

Oregon City Courier.

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OREGON CITY.....OREGON

EVENTS OF THE DAY

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

The convention of the American Federation of Labor has adopted a resolution declaring that no official of the federation should affiliate with any political party.

Antonio Jorco, a religious fanatic, who murdered his father near Vineland, N. J., last week, has been killed by the sheriff. He was trying to murder his keeper, and the sheriff felled him with a club.

In anticipation of severe fighting there, two German warships have been ordered from Hong Kong to Manila. The government is acting in this matter in agreement with other powers for the protection of their subjects.

A Paris paper publishes interviews with prominent men of France and a foreign diplomat, all of whom reproach Great Britain and Spain for abandoning France in the Mexican expedition of 1863, the object of which, they say, was to create an American government to counterbalance the power of the United States.

The Russian ambassador, M. de Nelidoff, has had an audience with the sultan of Turkey, at which he urged the introduction of reforms and the granting of amnesty to imprisoned Armenians. The sultan asserted that the reforms agreed upon by the powers already had been executed and promised to issue an amnesty decree in a few days.

M. Philippe Eugene Cuissart, radical deputy for the first division of Laen, France, is dead.

A Rouen dispatch says the French steamer Marie Fauny is a total loss, off the island of Alderney. The captain was saved. Fourteen members of the crew were drowned.

Ernest Chase, of Detroit, Mich., cut the throat of his wife, and with the same weapon cut his own throat from ear to ear and fell dead beside her. The tragedy was the climax of a life of unhappiness.

Alexander Salvini, son of Tomaso Salvini, the great Italian actor, died in Florence, Italy. He died of intestinal tuberculosis. The Italian newspapers publish eulogistic obituaries of the deceased actor.

The London News has a dispatch from Berlin with reference to rumors of reprisals against American petroleum. It says that German consumers are likely to suffer more by this move than American exporters, Russia being scarcely able to supply Germany.

Governor McGraw, of Washington, has offered a reward of \$250 for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who placed dynamite or other explosives under the building occupied by L. A. Plant and brother, at Prairie, in Skagit county. This is in addition to the reward of \$250 offered by the commissioners of that county.

Representative Ellis, of Oregon, has introduced a bill extending until January 1, 1899, the time in which settlers upon forfeited railroad lands can make payments. The hard times have made it difficult for settlers to make their payments, and Mr. Ellis has been asked to secure an extension. There ought to be no objection to the bill, and it will no doubt pass, if time can be obtained for its consideration.

Senator Squire, of Washington, has prepared an amendment which he intends offering to the sundry civil appropriation bill, directing the secretary of the interior to apply \$25,446 upon the penitentiary at Walla Walla. This is the amount that still remains unexpended of the appropriation of \$30,000 made by congress for the purpose of building a penitentiary in Washington. It is the intention to have the balance used to construct a wing on the penitentiary.

Hon. A. G. Blair, Canadian minister of railways and canals, and Colonel James Denville, member of parliament, were in Seattle recently and while there Mr. Blair recited the results of his investigations of Crow's Nest Pass railway in British Columbia. He says the country is undoubtedly such that it will demand better railway facilities. Colonel Denville, one of the leading liberals in the Dominion, says government aid should be extended to the Crow's Nest Pass railway. His idea is to run it as a public highway.

The net results of the experiments of the board which is investigating the battleship steel has resulted in the condemnation of nearly the whole amount now stacked up in the Newport News Ship-Building Company's yard. Six out of twelve test pieces, which should have been folded back on the vessels without breaking, either broke short off as readily as cast-iron, or tore apart with less brittleness, but none the less certainty of failing to meet contract requirements. These disclosures will lead the board to extend their investigations much further than anticipated.

Another race riot occurred near Mayfield, Ky., and a hundred shots were fired at the residence of Tom Chambers, colored, and the house afterwards burned. A number of negroes have been warned to leave town, and more trouble is expected.

The Southern Pacific train was held up by masked men about 200 miles from San Antonio, Tex. Three men ordered the engineer to stop the train, and, while one stood guard at the engine, the two others went through the express car and secured about \$70.

CONGRESS IN SESSION.

Senate.

Seventh day.—The session of the senate developed the most eventful and exciting debate that either branch of congress has heard in a long time. It brought forward the recognized leaders of the various parties and elements, including such conspicuous figures as Sherman, Frye, Teller, Gorman, Vest, Aldrich, Platt, Mitchell of Oregon, Chandler, Hale and Allen, in notable statements on the leading questions which have engaged the attention of the country of late. Not only was the line laid down on tariff and finance, but the debate partook of all the pent-up feeling resultant from the national contest. It was dramatic in its intensity, and at all times absorbingly interesting to the crowded galleries and body of senators. The debate came unexpectedly when Vest called up the Allen resolution for consideration of the Dingley bill, in order to make remarks on it. But it remained for Sherman to formally announce that the Dingley bill was dead. He said he could not always speak for his associates, but, in view of what had been said on the floor, he felt that he could safely announce now that the Dingley bill could not be passed, and that it was useless to waste further time on it.

Eighth day.—The senate today passed the immigration bill, known as the Lodge bill, with a new section providing that the exclusion shall not apply to persons arriving from Cuba during the continuance of the present disorders there. The strength of the bill was greater than had been expected, the final vote being 53 to 10. As passed, the bill amends the immigration laws so as to exclude from admission to the United States all persons over 16 years old who cannot read and write the language of their native country or some other language, but an admissible immigrant over the age of 16 may bring in with him, or send for his wife or parent or grandparent or minor children or grandchildren, notwithstanding their inability to read or write. The Cuban section added to the bill provides that the act shall not apply to persons arriving in the United States from any port or place in the island of Cuba during the continuance of the present disorders there; provided such persons have heretofore been inhabitants of that island. The house amendments to the bill concerning lands of the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Company were nonconcurrent in and Hill, Platt and Clark named as senate conferees.

Ninth day.—The main event of the day was the presentation by Mr. Cameron of the report of the committee on foreign relations favorable to its resolution, recognizing the independence of Cuba. The proceeding was brief and perfunctory, the report not being read, and an agreement was speedily reached by which the resolution and report go over until after the holidays. Aside from the Cameron report Morgan of Alabama presented a further report on the same lines, embodying the views of himself and Mills. The offering of the reports served as a prelude to several brisk exchanges between senators. Mr. Gear made an unsuccessful attempt to take up the Pacific railroad funding bill, and then gave notice it would be urged after the holidays.

House.

Seventh day.—Bailey of Texas, created a ripple of excitement in the house today by asking immediate consideration of the resolution to investigate the construction of the battleship Texas. Dingley of Maine, thought the resolution ought to be considered by the committee on naval affairs before being acted upon; he therefore objected. On motion of Chairman Hull of the committee on military affairs, the house went into committee of the whole for consideration of the army appropriation bill. Several amendments looking to the abandonment of the army and navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark., and the surrender and transfer of the reservation to the interior department were offered.

Eighth day.—The house today passed the third of the regular appropriation bills (that for the support of the army), and entered upon consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial bill. The latter bill carries \$21,669,369, or \$36,399 more than the law for the current year. Fair progress was made today. It is expected this bill and the military academy appropriation bill will be passed before the holiday recess. The army bill, as passed, makes no provision for the army and navy hospital at Hot Springs, Ark.

Ninth day.—Almost the whole day was devoted to a debate on the provision of the bill relating to the control of the new congressional library. Both the appropriations and library committees offered plans for the future care of the building. After a somewhat acrimonious contest, the appropriations committee gained the victory, defeating the substitute of the library committee by a vote of 27 to 85. An amendment designed to place the employees of the library under civil service law was also defeated, 27 to 73. Librarian Spofford's salary was raised from \$4,000 to \$5,000. The senate amendments to the immigration bill were nonconcurrent in. Bartholdt, chairman of the immigration committee, sought to have the bill and amendments recommitted to his committee.

New York, Dec. 23.—The competition between the American sugar refinery and the firm of Arbuckle Bros., coffee merchants, is on in earnest. Another reduction of one-half a cent per pound in the wholesale price of roasted coffee was made today, the second reduction this far, and there is a margin yet of four or five cents, it is said, before rock-bottom prices can be reached; that is the price at which a bare margin of profit can be made by the roasters, if any at all.

WASHINGTON ROADS

Commissioners File Their Annual Reports.

VERY ELABORATE AND COMPLETE

Recommended Appropriations for Completion of State Road—Dairy Commissioner's Report.

Olympia, Wash., Dec. 22.—The state road commissioners have filed their final report with the governor. It is very elaborate and complete, illustrated with photographs taken from different points in the mountains along the proposed Cascade road. Altogether the report does great credit to the commission.

The retiring board, believing that the state road should be carried on to final completion on all its branches, has recommended the following appropriations:

For widening into a wagon road of that part of the present four-foot road from a point seven miles above Marble mountain to Gilbert Landre's cabin, to make the road available for heavy wagon traffic, \$4,000.

For improvement of the trail between Landre's cabin and Pershall's cabin, \$1,000.

For widening into a wagon road of the present four-foot road from Pershall's cabin, near Cascade pass, to the mouth of Bridge creek, including the construction of a bridge at the latter point, \$2,200.

For the construction of a wagon road from the mouth of Bridge creek to the head of Lake Chelan, \$3,000.

For the improvement of the trail from the mouth of Bridge creek to Twisp pass, \$1,000.

For widening into a wagon road of the present four-foot roadway from the mining camp of Gilbert to the mouth of the Twisp, including a bridge across Twisp river, near the latter point, \$2,500.

For extending the wagon road on the Colville Indian reservation from Crow's Nest, its present terminus, on Granite creek, to Eureka camp, \$1,200.

For the construction of a wagon road from Carlaw lake, on the Colville reservation, to the present terminus of the wagon road on Sherwood (or Deadman) creek, \$7,000.

Total appropriations recommended, \$21,900.

The Washington state dairy commissioner, in his report to the governor for the year 1896, says, the past season has been one of lower prices for dairy products than any previous season, but says further that when one considers the general average low prices of all farm products, it cannot be wondered at that dairy products should come in for their share of the general depression. Our markets have, however, maintained, except for a very short period, a generally higher average price than in any of our neighboring producing states.

The question of competition with California and Oregon products, says the commissioner, is a serious one. A solution of the question of meeting this competition must be found with the understanding that it is impossible to keep this butter out when our markets warrant its importation, and this question will be a very hard one to grapple with.

During the past year there have been several new creameries and cheese factories started, the majority, however, being to a certain extent experimental in nature and necessarily small; but several with large capacities have been built.

Following is an approximate estimate of our imports: Butter, about 377,500 pounds; cheese, about 37,500, being about one half the importation of the previous year. The exports from here to Alaska have been the means of relieving our markets at various times. With our increased trade in that territory and a probable demand from the Orient, the outlook for the future is not without hope.

The total estimated value of our dairy products is \$540,643. The expenses of the commission for the year has been \$3,595.

The Cruiser Brooklyn.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—The cruiser Brooklyn, which has been lying at League Island navy-yard since going into commission four weeks ago, will start on her first official cruise next Saturday. She will steam for the naval station at Newport, R. I. After her torpedoes have been taken on board, the cruiser will proceed to Brooklyn where the citizens of that municipality will formally present to the ship a handsome silver service. After this ceremony and the attendant festivities are concluded, the ship will go to Hampton Roads and join the Atlantic squadron.

Smelting Works to Start Up.

Kansas City, Dec. 22.—It is announced that the Kansas City Smelting & Refining Company's works, which for some time past have been operated with a reduced force, will start up January 1 in all departments. The greatest number of men which have ever been employed by the works, namely 609, will be exceeded by 100 hands.

Police Officer Killed.

Kansas City, Dec. 22.—Patrolman George W. Noah, the oldest man in point of service on the Kansas City police force, was found dead in a gully a mile from the city this morning. A bullet had pierced his heart, and it is believed he was killed in a fight while trying to arrest some one.

Of all the men, women and children in Great Britain every seventh person is a depositor in the Postoffice Savings bank.

CARLISLE'S REPORT.

Statement of the Government's Financial Condition—Debt is Increasing.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Secretary Carlisle, in his annual report on the state of the finances shows the revenues of the government from all sources to have been \$409,475,408, and the expenditures \$434,678,051, which leaves a deficit for the year ended June 1, 1896, of \$25,203,245.

In addition to the ordinary revenues collected during the year the cash in the treasury was increased by the following sums:

From the sale of 100,000,000 4 per cent thirty-year bonds \$111,166,246; and from the issue of 4 per cent bonds in liquidation of interest accrued on refunding certificates converted during the year, \$4,130, making a total of \$111,170,376.

As compared with the fiscal year 1895, the receipts for 1896 increased \$19,103,215, of which the following are the principal items of increase:

Customs \$7,863,174
Internal revenue 150,000,000
Profit on coinage of bullion deposited, etc. 1,256,512
Postal service 8,550,589

There is shown to have been a decrease in ordinary expenditures of \$4,015,852.

ESTIMATE FOR THIS YEAR.

The revenues of the government for the current fiscal year are thus estimated upon the basis of existing laws:

From customs \$148,000,000
From internal revenue 150,000,000
Miscellaneous sources 25,000,000
From postal service 8,550,589

Total estimated revenue \$331,550,589

The expenditures for the same period are estimated at \$473,293,120, leaving an estimated deficiency for the year of \$141,742,531.

These estimates of receipts and expenditures, the secretary says, are made upon the assumption that there will be no substantial change in existing business conditions, and that the present scale of public expenditures will not be reduced. But if our ordinary business activity should be resumed and the consumption of articles subject to taxation should increase to its normal proportions, there may be, in fact, no deficiency in our revenues.

LAWYER STEEVES ACQUITTED.

Jury Came to an Agreement After Three Days.

Portland, Or., Dec. 23.—Xenophon N. Steeves is a free man. This morning at Hillsboro at 10 o'clock the one juror who hung out for conviction capitulated, and a verdict of acquittal was returned to Judge McBride's court.

For over twenty-four hours the ballot stood eleven for acquittal and one for conviction. Saturday the jury stood ten for acquittal and two for conviction, but yesterday one of the obstinate jurors gave up and sometime last night the twelfth man voted "not guilty" and the jury went to sleep. This morning when the bailiff of the court was called he was informed that an agreement had been reached.

Juror Catchings was indisposed from the long confinement. He became so ill yesterday that he had to be taken to a physician.

The great expense of the trial and the time and care expended in trying the case demanded a verdict one way or another, and when the result was announced in Portland general satisfaction was expressed. The Steeves jury looked up last Friday evening and up to last night it was generally expected there would be a disagreement.

Steeves returns to Portland this evening. He was the recipient of many congratulations from friends today on his acquittal. His friends in Portland have been confident of his acquittal throughout, and have resolutely stood by him during the trial.

A HEAVY FAILURE.

National Bank of Illinois Closes Its Doors—Was a Large Concern.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—The National Bank of Illinois, one of the oldest and best-known banking institutions in the city, with assets of between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000, closed today. The following notice was posted on the doors before banking hours:

"This bank is in the hands of the national bank examiner, by order of the controller of the treasury."

This action was decided upon at a meeting of the directors last night after the bank had been suspended from the Clearing House Association of Chicago.

Of the sixteen banks that cleared through the National Bank of Illinois, two are closed—E. S. Dyer & Co. and Warmansdorf & Heinemann. These two are mortgage loan banks and savings societies in a small way, and their failure is not expected to affect any business houses. The assets of E. S. Dyer & Co. are given at \$1,000,000; liabilities, \$1,200,000. Warmansdorf's assets are \$650,000; liabilities, \$400,000. The Security Title & Trust Company was appointed receiver for both firms.

Six banks have made arrangements to clear through other banks, and the remainder of the sixteen are making similar arrangements as fast as possible.

The failure was a great surprise in financial and business circles. The cause of the suspension, as given in resolutions, are "unwarrantable and injudicious loans."

Cardinal Satolli's Church.

Rome, Dec. 22.—In the presence of numerous prelates and the best-known members of the American colony, Cardinal Satolli today took formal possession of the titular church of Santa Maria del Ara Coeli, to which he was assigned by the pope at the last consistory. Cardinal Satolli delivered an eloquent discourse in connection with the ceremony.

The room in which Napoleon died is now used as a stable.

NORTHWEST BREVITIES

Evidence of Steady Growth and Enterprise.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving Sister States—Oregon.

The sheep inspector of Benton county says there are very few scabby sheep in that county.

Prominent men in Heppner say that they will build a telephone line from Heppner to Long Creek, in Grant county, if they can arrange for a satisfactory bonus.

The legal complications that have so long arrested the operations of the Divilbiss quartz mill in Coos county, have finally been satisfactorily adjusted, and the miners of the Johnson creek district will now have free use of the mill.

Superintendent Morrison, of the Western Union construction department, has finished receiving and storing at Flavel 2,000 poles for the main telegraph line between Astoria and Portland. It required two acres on which to stack this material.

While leveling off the grounds about the house on his Blind Slough ranch, in Clatsop, Martin Impo found buried two feet in the earth an Indian stone weapon, shaped like a ship's marlin spike, having a hole bored through the handle, which had evidently been made by a stone implement, says the Astorian.

Some very old residents claim that Rogue river was up where the Grant's Pass depot now stands in 1862. The river bed has deepened and widened very much since then, and there is very little probability that it will ever overflow its left bank again. The winter of '63 made gullies and gulches where all was level before.

Fully 100 men are hard at work along the Alderbrook water front cutting wood for their winter's use, says the Astorian. During the recent freshet hundreds of cords of wood, and about 2,000 shingle bolts from the Cowlitz river were thrown upon the beach. It was an interesting sight to see these men cutting huge logs into stove-wood lengths, and rolling them up the beach to their homes. They used a large instrument like a pair of ice tongs with which to drag the logs along.

Fisher and William Logan, brothers, were caught out in the cold snap of last month in Crook county, while driving cattle. They left their cattle and tried to reach the cabin that was their destination, but, thinking they could not find it, they built a fire under a rimrock and remained there all night. It was the coldest night, and others who were out say it was thirty-four degrees below zero. The men made themselves as comfortable as they could. They had no blankets, and while sitting around the fire both fell asleep, and after awhile young Logan was awakened by his clothes catching on fire. On waking up he found that both of his feet were frozen. They also discovered when daylight came that they were in sight of the cabin.

Washington.

There are said to be fully 500 cases of measles reported and unreported in Walla Walla.

The Northern Pacific Railway Company paid \$9,008.60 taxes into the Lewis county treasury last week.

Burglars attempted to open the safe in the office of Indian Agent Erwin, at Fort Simcoe, one night last week, but failed to get away with anything of value.

The United States revenue cutter Bear has been taken to Quartermaster harbor to be put on the drydock for repairs to her hull. A \$5,000 contract has been let, and extensive repairs are to be made.

Work will be resumed at the Cowee-man shingle mill, in Cowlitz county, as soon as the water recedes sufficiently to permit of it. Attorney Fisk will have charge of the plant. It is the intention of the company to pay off all claims as soon as possible.

A mandamus sued out to compel the commissioners of Jefferson county to make a special levy to pay certain road warrants was quashed last Saturday at Port Townsend. The effect of the decision is thought to be to invalidate the road warrants issued under the law of March 7, 1890.

It is estimated that to build the telephone line from Eastern Washington to Puget sound points it will take 16,000 poles, 1,884 miles of No. 10 hard-drawn copper wire, 15,000 cross-arms and braces and 32,000 pins and insulators. The estimated cost of material and labor is \$73,000.

The Washington Mining Company has been incorporated for \$1,000,000. The stock is divided into a million shares of the par value of \$1 each. The trustees for the first six months are J. Lynch Montgomery, of New York; Ralph L. Clarke and T. E. Jefferson, of Spokane, and John L. Retallack, of Kaslo.

The last season's work at Hall & Bishop's logging camp, in Clallam county, is one to be proud of. At the beginning of the year two miles of railroad were put down, and since then the loggers have been busy getting out logs. The season's cut amounted to 7,000,000 feet, most of which was towed to Hadlock, and from there was distributed to different points on the Sound and British Columbia. Forty men were employed in the camp throughout the year, at an average of \$2.50 per day.

DRIFTED ON THE BEACH.

German Bark Potrimpos High and Dry on Washington Coast.

Astoria, Or., Dec. 22.—The fourth deep-sea vessel to go ashore on the Washington beach this year was stranded at 7:30 o'clock this morning at Pacific Park, about six miles north of Ilwaco, close to the spot where the Strathblane went ashore in 1891.

This time the vessel is the German bark Potrimpos, Captain Henry Hillewege, in ballast from Mazatlan, Mexico, to the Columbia river. The officers and crew numbered eighteen, and all were saved by the Ilwaco beach life-saving crew, who arrived on the scene soon after the disaster occurred. Just before their arrival, however, six sailors from the vessel landed in one of the ship's boats. It is very lucky that all hands landed without mishap, as the surf breaks heavily all around the ship at high water. Two of the crew of the ill-fated Glenmorag were killed in attempting to do just what part of the Potrimpos' crew did, namely, launching one of the ship's boats in the surf.

The ship is in good condition, having received no serious injury while crossing through the surf. She now lies so high on the beach that at half tide a person can walk to her dry-shod.

According to the captain's story, at daybreak this morning he sighted land and was on the lookout for a pilot or tug, but the vessel soon became perfectly helpless and drifted towards shore. The captain ordered both anchors out. The order was no sooner given than it was carried out, but the current, which sets in very strongly all along the beach at certain stages of the tide, was too strong, and the ship drifted through the breakers and on to the beach, both anchors still being out.

The Cape Disappointment lifesaving crew left for the scene of the wreck on a special train, but arrived too late to assist in landing the crew.

The ship lies broadside on the beach, high and dry, but if work is commenced immediately, and arrangements made so that lines can be passed out to a tug, she can be safely pulled off at the next high tide, which occurs on the 24th inst. The vessel is in plain sight of the stranded Glenmorag.

The men and officers have come ashore, and the captain will stay by until some definite plans are agreed upon.

BOUNDARY TREATY.

Will Be Ratified by the Venezuelan Congress.

New York, Dec. 22.—A special from Caracas, Venezuela, says:

There is no doubt that the Venezuelan congress will ratify the Guiana boundary arbitration treaty with England, negotiated by the United States; that President Crespo is entirely satisfied with it is known officially. Your correspondent has talked with the governors of four states of the Venezuelan republic, and all favor the ratification of the treaty.

President Crespo received Senor Jose Andrade, Venezuela minister to the United States, who came from Washington recently, bringing with him a draft of the treaty for ratification. The president received at the same time James J. Storrow, the Boston attorney who prepared and submitted to the United States, Venezuela's brief answer to the British bluebook summary of the case. Senor Andrade and Mr. Storrow sailed Sunday for New York. The ratification of the treaty by congress, which meets in February, is almost certain.

A BAD WRECK.

Three Passengers on a Freight Train Were Killed and Seven Hurt.

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 22.—A special to the News from Shreveport, La., says: About 5 o'clock this morning there was a bad wreck on the Texas & Pacific railroad, near Sodas, La. Although no information is given by railroad official, it is learned from private sources that three men were killed and seven badly injured. It appears that, as a west-bound freight was bound up a steep grade, a collision occurred at the foot of the grade, the crash splintering several cars. None of the trainmen were injured, as they were in the caboose. The conductor and crew rescued the injured, and they were sent to the Charity hospital.

Following are the wounded: C. L. Gates, of St. Paul; Dave Miller of St. Louis; Frank Terry, of Argentine, Colo.; Charles Williams, Jerry Henderson and George Brown, residences unknown. The names of the killed are not known.

Political Agitation in Moscow.

London, Dec. 22.—The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Mail reports that, as an outcome of the agitation in Moscow, one student has been sentenced to death and others to twelve years' imprisonment. This political agitation came to a head in efforts to hold meetings commemorative of the Khodynsky plain disaster, during the coronation of the czar, which were prohibited by the police.

Anarchists Sentenced to Death.

Barcelona, Dec. 22.—Eight of the anarchists who recently had their trial in this city for throwing a bomb into the Corpus Christi procession last June, have been sentenced to death.

Football in Mexico.

Columbia, Mo., Dec. 22.—The Missouri state university, the crack team of the Missouri Tigers, have received an invitation from President Diaz, of Mexico, to play a game of football in that country, and have made arrangements to start for the City of Mexico immediately. The game will be played at the Indianola grounds December 27. The Tigers returned home recently after playing a series of successful games in Texas.