; carrots, $1.25@1.50 per sack; beets, $1@1.25 per sack.

Potatoes—Oregon, new, 75c@$1 per sack.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@21½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 22@23c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 12½@ 13½c; mixed chickens, 12@12½c; old roosters, 9@10c; young roosters, 11@ 12c; turkeys, live, 18@19; geese, live, 7½@8c; ducks, old, 13c; ducks, young, 15c per pound.

Hops—Choice 1904, 16@19c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 19@21c; lower grades down to 15c, according to shrinkage; valley, 25@27c per pound; mohair, choice, 31c per pound.

Beef — Dressed bulls, 1@2c per pound; cows, 3½@4½c.

Mutton — Dressed, fancy, 5c per pound; ordinary, 4c.

Veal—Dressed, 3@7c per pound.

Pork—Dressed 6@7½c per pound.

WANT A LONG CONTRACT.

Only Terms on Which Japanese Will Work on Canal.

Seattle, July 18. — Japanese labor contractors will not agree to the Isthmian commission's programme of experimenting with the labor of different countries. A recent dispatch from Washington says the commission has decided to secure 2,000 laborers of different nationalities under a 500 day contract, with the idea in view of renewing the contract for such laborers as were found satisfactory.

The question of employing Japanese laborers on the isthmus was first taken up with the commission and Secretary Taft by the Oriental Trading company, of Seattle. This is the most important labor contracting firm in the Northwest.

Vice President C. T. Takahashi said today that his company would not agree to such a proposal. "There is no money in such a short contract," he continued. "If we could get a four-year or a five-year contract, Japanese laborers could be supplied. As it is the laborers would have to be brought from Japan and returned to their homes after the work was completed.

To collect 2,000 men, carry them to the isthmus and then return them to their homes after a 500-day contract had been completed is not practicable.

"Our proposal to supply Japanese labor has been before the commission and Washington officials for some time. We have not been notified that an experimental contract might be made and I do not think we would accept a contract if offered one."

The Oriental Trading company proposed to provide its own foremen, choosing men accustomed to directing railroad and similar construction work.

MINERS IN TERROR.

Appeal to Government for Protection Against Outlaws.

Seattle, July 18.— Miners operating on the creeks near Fairbanks, Alaska, have appealed to the United States government for protection from outlaws who are terrorizing that district.

General Constance Williams, in command of the Department of the Columbia, has been instructed by the War department to investigate, and if conditions are as bad as the miners claim, troops will be rushed into the Tanana country. The telegraph lines into Fairbanks are down and General Williams' investigation is likely to be delayed for several days. In the meantime a large Alaska community is terrorized, for the situation is even worse than that which existed at Skagway during the "Soapy Smith" days.

Telegraphic advices from the North declare that hold-ups and the boldest of robberies are becoming so frequent that an attack on some of the banks is feared by the miners. The mine owners are afraid to either bring their dust into town or keep it at their camps. The outlaws are holding up strong pack trains and robberies at camps are so numerous that they have become expected.

The miners in the Tanana country have but a few weeks in which to make their annual cleanup and the depredations of the outlaws threaten the year's business. The district about Fairbanks has had a remarkable winter and the cleanup would be the heaviest in the camp's history if the miners are able to work. Fear of losing everything by robbery is holding back the spring clean-up.

Independence for Corea.

Honolulu, July 18. — Coreans here have raised a fund to send Rev. P. T. Yon, a Corean Methodist minister, to Washington to see President Roosevelt for the purpose of asking that efforts be made by the United States in the forthcoming negotiations to bring about an agreement by which the Corean nation will become independent within 20 years if it shows fitness for self-government. Rev. Mr. Yon will solicit the good offices of President Roosevelt to ask Japan to grant independence as the United States did Cuba.

Making Gigantic Bluff.

Tokio, July 18.—It is unofficially reported that General Linievitch's force numbers nearly 400,000 now, and it is reported that he is extensively using water transportation to bring forward men, supplies and ammunition. An officer who recently returned from Manchuria expresses the opinion that Linievitch plans a great demonstration to synchronize with the meeting of the plenipotentiaries, but that he does not intend real aggression. It is understood that Captain Bougouin returns permanently to France.

Off for the North Pole.

New York, July 18.—The Roosevelt, in which Captain Robert E. Peary hopes to reach the north pole, started on her long voyage today. Captain Peary and a party of guests were on board at the start, and remained with the ship on her trip down the bay, but they left her at the narrows, returning to the city on a navy tug. Captain Peary started tonight by rail for Sydney, Cape Breton, where he will join the ship.

Captain King in Blackmar's Place

Baltimore, July 18.—By the death of General Blackmar, Captain John R. King, of this city, senior vice commander in chief, becomes, under the laws of the G. A. R., acting commander-in-chief, and will continue such until the next National encampment. Captain King is pension agent for Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia and West Virginia, and has an office in Washington.

Ripe Fruit Can Be Carried.

Sacramento, Cal., July 18.—Harold Powell, of the United States Department of Agriculture, says he has demonstrated conclusively that ripe fruit, well refrigerated before shipment will arrive sound under ordinary railroad refrigeration, even after being from 10 to 15 days on the way.

Packing Plant is Destroyed.

Columbus, O., July 18.—The plant of the Columbus Packing company on the South Side, was destroyed by fire today. Loss, $185,000. The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

CLAIMS INNOCENCE

Williamson Denies Entering Plot to Suborn Perjury.

KNEW GESNER LOANED MONEY

Cross Examination by District Attorney Heney Brings Out This Fact from Witness.

Portland, July 18.—After the counsel for the defense places several witnesses on the stand this morning to show that the timber claim of Marion R. Biggs, one of the defendants in the trial of Representative Williamson and Dr. Gesner, was valuable for timber, all of the evidence will have been laid before the jury. By refusing to permit the defense to place on the stand a long list of witnesses to prove the good character of the three defendants, Judge De Haven shortened the trial and for the next few days the courtroom will be ringing with the voices of the attorneys making their argument to the jury.

Yesterday morning Representative Williamson took the stand in his own behalf and declared to the jury that he was innocent of the charge of conspiring to cause certain applicants for government timber land to commit perjury. He was inclined to be combative under cross-examination but District Attorney Heney, apparently had no desire to press the witness to the point where he would lose his temper. During the direct and redirect examination, Representative Williamson frequently turned full upon the jury and delivered his evidence at various times directly at the 12 men who will later pass judgment upon him. Naturally his testimony was the feature of the day, and while he made a good witness for himself, Mr. Heney nevertheless got admissions from him that tended to show that he knew that Gesner was making loans to entrymen.

TO TAKE VLADIVOSTOK.

Japanese Hope to Capture Fortress Before Envoys Reach America.

Tokio, July 18.—Judging from the activity at present being displayed at the Navy department, it seems certain the investment of Vladivostok can be expected before the end of this week.

All arrangements are known to have been completed, and it is reported, evidently upon the best authority, that Admiral Togo's entire fleet will sail from Sasebo before nightfall. In addition, an army of invasion, which was landed from transports in Peter the Great bay very recently, is already moving to complete the investment by land. Since June 1, 50 ocean-going foreign steamers have been placed under the Japanese flag, laden with ammunition and supplies, and will accompany Togo's fleet.

It is the hope of the Japanese government that Vladivostok will be taken before the peace envoys land on United States soil. With this object in view, nothing is to be left undone to make the campaign, as planned, brief and eminently successful.

HEAT IS KILLING.

Temperature in Metropolis of United States Causes Prostrations.

New York, July 18.—After a respite of one day, the hot wave that swept over New York last week, causing scores of deaths and hundreds of cases of prostrations, returned today with renewed intensity, the temperature being by far the highest of the season.

The highest point reached was at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the weather bureau thermometer touched 95 degrees. In the streets, however, the heat was much greater, some thermometers recording as high as 103.

While the heat was intense, the air was stirred by light breeze, and the general suffering was somewhat mitigated by the absence of the excessive humidity that prevailed last week. It was largely owing to this that only two cases of death directly resulting from heat were reported.

Nothing to Investigate.

Caracas, July 18.—Venezuelans were very much surprised on receiving the news that President Roosevelt had appointed Judge Calhoun a special commissioner to Venezuela to investigate the claims of America. The Constitution, the government organ, says: "If the claims of Americans or others existed, they would have been already heard before competent authorities. It may be the president requires information regarding the case of the New York & Bermudez Ashpalt company, which is still pending."

Rich Beggars Reap Harvest.

New York, July 18.—Detectives employed by the Charity Organization society have caused six beggars, all property owners, to be arraigned in the Harlem court. It is asserted by the officers that the six prisoners had formed themselves into a sort of beggars' trust to do the Italian feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which is being celebrated in Harlem's Little Italy. All of the prisoners are declared to have bank accounts and are landlords. When searched by the police, one beggar had $588 in bills.

Rapid Transit for London.

London, July 18.—A bulky bluebook tonight contains the report of the royal commission on locomotive transport in London. The advisory board of engineers recommends the construction of two main avenues through London, 140 feet wide and between four and five miles long, carrying four lines of tramways on the surface and four lines of railways below the surface. It is estimated that the cost of construction will be £12,000,000.

Assistant Engineer of Canal.

San Antonio, Tex., July 18.—Jackson Smith, formerly passenger agent of the National railroad of Mexico, has been appointed assistant to Chief Engineer Stevens, of the Panama canal, according to a telegram received here tonight.

NEW TRIAL DENIED.

Judge De Haven Denies Motion in Mitchell Case.

Portland, July 16.—"The motion in arrest of judgment will be denied.

"The motion for a new trial will be denied.

"Is the defendant in court?"

Senator John H. Mitchell was not in court when Judge De Haven pronounced the words quoted from his decision in answer to the motions made last week by his attorneys. Senator Mitchell was represented by Judge Bennett and ex-Senator Thurston, and while Judge De Haven did not say that he would have rendered judgment upon the senator, had he been in court, it is believed from the fact that he asked if "the defendant was in court," that he would have done so. Senator Thurston, when Judge De Haven put his query, rose and stated that he wished further time in which to draw up a bill of exceptions, and he was given until a week from Monday morning to present them.

This means another ten days before Senator Mitchell will have judgment pronounced upon him. The senator's counsel informed the court that by tomorrow they would have their bill of exceptions ready and in the hands of United States District Attorney Heney, so that he might in turn have his answer ready by the time that the case will again be taken up by the court. Judge De Haven seemed willing to grant the delay, and as there was no objection from Mr. Heney, His Honor set Monday, July 31, as the day for receiving the exceptions.

BIGGS TESTIFIES FOR DEFENSE.

Vigorously Denies Any Thought of Perpetrating Fraud.

Portland, July 16. — This coming week, unless some unforeseen accident should occur, will see the end of the Representative Williamson, Dr. Van Gesner and Marion R. Biggs trial. Yesterday Marion Biggs, who is the United States land commissioner, took the stand in his own behalf, and when Judge De Haven adjourned court until Monday morning, he had passed through the hands of the district attorney. On the whole, he made a fair witness for himself, and the two defendants charged jointly with him in the alleged conspiracy. Under the skillful hands of Attorney Wilson, Biggs told a plausible story, but District Attorney Heney, during the course of an extremely rigid cross examination, tangled the witness up several times.

From the beginning of his testimony to the end, Biggs contended that he was innocent of any wrongdoing, and he denied having any part in the alleged conspiracy of suborning entrymen to commit perjury.

DIES AT BOISE.

Commander-in-Chief of G. A. R. Was Touring Northwest.

Boise, Idaho, July 16.—General W. W. Blackmar, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, died at 5 o'clock this evening of intestinal nephritis. His wife was with him during his illness. The body will be embalmed and taken to the home of the family in Boston.

The general arrived here on the 10th on a tour, during which he intended to visit Grand Army posts throughout the Northwest. He was ill when he arrived and gradually failed. The seriousness of his condition was kept from the public at the request of his wife.

General Blackmar was born July 25, 1841, at Bristol, Pa. He enlisted in the Fifteenth Pennsylvania cavalry and subsequently joined the First West Virginia. He served with distinction throughout the war and at Five Forks was promoted on the field by General Custer to the rank of captain. Through the three administrations of Governors Long, Talbott and Rice he was judge advocate general of Massachusetts. At the last National encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic he was elected commander-in-chief.

Costly Dirt in New York.

New York, July 17. — From the exempt tax list, as published today in the City Record, some idea of the value of earth in that part of the globe covered by New York City may be gathered. The total estimated value of real property which pays no taxes is more that $1.000 000,000, and it is safe to say that the real worth of the property is more than $2,000,000,000. Adding to this more than $5,000,000, 000 of real estate which was taxed, the actual value of the city is more than $7,000,000,000.

New Strike Threatened.

Chicago, July 17. — Now that the teamsters' strike is simmering down to a finish, Chicago is threatened with a renewal of the trouble by another branch of labor. This time it is the freighthandlers who, it is announced, have prepared a demand on the different roads for an increase of 15 per cent in wages and an eight-hour day. The matter will be discussed early in the week and trouble is feared. Over 4,500 men will be involved, should this union call a strike. There was no development in the teamsters' affairs.

Rain Ruins Indiana Wheat.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 17.—Reports to the News from all counties of Indiana show that continuous rains have prevented almost entirely the threshing of wheat in this state so far. Two weeks ago Indianians apparently had the greatest yield of wheat in many years, but since harvest there has been rain practically all the time. Returns so far indicate a yield of 20 bushels to the acre. The Indiana corn crop will be tremendous.

Canal Laborers Leaving.

Panama, July 17. — Owing to dilatory methods of paying laborers, a general exodus of workmen is taking place among employes of the canal. Reports from Culebra indicate that, because they cannot get paid, laborers are quitting in scores, and have taken to the woods of bananas and other tropical fruit to ward off starvation.