

## THE STAYTON MAIL

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STAYTON, 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.

There is a lull in the Russian revolution.

The second trial of Senator Burton has commenced.

Missouri may shut out two more insurance companies.

Tatt denounces trusts which oppose free trade with the Philippines.

King Christian has accepted the Norwegian throne for Prince Charles.

The president will co-operate with the states in compelling insurance reform.

Russian Baltic ports are frozen up, thus cutting off communication by water.

The Cuban government has learned of fresh plans for the overthrow of President Palma.

The death toll in the wreck of the steamer Hilda, off the coast of France, has grown to 128.

Secretary Hitchcock and Attorney General Moody have agreed to remain in the cabinet for another year.

A number of towns in Northern Utah are without fuel and should a sudden cold snap come many people would suffer.

The production of gold in the United States during 1904 amounted to 3,910,729 ounces, valued at \$80,635,646, an increase of over \$7,000,000.

General Chaffee will soon retire.

Taft says canal needs more money.

Poles fear intervention by the kaiser if they revolt.

Senator Smoot's political control of Utah is ended.

Further revelations are expected in California on insurance scandal.

The Norwegian storting has formally elected Prince Charles as king.

The board of consulting engineers has decided in favor of a sea level canal.

The outbreak of yellow fever in Havana is being controlled and few new cases are reported.

Workmen of Russia have called off the strike and claim success in saving Cronstadt mutineers.

San Francisco has raised \$25,000 for Russian Jews and expects to add another \$5,000 to the fund.

A meeting of Denver business men passed resolutions favoring better tariff regulations with the Philippines.

Over half of Vladivostok has been destroyed as a result of the recent outbreak. The damage is estimated at \$25,000,000.

During a football game at Ann Arbor a grand stand fell, hurling 2,000 people into the wreckage. Not more than a dozen were hurt sufficiently to require the services of a physician.

California politicians are now becoming involved in the insurance scandal.

The strike in Poland is believed to have been broken and the country is settling down.

Indications are that a new register of the Lewiston land office will not be named for some time.

Secretary Root is preparing to initiate negotiations for the settlement of all pending disputes with Canada.

Many women are going to Panama to work as servants in the various camps along the route of the canal.

A prairie fire near Aberdeen, S. D., caused a loss of livestock, grain and farm buildings estimated at \$500,000.

A fire which started in a Knoxville, Tenn., paint store destroyed \$200,000 worth of property before extinguished.

European nations are not pulling together in their demonstration against Turkey and the sultan doesn't seem badly scared.

The canvass of the New York election shows gains for Hearst.

The contributions for the relief of the Russian Jews totals \$740,000 from all parts of the world. Of this \$370,000 came from the United States.

All of Mayor Dunne's plans for immediate municipal ownership of the Chicago street railways have been shattered by the council reaching an agreement with the companies placing the time ten years hence.

Speaker Cannon has declared against tariff revision.

## HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

Steamer Runs on Rocks Off North Coast of France.

St. Malo, France, Nov. 21.—One of the most soul harrowing tales of marine disaster in the history of the English channel was brought here late last night, when the tug Chateau Bryand arrived here in company with the steamer Ada, having on board six survivors of the 105 passengers and crew of the Southwestern railroad's steamship Hilda, which, while bound from Southampton to St. Malo, was driven on the Pontes rocks, three miles from here, during a blinding storm in the early hours of Sunday.

The steamer left Southampton Saturday for St. Malo with 86 passengers and a crew of 19 on board. The weather was bitterly cold, while a heavy snow accompanied by a high wind, made navigation well nigh impossible. Before the Hilda was clear of the Southampton harbor it was plain that the voyage would be very dangerous, and all passengers were driven below decks and the hatches battened down.

Owing to the wind and snow the vessel made but very slow progress, time and again having to steer from her course to avoid the strength of the waves, which rushed mountain-high down upon her. When off the Pontes rocks the Hilda was caught in a strong current, and before she could be turned head on to the waves, she drove stem on against the outermost promontory. She broke into three pieces almost immediately, and sank before it was possible to launch the lifeboats.

## NO COMPLAINT ON CUBA.

Isle of Pines Americans Merely Wish Change of Government.

Havana, Nov. 21.—The municipal council of the Isle of Pines has issued a lengthy statement denying the charges made by J. H. Keenan, of Pittsburg, and others, that the island is in a condition bordering anarchy and is without proper courts, schools, facilities for the protection of life and property. The statement alleges that these have all been provided and that, although various public improvements are necessary, the government has done more than the small revenues of the island warranted.

It agrees that the records show the actual ownership of Americans of lands in the island to be far smaller than has been asserted, since most of such lands are held on options or on the payments of small installments, and that they also show the amount of taxes paid by Americans to be very small.

The officers of the principal Isle of Pines land company, whose offices are in Havana, say that while they believe the island should be considered United States territory, they have no complaint to make of the Cuban government.

## FIND OF DIAMONDS.

Causes Excitement to Run High on Necanicum River.

Seaside, Ore., Nov. 21.—During the past week there has been intense excitement on the Necanicum. The secret of it all lies in the fact that an ochre mine, which is being developed just above the bridge across the Necanicum on the Elk creek road, has been yielding precious stones. Diamonds and rubies are said to be in evidence and a number of people have located claims. The ochre is of finest quality and plenty of the best fireclay ever discovered is there, but when precious stones were discovered the excitement reached fever heat and people were coming from Portland to be guided to the diamond field. Everything looked good to the seeker after precious stones and every pebble they saw looked to them like a diamond in the rough. They are hoping that the digging will not "soon be over," but will continue until they have secured bushels of the precious stones.

The ochre is being sacked and shipped to Portland to be subjected to the necessary refining process, and from present indications a great industry will be built up near Seaside, which will give employment to a large number of men. This, aside from any precious stones which may be found in the mine, is the most desirable feature connected with the enterprise.

## No Clash Over Fishing.

Washington, Nov. 21.—All danger of a clash between the Gloucester and New Foundland fishermen has been averted, it is believed, for this season, by the exchanges between Secretary Root and Sir Mortimer Durand, the British ambassador. The secretary is now awaiting the reply of the London government to his memorandum, in which he called attention to the three main points of difference. This is expected some time within the week and its receipt, it is believed, will clear up patently the entire situation.

## China to Pay Indemnity.

London, Nov. 21.—The Tokio correspondent of the Daily Telegraph understands that an Anglo-Tibetan treaty has been signed and that it provides that Great Britain shall acknowledge Chinese sovereignty in Tibet in return for which China will pay an indemnity.

## APPROVE PROJECTS

Hitchcock Will Reverse Himself on Irrigation.

## TO THE BENEFIT OF NORTHWEST

Had Taken Bad Advice—Walcott Removes Objections to Umatilla, Okanogan and Sunnyside.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Secretary Hitchcock is preparing to reverse himself and approve the Umatilla irrigation project in Eastern Oregon, as well as one or more projects in Washington. This, at least, is the inference to be drawn from an authorized statement made at his office today to the effect that action on the Umatilla project would be taken some time next week which would be satisfactory to the people of Oregon, and that similar action was to be looked for on one or more Washington projects. It is not known at this time what Washington projects will be approved, further than that the choice will lie among the Tieton, Okanogan and Sunnyside schemes, all of which have been favorably recommended by the Reclamation service.

This announcement from the secretary's office was made after a conference between Mr. Hitchcock and Director Walcott, of the Geological survey, who is the intermediary between the secretary and the Reclamation service. This afternoon Mr. Walcott returned to the secretary all papers bearing on the Umatilla, Okanogan and Tieton projects and, in addition to the original recommendations, submitted unanswerable arguments showing that all these projects are not only feasible and desirable, but that there is no feature about them to which objection can be legitimately raised.

In point of fact, Mr. Hitchcock, shortly after taking adverse action on the Umatilla, Tieton and Okanogan projects, saw that he had acted on bad advice, and realized that his position would become untenable. He saw that he had made a blunder which would have to be rectified, and he has cautiously been feeling his way back to solid ground. He is not yet ready to make the final leap, but is preparing for it and, when he does, Oregon and Washington will benefit. Incidentally it might be mentioned that the men who gave the secretary bad counsel have heard from it, and have been warned to display more intelligence and common sense in future.

## ONLY AMERICANS AS CONSULS.

Root Will Not Appoint Foreigners if He Can Help It.

Washington, Nov. 18.—Not a single foreigner has been appointed to the American consular service abroad since Secretary Root assumed office. He feels that it is his duty to "put none but Americans on guard." Aside from the fact that a foreigner naturally might be expected to take less interest than an American in the development of our trade abroad, it is felt that in time of political stress, wherein relations might become strained, no such test should be placed upon the loyalty of a foreign consular agent to his native country as would be imposed by requiring him to do his full duty to the country which merely employed him.

So, although a number of vacancies have occurred in these posts since Secretary Root assumed office, he has held consistently to the policy above laid down, and where it has not been possible to find Americans to fill the vacancies, the offices have been allowed to remain vacant. Of course, the vacancies cannot continue indefinitely, but the secretary hopes that, with the pressure of the business world behind it, congress will yield to his appeal for more liberal compensation for these small posts, so as to enable him to send out American officials.

## Ballot Reform in New York.

New York, Nov. 18.—At a conference yesterday between representatives of organizations interested in ballot reform, a resolution was adopted declaring that ballot reform in New York should proceed on the lines of the Australian ballot as in use in Massachusetts. As the representative of the Corrupt Practices association, D. Cady Herrick asked the support of the conferees for a bill which his organization intends to present to the legislature and which he said would be drawn so as to do away with election corruption.

## Plan International Parliament.

Paris, Nov. 18.—Representatives of the parliaments of the principal nations will assemble here November 18 to consider the American appeal for a permanent international parliament and a general arbitration treaty, as presented at the Brussels parliamentary congress by Congressman Richard Bartholdt, of Missouri, who represented the United States at the congress.

## STRUGGLE IS ON.

Senate Committee Meets to Consider Rate Measure.

Washington, Nov. 20.—In the room of the senate committee on interstate commerce this morning the struggle with the problem of legislation affecting the railroads will begin. The question has occupied public attention to the partial exclusion of other matters of importance for a year, but the committee meeting will mark the real beginning of the contest, which congress will end before the close of the coming session. The committee, of which Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, is chairman, has been directed explicitly by the senate to make a report on the matter of railroad legislation "by bill or otherwise" not later than December 14. Nearly every member of the committee is in Washington and the few absentees are expected to reach the city today.

Mr. Elkins has intimated that no bill can be prepared within the time set by the senate for making the report. If this is true, it means that an extension of time must be asked and there will be nothing for the senate to do but grant it. Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, on the other hand, believes that there is no reason why a bill cannot be presented to the senate within a week after the convening of congress.

Members of the committee are divided on the question of the extent to which legislation to be recommended should go in the matter of giving authority to the Interstate Commerce commission to fix rates. This is the mere statement of a fact already well known, but there are indications that Mr. Elkins may be able to obtain a majority report by yielding much from his views and by gaining as much from the members of the committee who have been antagonistic or partly antagonistic to the chairman.

## REBUILD THE OREGON.

Famous Battleship to Remain in Drydock Two Years.

Washington, Nov. 20.—The Navy department expects that the battleship Oregon will remain at the Puget Sound navy yard the better part of two years undergoing a complete overhauling. Many parts of the ship are to be practically rebuilt. The turrets are to be equipped with electric controlling apparatus and features which have become obsolete are to be replaced by the latest pattern known in naval construction. Work will be begun early in January, as soon as the Oregon arrives from the Philippines.

Secretary Bonaparte is now considering the naval estimates. What he will recommend for the Puget Sound navy yard is unknown, but there is a belief that he may endorse the recommendation of the bureau of yards and docks that \$1,250,000 be appropriated to build a new drydock. It seems improbable that congress, in its economical mood, will authorize a new dock this session, but congressional action will depend largely upon the amount of pressure the Washington delegation can bring to bear.

## CONGRESS MUST ORDER BONDS

None for Panama Canal Can Be Issued Without Its Action.

Washington, Nov. 20.—It can be authoritatively stated that no Panama bonds will be issued until congress shall have authorized their use as a basis for national bank circulation at one-half of 1 per cent, the same as the consols of 1930. Two per cent bonds, it is said, would not be worth par if bank circulation based thereon were taxed at 1 per cent, as the law now provides. And even if the bonds were issued and sold, the money would not be available until congress should appropriate it.

Treasury officials are somewhat surprised at the published statement that the secretary of the treasury is contemplating the issuance of bonds under present conditions. Mr. Shaw has twice called the attention of congress to this needed legislation. This will undoubtedly be repeated in his forthcoming annual report, and Speaker Cannon has given him assurance that he will do everything in his power to expedite its passage.

## Army Needs Officers.

Washington, Nov. 20.—"The army is unofficered," says Lieutenant General Adna R. Chaffee, chief of staff, in his annual report to the secretary of war. He says this condition exists for the army in peace, and in "time of war" it would be in a badly crippled condition. There are 517 officers absent on detailed duty. These officers are detailed in the general staff, recruiting service, at the various academies and schools and on different kinds of duty required by orders and regulations.

## Local Government for Poland.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 20.—It is reported that another manifesto promising a general zemstvo and local municipal government to Poland, may be issued shortly.

## STORM STOPS RIOTS

Russian Capital Held In Grasp of Fierce Blizzard.

## FOREIGNERS TERROR STRICKEN

Fear Escape May Be Cut Off—Are Advised to Leave Country Without Delay.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 16.—A fierce northeast blizzard and snow which blew down on St. Petersburg tonight, prevented bloodshed in the Russian capital. The bitter cold, by forcing the strikers to remain indoors, did more to preserve order than all the Cossack cavalry patrolling the streets. Heavy military reserves are stationed in all the industrial districts, but up to midnight there was no rioting. There were rumors of collisions in different parts of the city, but on investigation they turned out to be false.

The Social Democrats had an impressive response on the part of all organizations of workmen to their summons for a general political strike to demonstrate their solidarity with the struggle of their Polish comrades for autonomy, and to protest against the execution of the mutinous sailors at Cronstadt.

The situation has caused a renewal of the panicky feeling among the inhabitants, whose nerves were already shattered by the events of the last fortnight, and hundreds of persons who had just returned are again leaving for Finland. The foreign residents are becoming more and more alarmed, and many of them are hastily preparing to go abroad for the winter. In case the Finnish Socialists should join their Russian comrades and tie up the Finnish railroad, the only egress would be by water, and the freezing of the gulf of Finland a fortnight hence would close the last exit.

## MAY BUY OUT THE SETTLER

Possible Compromise, as War Department Committed Itself.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Senor Quesada, the Cuban minister here, called at the State department today and seemed to be considerably agitated over the news of the movement in the Isle of Pines to oppose the formal transfer of the island to Cuba.

The contention of the American residents is that, as they own in fee simple five-sixths of the ground, and as the remaining one-sixth is in the hands of one or two Spanish families, the 1,200 native residents being non-property owners, they should have a right to be heard by this government. A suggestion has been made here that is known to have received serious official consideration to the effect that, in view of the fact that the War department actually did at one time give ground for a belief on the part of some persons that the Isle of Pines was American, it would be only just for this government to pay these settlers for the land.

## TAFT IN WASHINGTON AGAIN

Denies Story He Will Transfer Canal Affairs to Root.

Washington, Nov. 16.—Secretary Taft arrived in Washington from Hampton Roads at 7 o'clock this morning. Immediately after he called at the executive office and saw the president when the latter came to the office.

Secretary Taft made it clear today that he had no intention of relinquishing supervision of Philippine affairs. During his temporary absence in Panama it was reported that matters relating to the Philippines were to be transferred to the State department and hereafter be under the direction of Secretary Root.

"That story," said Secretary Taft, "originated in the mind of the man who wrote it. There is absolutely no foundation for it, whatsoever."

## Colorado is Dammed.

Los Angeles, Nov. 16.—Local Southern Pacific officials state today that the engineers and rippers who have been at work for months past at Salton sea, in an effort to check the flow of water from the Colorado river, have been successful and that the waters are now practically under control. Experiment after experiment has proved unsuccessful, and the railroad company has been compelled to build several successive new tracks to get away from the encroaching waters, at a heavy expense.

## Battleship Oregon Ordered Home

Washington, Nov. 16.—Orders have been given by the Navy department for the return of the battleship Oregon from the Philippines to the United States at an early date. Two cruisers of the Denver class will be sent to the Philippines later on. The Oregon will bring back a crew of men whose enlistments are about to expire.