

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Less Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

Russia disclaims all political designs on Manchuria.

Seven persons died in a Cincinnati tenement house fire.

President Taft has been busy engaged in doing his Christmas shopping in New York.

President Taft visited the Bowery and spoke words of cheer and hope to the inhabitants.

A bloody battle is reported between the Nicaragua revolutionists and the government forces.

A Los Angeles "reformed gambler" will fully expose race betting methods before government officials.

King Leopold of Belgium will undergo an operation as a last resort, but there is little hope of success.

The government immigration commission has discovered horrible conditions among steerage passengers on ocean liners.

A New York Central train running over 60 miles an hour crashed into the rear of a slow train, killing six and injuring many more.

New York police have found that \$300,000 worth of diamonds and jewelry reported stolen were pawned before the alleged robbery.

Senator Rayner calls Zelaya one of the greatest criminals of the age, and has introduced a bill holding him personally responsible for the murder of the Americans and demanding severe punishment.

Illness of King Leopold, of Belgium, takes an alarming turn.

Two factories at Racine, Wis., burned with a loss of \$650,000.

Vessels arriving at Puget Sound ports report bad storms and many disasters.

Zelaya institutes a reign of terror in Managua, where he has 500 political prisoners in chains.

Diamonds and jewelry valued at \$300,000 were stolen from a New York apartment house.

The Union Pacific is ordering nothing but steel cars, and will soon have no wooden cars in use.

M. Blierot, the French aviator, struck a wall and narrowly escaped death. The machine was completely wrecked.

A French aviator is en route to the United States with four mechanics, four aeroplanes and two experienced pilots.

Senor Creel, envoy from Mexico, declares his country does not approve of Knox's views on the Nicaraguan situation.

A Princeton observer has discovered a new comet, which he estimates is 56,000,000 miles distant, and three times as large as earth.

Four young people were drowned in the Columbia by the overturning of a launch. Three were saved after clinging to the boat all night.

Representative Mann says any amendment would help the anti-trust law.

An Ohio man, with his three daughters and his brother, were drowned while skating.

Welsh voters in parliament kicked a tory out of meeting and openly "joshed" the lords.

Reinforcements have been ordered to Bluefields, Nicaragua, as Zelaya's troops menace the city.

General Greeley has resigned from the New York Explorers' club on account of the Cook-Pearcy controversy.

A railroad company has incorporated for \$10,000,000 to build a road from Portland to Phoenix, Arizona.

Three men were burned to death and a fourth narrowly escaped when a vat of boiling tar burst and took fire.

The Spokane branch of the American mining congress has declared itself opposed to Ballinger's conservation policy.

Phineas Bacheler, said to have been the oldest Oddfellow living, is dead at the age of 98. He was an Oddfellow over 50 years.

Dunkle, who with Captain Loos, claimed to have manufactured Cook's "observations," has been discharged by the Travelers' Insurance company.

Investigation by a committee at Hood River fails to show any record of the expenditure of \$50,000 appropriated for improvement of the Columbia River in 1878.

Mexico will help to settle the Nicaragua trouble.

Nonunion men were dynamited and beaten by strikers in the Pittsburg steel works.

General Vasquez, commanding Zelaya's army, has been routed by Nicaragua rebels.

Secretary MacVeagh says the Payne bill is a step in the downward revision of the tariff.

President Taft spoke in favor of the bonding scheme before the River and Harbor congress.

The national monetary commission finds \$237 per capita of resources in banks of the United States.

The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen is formulating a demand for increased pay, in some instances amounting to double pay.

Coldest weather for years holds the entire southwest in icy grip.

Two New York men allege Cook paid them to make out false observations and records by which to prove that he was at the pole.

Barney Oldfield lowered his own world's record by driving a 120-horsepower racing automobile 50 miles on a circular track in 47 minutes and 18 seconds.

A gas tank exploded at Hamburg, killing ten men, and 17 more are missing.

INTERVENTION IS CONSIDERED

Mexico May Join United States in Ruling Nicaragua.

Washington, Dec. 15.—One of the projects for the solution of the Nicaraguan situation that has been strongly urged upon the state department is the establishment of a protectorate, either singly by the United States, or jointly with Mexico.

This may be regarded as necessary in the event that the insurgents fail, to displace Zelaya by their own efforts, and it may follow an insurgent triumph that would leave the country without responsible leaders.

It is said precedent for such action can be found in the cases of Santo Domingo and Cuba. In the first instance large sums of money, due to American citizens, could not be collected from the Dominican government (then in a state of chaos) by diplomatic means.

In the case of Nicaragua the government has defaulted in payment in agreed allotments on the Emory claim. In the case of Cuba state of disorder that threatened lives and property of Americans and other foreigners was the warrant for intervention.

There is reason to believe that a forward movement will be adopted by the government perhaps as soon as a sufficient number of marines have been gathered off the Nicaraguan coast. To gather off from Managua, indicating the imminence of rioting beyond the ability of the local government forces to suppress, might serve as a basis for landing the marines and their dispatch to Managua if necessary to maintain order, just as was done on the Isthmus of Panama a few years ago. It is not part of the plan to maintain such a force in Nicaragua permanently, but only long enough to permit of a fair and free general election and the establishment of a president pledged to observe constitutional obligations.

WAR DECLARED ON STEEL TRUST

American Federation of Labor Opens Fight to a Finish.

Pittsburg, Dec. 15.—War was formally declared upon the United States Steel corporation by leaders of organized labor throughout the United States and Canada at the close of a two days' conference today. The decision to battle against the stand taken by the steel corporation in its policy of "open shop" was reached after hours of debate.

At the conference Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, presided, and through him the measure was put upon the record books of the executive council of the federation.

The grievances of organized labor against the steel corporation, as set forth in the resolution, have been forwarded to President Taft, to the United States senate and to the house of representatives. Governors of the states in which the United States Steel corporation owns plants or has interests also will receive copies.

Aeroplane for Three.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 14.—A remarkable assertion of the practicability of aviation is embodied in the announcement today of Wallace E. Tillinghast, vice-president of a Worcester manufacturer company, who asserts that he has invented, built and tested secretly an aeroplane capable of carrying three passengers and in which he says he has flown from Worcester to New York, thence to Boston and back. A speed of 120 miles an hour was made at times, he declares.

Mr. Tillinghast says the machine is a monoplane, weighing 1550 pounds, equipped with a 120-horsepower gasoline engine. He refuses to tell where the machine is, but says he will bring it to Worcester for a public demonstration.

Big Four Strike Favored.

Cincinnati, Dec. 15.—Railway telegraphers employed by the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern railroad, in demanding a new wage scale and a change in working conditions, are meeting with the same opposition from the company as are the Big Four telegraphers in their demands, it was announced today. It is understood the Baltimore & Ohio men ask for a 15 per cent increase. C. C. Bent, general manager of the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern, declares the demands are unreasonable.

The Big Four telegraphers have not yet completed their referendum vote on a strike, but 90 per cent of the voters that are now in favor of a strike and two-thirds of the total have voted.

Roosevelt Sends Slave Skulls.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Smithsonian African expedition, headed by ex-President Roosevelt, had taken 6,663 skins up to December 10. Fewer than one-half have been received at the institution. The collection consists of 245 large mammals, 1,500 small mammals and 1,350 birds. The collection has a series of human skulls picked up along the line of ancient slave trails. This statement of the work of the expedition was made today by Secretary Walcott at the annual meeting of the board of regents of the Smithsonian institution.

Gotham Fights for West.

New York, Dec. 15.—A delegation representing the Merchants' association of New York left for Washington today to attend a hearing before the interstate commerce commission relative to the so-called hack haul railroad rates from Portland, Seattle and San Francisco to interior points. As these are the rates under which goods shipped from the Atlantic to the Pacific seaboard are distributed into the interior, they directly affect the Atlantic seaboard shippers. The cases are closely related to the Spokane case.

Wrights Sue for Rights.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Three of the world's famous aviators, the Wright brothers and Glenn H. Curtiss, of the Herring-Curtiss company, joined issue in a legal battle here today. The proceedings, before Judge Hazel in the United States circuit court, were in a suit brought by the Wrights for a preliminary injunction to restrain Curtiss and his associates from manufacturing and selling aeroplanes alleging that Curtiss is infringing patents of the Wrights.

Russians Meet Chinese.

Harbin, Manchuria, Dec. 15.—A conference was opened here today between representatives of the railroad management of the Russian consulate and of China for the purpose of working out the details of the Russo-Chinese agreement for the government of the Manchurian railroad zone.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

STOCK RATES FIXED.

Commission Prepares Shipping Contract and Fixes Valuation.

Salem—After investigations and deliberations that have extended back for a period of about 12 months, the railroad commission issued an order requiring the railroad companies operating in Oregon to adopt a uniform contract for shipping livestock. A complete contract has been prepared by the railroad commission, which the railroad will hereafter be required to use, and which the commission contends is much more fair and reasonable than the ones now in use.

The commission has found that both the railroad companies and the shippers have been disposed to be fair and have given the commission every assistance. The principal features of the new contract are as follows:

1—If the shipment is over more than one line, the contract will serve as a through bill of lading, its provisions inuring to the benefit of and being binding upon all connecting carriers. This will do away with the present practice of requiring shippers to sign a new contract every time the shipment passes to a connecting carrier.

2—The carrier is held liable for loss or injury caused by its own negligence.

3—The carrier is not liable for loss or damage due to act of God, the public enemy, authority of law, or acts or defaults of the shipper.

4—Shipper agrees not to load a car if he finds defects which make it unsafe or unsecurable and agrees to notify agent and demand necessary repairs before loading.

5—Shipper agrees to load and unload his stock and to see that the shipment is accompanied by attendants to look after it. He must see the doors are fastened and kept fastened. The company is liable for loss or damage in loading or unloading only when same is caused by its own negligence.

6—If shipper neglects to send attendants and railroad employees act as attendants it is done at shipper's risk.

7—Shipper assumes risk of loss or injury to stock when caused by any of them being wild, unruly or weak or from ill effect of being crowded in cars.

8—Shipper agrees to protect the carrier if his stock is infected with any disease.

9—Lien of carrier for freight charges is not affected by removal of stock from train or yards.

10—In event of loss or injury, shipper agrees to notify agent of carrier before removing the stock.

11—It provides that all suits or actions for the recovery of claims for loss or damage must be commenced within 90 days after the shipper has received notice that his claim is refused.

The valuations covering ordinary livestock have been fixed by the commission.

The following table shows these valuations compared with those which are now found in the S. P. company's contracts:

Table with 3 columns: Item, S. P. Val., Com. Val.

Two Cars of Paper for New Code.

Salem—It will require two carloads of paper to print Oregon's new code. The code will consist of two volumes and there will be printed 5,000 sets, or a total of 10,000 volumes, a respectable large library. State Printer Dunway estimates that the printing will take 70,000 pounds of book paper.

The first volume has already been compiled and the copy is being placed in the hands of the printer rapidly. William P. Lord, James B. Montague, James Geoffrey and William P. Lord Jr. compose the commission created by the last legislature for compiling a new code. It will be ready for distribution in November, 1910.

Settlers Still Coming.

Burns—The reports of the United States land office here for November disclose a large amount of business for this time of year and a substantial increase of settlers. There were 57 home steads entered, embracing 9045 acres; 29 desert claims, 5644 acres; 16 state school scrip selections, 1168 acres; 5 railroad scrip selections, 2163 acres; 7 timber and stone entries, 760 acres; 6 public sales, 73 acres, a total of 19,311 acres. The collections were: Fees and commissions, \$1039.44; sales of public lands, \$3697.60; unreturned fees, \$669.11.

Albany Club Women Elect.

Albany—The ladies' auxiliary of the Albany Commercial club, which is now one of the most active organizations in this city, held its annual election and re-elected Mrs. J. K. Weatherford president; Mrs. E. W. Cooper, vice-president; and Mrs. D. D. Woodworth, treasurer. Mrs. J. C. Irvine, who has served the club most capably as secretary, refused a re-election, and Miss Flora Mason was chosen for that position.

Big Orchards for Douglas.

Roseburg—Five thousand acres of land have been planned to orchard in this section this year. The general success of fruit growing in Oregon has doubled the orchard area near Roseburg. Next year the orchard area will be nearly doubled.

W. U. at Klamath Falls.

Klamath Falls—The Western Union Telegraph company has been granted permission to enter the city of Klamath Falls. It is the intention of the company to open an office at once so as to handle the business of the city.

Oregon Wants Wood.

Salem—The largest wood contract ever offered by the state is to be let December 20. The basis of the several state institutions was 10,000 cords of green cut wood delivered early next year.

ARTESIAN WELLS FOR HARNEY.

Farmers Plan Irrigation System in Interior Country.

Andrews—In the Wild Horse valley, north and south of Andrews, many farms are successfully irrigated by means of flowing wells. A. H. Hollis, south of Andrews, has six or seven of them on his place, and there are many others having similar and lesser numbers. All the way south to Denio, through the Pueblo and Trout creek valleys, these wells are found, and in a short time there will be a great many of them drilled and put to good use in a general irrigation system.

Taking the character of the soil and the favorable climatic conditions, the possibility for fruit and vegetable production under a generous water supply are beyond present calculation. Where a flow can be obtained at a depth of 65 to 125 feet, the cost is nominal, and the water can be used at great profit. Under such an impetus Harney county is sure to make rapid progress.

FAMOUS ROAD SPOILED.

Expensive Highway Almost Ruined by Excessive Traffic.

Salem—The fact that road districts near corporate limits have roads that are used extensively by people in outlying districts, while those same outlying districts have roads which are never used by the people who reside in the close vicinity of corporate limits, is the bone of contention which called a large delegation to the city today to appear before the county court in behalf of the government road, which was constructed here a few years ago by the department of agriculture.

The delegation contended that teamsters from the mountain timber districts, carrying heavy loads of wood, had materially injured the experimental road of the government north of Salem, and that repairs are now necessary because of extraordinary usage.

The county court is in a quandary as to how to settle the difficulty, but has offered the district a rock-crusher and sufficient help to operate it so that the government road may be placed back in good condition.

Buy Stump Land for Orchards.

Hood River—Marking a new era in the history of the Hood River valley, and coming as the first great step in the development of the upper region, 1,000 acres of valuable logged-off land, lying on the line of the Hood River Railway company's six mile extension, have been sold by the Oregon Lumber company to the Bruner-Bone Orchard company, of Hood River. One hundred thousand dollars was the consideration, approximately. Almost immediately work of clearing the land and cutting the tract up into 20-acre plots will begin. More than \$125,000 will be spent to put the land in shape for the market.

Willamette Makes Money.

Willamette University, Salem—For the first time in years football at Willamette university has paid expenses. Under the present management a surplus will be turned over to the athletic council of the university.

Coch G. J. Sweetland, by a strict system of checking and responsibility, has placed the athletic department on a sound basis. When the season opened he could not outfit a dozen men; but before this close he had outfitted about 40. This year every suit was turned in, checked off, cleaned up and stowed away for the coming year.

Little Wheat Planted at Gervais.

Gervais—Inquiry into the acreage sown to winter wheat in this and surrounding sections results in the fact that not to exceed one-fourth of the acreage has been plowed, and not all of that has been seeded. Most of the acreage is in cheat hay and little fall wheat is sown. Last year at this time there was an unusually large acreage of fall grain put in, and as a result the amount of grain harvested last fall was the largest in many years, and was a source of great profit.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.19@1.20; club, \$1.08; red Russian, \$1.06; Valley, \$1.04; 40-fold, \$1.08.

Barley—Feed and brewing, \$30 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$33 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$18.00 per ton; eastern Oregon, \$18@21.50; alfalfa, \$16@16.50; clover, \$15@16; cheat, \$15@16; grain hay, \$15@16.

Butter—City creamery extras, 35c; fancy outside creamery, 34@39c per lb.; store, 22@24c. (Butter fat prices average 1 1/2c per pound under regular butter prices.)

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 45c per dozen; eastern, 31@37 1/2c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 14c; springs, 14c; roosters, 16@19c; ducks, 16@16 1/2c; geese, 11@12c; turkeys, live, 21@22c; dressed, 25c.

Pork—Fancy, 10@10 1/2c per pound; fresh, 11@11 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Extras, \$1.75@1.80 per box; fresh, \$1.50 per box; quinces, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, \$9@9.50 per barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, 60@75c per sack; sweet potatoes, 14@22c per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c per dozen; beans, 10c per pound; cabbage, 1 1/2c per pound; cauliflower, \$2 per dozen; celery, \$2.75@3.50 per crate; horseradish, \$1.50 per box; pumpkins, 14@15c; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, 10@14c; tomatoes, 75c@81c; turnips, 10c per sack; carrots, 81c; beans, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50; onions, Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.50@4.75; fair to good, \$4.00@4.25; medium and feeders, \$3.50@3.75; best cows, \$3.50@3.75; medium, \$3.00@3.25; common to medium, \$2.50@2.75; bulls, \$2.50@2.50; stage, \$2.50@2.50; calves, light, \$3.25@3.50; heavy, \$4.00@4.75.

Hogs—Best, \$8.40@8.60; medium, \$7.50@8.00; stockers, \$6.50@6.75.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$4.75@5.00; fair to good, \$4.50@4.75; best ewes, \$4.75@5.00; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; lambs, \$3.50@3.60.

Hops—1909 crop, 18@22c; 1908 crop, nominal; 1907 crop, 12@16c per cwt.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@22c per pound; Mohair, 25c per pound.

Canebrake—4c per pound.

Hides—Dry hides, 18@19c per pound; dry kip, 17@18c per pound; dry calfskin, 19@21c per pound; salted hides, 14@15c per pound; salted calfskin, 15@16c per pound; green, 1c less.

REIGN OF TERROR.

Zelaya Said to Have 500 Political Prisoners in Chains.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Dec. 14.—It is learned from an authoritative source that a reign of terror is being maintained in Managua, and that not less than 500 persons identified with politics are in chains in the prisons. A Catholic society has been ordered to cease sending supplies to the prisoners, who may starve to death, as they are allowed only 2 cents a day for food. Corporal punishment is meted out daily to various alleged offenders.

Zelaya, to create an impression that the sentiment of the people of Managua is hostile towards America and Americans, recently ordered Amelio Estrada, a prominent liberal and a brother of the revolutionist chief, to organize a demonstration against the United States. This he refused to do.

It is understood that Dr. Julian Irias, minister general, has been making attempts to start an uprising in his favor as Zelaya's successor, but whether with Zelaya's consent is not known. It is reported also that Irias' home has been surrounded by soldiers. Further authoritative dispatches state that 500 of Zelaya's forces have been entrenched to prevent American marines from passing over the bridges into Corinto.

Since last Thursday, when General Estrada became certain that General Vasquez, in command of a portion of Zelaya's troops, was attempting to make a detour of Rama to seize an unguarded river point and descend upon Bluefields, forces of the provisional government have been acting with great energy. Rama has been occupied, and less important river landings have been strongly guarded. All available boats have been held in reserve to rush reinforcements to any point that may be threatened.

General Chamorro and 250 men arrived today to assist in guarding the entire 60 miles of the Escondido river, from Rama to Bluefields. General Chamorro left 300 men guarding the land passage between Bluefields and Greytown.

FOUR DROWN IN COLUMBIA.

Three Rescued After All-Night Struggle With Death.

Rainier, Or., Dec. 13.—Four young people, residents of Maygers, Or., met terrible deaths by drowning in the Columbia river early Sunday morning, when a launch in which they were riding tumbled into Burton's landing, spilling the party of seven into the icy cold water. Three of the party were rescued after hanging to grim death for seven hours, which to them seemed like centuries.

The dead are: Miss Selma Hendrickson, aged 17; Anna Hendrickson, aged 19; Grace Waud, aged 16, and Lee Barber, aged 20.

The rescued are: Pearl Proctor, aged 20; Frank Kasper, aged 20, and Amos Card, aged 19.

A party of 10 or 12 young people from Maygers, 10 miles west of Rainier, came here Saturday to spend the evening at the skating rink. After the closing of the rink at 10 P. M., a party of seven left Rainier in the gasoline launch Hendrickson for Maygers.

The seven clung desperately to the overturned boat.

Lee Barber, who hung on for nearly an hour and a half, was first to let go. "I'm getting sleepy," he said. "I'm going to sleep," and he slipped back into the water and did not rise. The next to drop off was Miss Selma Hendrickson, who held on perhaps a half hour longer. Soon after Anna Hendrickson, her sister, went to a watery grave.

The survivors clung to the boat until 6 A. M., making just seven hours in all, when the tugboat Burton came along and answering their cries rescued them.

Troops Arrive at Panama.

Colon, Dec. 14.—The United States transport Dixie, with 700 marines aboard, which sailed from Philadelphia December 6, arrived at 6 o'clock this morning.

The Dixie proceeded to dock 11, Cristobal, where cars were in waiting to transport the men, provisions and ammunition immediately to Panama.

Washington, Dec. 14.—A hurry call for marines to proceed with the cruiser Prairie on her interrupted trip from Philadelphia to Colon was made upon the three New England navy yards today.

Fire Cry Fatal to Three.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 14.—A cry of "fire" that started when a woman fell downstairs from the balcony of the Majestic theater tonight caused a panic in the crowded house and the death of three women.

Mrs. William Richter, Miss Mary Corrigan and Mrs. Mary McCafferty were crushed in the crowd and died in ambulances. Many other women and a number of children sustained minor injuries.

It took the efforts of squads from nearby police stations to stop the struggling of the mob.

Surfman Hears Aeroplane.

New York, Dec. 14.—William Leach, a surfman of the Fire Island life saving station, believes he heard an aeroplane when he was doing patrol duty tonight. First he heard a buzzing high up in the air, and whatever made it, he says, passed directly over his head. The noise resembled the rattle and hum of a high-speed motor. All efforts to convince Leach that he may have mistaken a flock of geese for an aeroplane only made him laugh. He says he has heard too many geese to confuse the sound of their flight with the exhaust of a gasoline motor.

Spirits' Advice Obedied.

London, Dec. 14.—A sensation has been caused in society by the mysterious disappearance of Viscountess Churchill, sister of the Earl of Londesdale. Lady Churchill arrived at St. Paul's station with her son and two daughters November 28. She has not been seen since, although advertisements have been published to trace her. According to rumors, Lady Churchill recently consulted with a spirit medium, who assured her it was her duty to leave her husband, Viscount Churchill.

Mine Burns Six Entombed.

Weatherport, Dec. 15.—A rescue party entered the Baker mine today in search of six negro miners imprisoned in the second level by an explosion yesterday. Fire in the mine has been burning steadily, and it is hardly possible that the resc