

OREGON CITY COURIER.

22nd YEAR.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1904.

No. 9.

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General News as Gathered From Various Sources.

Brief Resume of the More Important Happenings of the Week in Oregon and Elsewhere.

General News.

RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR.

July 10—After three days of severe fighting, characterized by the desperate attacks of the Japanese and the stubborn resistance of the Russians, General Oku's army occupied Kaiping (Kaichou) last Friday, driving the Russians northward in the direction of Hai Ching.

The Russians had strongly fortified the hills situated in a semicircle south of Kaiping. Their forces consisted of over 30,000 men. In his report of the engagement General Oku does not give any details, but shows the difficulties of the struggle.

The operations began last Wednesday by the Japanese driving 1600 Russians from the heights south of Kaiping, constituting the first line of defense. The Japanese occupied the position and the Russians retreated northward.

The same day the right wing of the Japanese army, southeast of Kaiping, defeated a small force of Russians and the left wing occupied the heights to the southeast.

Thursday the entire Japanese army forced its way to Kaiping, overcoming the stubborn resistance of the Russian infantry, cavalry and artillery located in the narrow defiles. The Russians held many strong positions in the mountainous country, but despite their desperate resistance they were forced to abandon them one by one. During the night the Russians were largely reinforced by troops brought from the north by train, in preparation for a big battle Friday.

The Japanese began the last day's fighting at daylight, with an artillery fire from guns placed on the heights previously captured from the Russians.

At 8 o'clock in the morning they drove the Russians from their positions and forced them into their last line of defenses around the town. The Russians evidently saw that the town was doomed, as General Oku reports that many troops were withdrawn during the morning. The Russians finally took position on the tops of the high precipices and again offered a stubborn resistance.

About noon they were again forced to withdraw, the Japanese occupying the last line of defenses. The Japanese pursued the enemy despite a severe artillery fire from the Russian batteries on the high hills to the north. The Japanese artillery finally occupied new positions and silenced these batteries.

In the afternoon the Japanese occupied the town without further resistance.

While the particulars of the fighting are not known, it is evident that the Russians made a determined stand. The losses and the number of men engaged have not been reported. Further details are awaited.

CLOSE TO PORT ARTHUR.

A fair wind brought a fleet of junks from Port Arthur today, carrying both Chinese and Europeans. Reports which they bring of conditions at Port Arthur are contradictory, but they all say that the Japanese division from the northward is entrenched seven miles from the marine camp, while another division from the eastward is fighting continuously and with the aid of the fleet is endeavoring to gain a position commanding the town and the naval basin.

A Russian says that the Japanese occupied the summit of the Takushan Mountain, which is about three miles from Port Arthur, on the night of July 6, with a mounted battery of artillery.

July 7 the Russian cruiser Novik and four gunboats went out under the protection of the guns on Golden Hill, and shelled a Japanese battery, which was surrounded and captured finally by Russian infantry.

The fighting to the eastward of Port Arthur has been very heavy since July 4. The Japanese ships along the shore are shelling the Russian position in the hills from daylight until dark, while the artillery is just as busy from the hills. The smoke from the artillery on the hills around Port Arthur is seen almost continuously. Dead and wounded are being brought in at all hours and many private houses have been turned into hospitals. Only skirmishes have occurred to the northward.

The main Japanese force is ten miles east, but Japanese scouts have been seen in the vicinity of the marine camp, which commands the principal pass to the hills directly back of Port Arthur. On the nights of July 2, 3 and 4, the Japanese fleet bombarded the roads from the south town. The forts were not damaged. No further night attacks have been made since July 4.

A Chinese mechanic from the Port Arthur drydocks says that two large three-funnel ships have been missing from the Russian fleet since the fight off Port Arthur on June 23. The battleship Sevastopol is still undergoing repairs, and four torpedo-boat destroyers are in drydocks.

The Russians, on the other hand, say that their fleet is intact and as a matter of fact the Japanese have been the losers in the fights off Port Arthur. The Russians assert that the Japanese have lost no less than 10 torpedo-boats in their attempts to reach the Russian guardships which was protected by the stone laden ships sunk by the Japanese in their effort to block the entrance to Port Arthur. The guardships are anchored behind the wrecked vessels.

An entrance was opened around Golden Hill, but the remainder of the channel was closed with booms, making it impossible for torpedoes to pass. Seven

hundred Russians and 100 Chinese mechanics are still at work in the dockyards at Port Arthur.

Some of the torpedo attacks of the Japanese have been almost fatal. Frequently they have made attacks where success was impossible and when the torpedo-boats have been sunk. The Japanese have refused assistance, either committing suicide or fighting off their rescuers.

July 12—The Japanese are advancing against Port Arthur by two roads, one army moving eastward from Dalney and the other along the center road from Kilmou, the former assisted by the navy.

On July 4, the Japanese, by a brilliant charge, captured the Minotsui fort, which gave them a strong position from which they immediately began a heavy bombardment of the eastern section of the Port Arthur defenses. The Japanese losses in the series of engagements culminating in this capture were enormous, but this fact had no effect on the tank and file.

The second Japanese column also did excellent work, and is reported to have taken the outworks of Shushiyung, one of the cardinal defenses of Port Arthur, and only four miles from the town itself. This town, which was left in a dismantled condition by the Russians when they abandoned it, has been practically restored by the Japanese who are maintaining rigid discipline. Commerce is again brisk, and the Chinese who were driven out before the evacuation have returned. The waterworks have not yet been restored, but the wharves have all been repaired. The entrance to the harbor is still dangerous, owing to the presence there of the sunken hulks of 14 small craft sunk by the Russians to keep out the Japanese. It is also believed that there are some sunken mines in the bay, but it is very difficult to locate them.

July 12—An attack on Port Arthur, in which the Japanese were repulsed with a loss of 30,000 men, is reported from St. Petersburg. The report lacks official confirmation.

Oregon Notes.

A severe rain and hail storm visited the vicinity of Medford last Sunday afternoon. Hail the size of eggs fell in the foothills, doing much damage to fruit. Trees were stripped of their leaves and corn was beaten down to the ground.

A cloudburst occurred on Meadow Creek, a branch of the Grand Ronde river, Sunday evening, covering the roads in that section of the country with rocks and brush to a depth of several feet. Otherwise the damage is not great.

While walking in his sleep Lew Willis a deckhand on the steamer Charles E. Spencer, stepped off the side of the vessel at an early hour Monday morning as she lay in the harbor at The Dalles, and was drowned. No one witnessed the tragedy, but his shipmates say there is no doubt that he was drowned. He retired early the night before the accident. The bunk he occupied was a sort of a hammock arrangement and swung close to the starboard wing aft. It was not more than five feet from the water and it is supposed that the missing man arose in his sleep and stumbled out to his death.

THE OREGON FRUIT CROP

A poor prune crop for the state, but excellent showings of apples and peaches is the gist of the four district reports made to the meeting of the State Board of Horticulture.

Small fruit is also doing well. In portions of the state the dry weather has had a disastrous effect upon all classes of fruit, but the drought has very seldom reached over a wide area. Southern Oregon prunes in many places were reported as not being worth gathering. In North-eastern Oregon, however, the yield is fair.

H. B. HUNTLEY DISAPPEARS.

Herbert B. Huntley, the prominent Seattle lawyer who disappeared a week ago from the Mount Tabor Sanitarium, while suffering from nervous prostration and partially demented, has dropped out of sight as though swallowed by the earth. Searching parties have scoured the country adjacent to the sanitarium and the police have been on the lookout ever since Huntley's disappearance. Not a trace of the missing man has been found. His brother has worked with the searchers day and night, refusing to take necessary rest, and he is almost frantic with anxiety and grief. When Huntley escaped he had on no clothing except a pair of trousers and a nightshirt. It is feared that he has committed suicide in some secluded spot.

MITCHELL SWEEP AWAY BY FLOOD.

A special from Mitchell, Or., to the Oregonian on July 12, says:—A wave of water 25 or 30 feet high swept down bridge and Mill Creek Canyons, which converge just above town, and destroyed a great portion of this place about six o'clock last night. Warned by a storm of unusual violence, accompanied by a brilliant electrical display, all escaped, as far as known, but Martin Smith and Mrs. Bethune. They were caught by the flood and drowned.

The main part of Mitchell lies in a narrow canyon. A storm of unusual severity had raged in the hills during the afternoon, and the inhabitants, mindful of the disaster to Heppner of a year ago, betook themselves to high ground along the side of the canyon. About 6 o'clock the roar of the flood could be heard, growing louder with the great wave's nearer approach.

The crash as the great mass of water struck the first buildings was deafening and the shrieks of terror of women and children as they strove to climb still higher out of harm's way. Far down ahead of the yellow mass rode a messenger on horseback warning those still further down stream of impending death. The buildings in the path of the flood were swept away like so much brush. Of over a score scarcely a vestige remains save where shattered boards and timbers are caught on trees and brush, far below the town site. The business portion of Mitchell was not really damaged, being built on ground above the reach of the main force of the torrent. On the North side, all the buildings, some 28 in all, were carried away.

Mitchell lies 30 miles south of Fossil, in Wheeler county. It is the county seat and principal point of business between Shaniko and Canyon City. For a half-mile the town, of about 200 inhabitants, was sprung along a fork of the John Day. There is a very steep rise of fifty feet on either side of a level space bordering the creek of perhaps a hundred feet. The Oakes Mercantile Company's store is built on a stone foundation on a slight rise in the gulch. A mill that escaped is very substantially constructed. The high hills in every direction from Mitchell are ranged by sheep and cattle.

Democratic Rally, July 22.

The Democrats of Oregon will have a ratification meeting in Portland on Friday, July 22, in honor of the nominees for president and vice-president.

It is expected that the meeting and parade will be the biggest event of the kind ever held in Portland. Democrats from all parts of the state will be present. The list of speakers for the occasion includes the following: Governor Chamberlain, F. V. Holman, C. E. Wood, Thomas O'Day, John A. Jeffries of Salem; W. F. Bucher of Baker City; Thomas H. Crawford of Union; Judge Alfred S. Bennett of The Dalles; Robert G. Smith of Grants Pass; Sam White of Baker City; J. D. Matlock of Eugene; Dr. Walter S. Hamilton of Roseburg; John H. Smith of Astoria; W. B. Dillard of St. Helens; W. R. Blyden of Albany; William R. King of Ontario; Judge William Galloway, circuit judge of the third judicial district, McMinnville; William H. Holmes, Salem; Peter D'Arcy, Salem; M. A. Miller, Lebanon; Robert A. Miller, Oregon City; William F. McFadden of Corvallis, and John Manning, district attorney-elect.

Taffe Gets \$15,000.

The case of the State against I. H. Taffe, to condemn a strip of land for the Cello canal, terminated last Saturday in a verdict assessing the damages at \$15,000. The jury went out about 11 o'clock at night, after a three days' trial, during which a number of witnesses were examined, and after three hours' deliberation agreed on a sealed verdict, which was returned at 9 o'clock in the morning.

The case was conducted on the part of the state by Attorney-General Crawford, District Attorney Meneese and Martin L. Pipes, the latter of Portland. The defense was represented by Judge Rufus Mallory, of Portland, and Huntington & Wilson, of The Dalles. The case was warmly contested upon questions of law and fact involved.

The verdict furnishes the coincidence that it is exactly the amount which the Board of Canal Commissioners, after examining the premises, had, after some negotiation, finally offered Mr. Taffe, although this fact was not known to the jury. The verdict meets popular approval, the general opinion being that the sum awarded is a liberal allowance for the damage to be caused by the canal.

New Court House at Astoria.

The contract for the construction of a \$97,000 court house at Astoria has been awarded to a Spokane firm.

The contract let is for the building complete, aside from the foundation, which is being built by day's labor, the heating, plumbing, electric wiring and the dome. The contractor specified in submitting his bid that the building was to be completed in 17 months, but that has been changed and the contract will require it to be finished one year from the first day of next August, and they are required to give a bond in the sum of \$50,000 with a surety company.

The building will be 120 feet wide facing on Commercial street, and 90 feet deep. The basement is to be constructed of Teno sandstone, and the first and second stories will be built of brick of terra cotta trimmings. The floors will be of hemlock, and the rooms will be finished with oak. The contract for the heating and ventilating plant was awarded to John Montgomery of this city.

Strike of Meatpackers.

The employees of the packing houses in Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Joseph and other cities, numbering in all about 45,000 men, went out on a strike on the 12th. The contention is for higher wages for unskilled labor. The employees in the killing department walked out first. They were followed by workers in the other departments as fast as they could clean up the current work. This action saved loss to the owners, and has left a favorable impression of the strikers. The effect of the strike, if not settled soon, may be as far reaching as the anthracite coal strike.

Driven to Desperation.

Living at an out-of-the-way place, remote from civilization, a family is often driven to desperation in case of accident, resulting in Burns, Cuts, Wounds, Ulcers, etc. Lay in a supply of Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It's the best on earth. 25c, at Charnan & Co's Drug Store.

Democratic National Platform.

A Document That Sets Forth Correct Political Principles and Definite Governmental Policies, Ignoring All Dead Issues.

The abuses now existing in the conduct of national affairs are clearly pointed out, and the remedies therefor are proposed in plain and unequivocal language.

The more important planks of the Democratic Platform as adopted by the St. Louis convention are given in full below:

The Democratic party of the United States, in National Convention assembled, declares its devotion to the essential principles of the Democratic faith which bring us together in party communion.

Under them, local self government and National Unity and prosperity were alike established. They underlaid our independence, the structure of our free Republic, and every Democratic extension from Louisiana to California and Texas to Oregon, which preserved faithfully in all the states the tie between taxation and representation. They yet inspire the masses of our people, guarding jealously their rights and liberties, and cherishing their fraternity, peace and orderly development. They remind us of our duties and responsibilities as citizens and impress upon us, particularly at this time, the necessity of reform.

FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

First—the application of these fundamental principles to the living issues of the day, is the first step toward the assured peace, safety and progress of our Nation, freedom of the press, of conscience and of speech—equality, the law of all citizens; right of trial by jury; freedom of the person defended by the writ of habeas corpus; liberty of personal contract untrammelled by arbitrary laws; supremacy of the civil over the military authority; a well disciplined militia; the separation of the church and state; economy in expenditures; low taxes, that labor may be lightly burdened; prompt and sacred fulfillment of public and private obligations; fidelity to treaties, peace and friendship with all nations; entangling alliances with none; absolute acquiescence in the will of the majority, the vital principle of republicanism—these are the doctrines which democracy has established as precepts of the Nation and they should be constantly enforced.

CAPITAL AND LABOR.

We favor the enactment and administration of laws giving labor and capital impartially their just rights. Capital and labor ought not to be enemies. Each is necessary to the other. Each has its rights, but the rights of labor are certainly no less "vested," no less "sacred," and no less "unalienable," than the rights of capital.

CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTY.

Constitutional guarantees are violated whenever any citizen is denied the right to labor, acquire and enjoy property, or reside where interest or inclination may determine. Any denial thereof by individuals or organizations of government should be summarily rebuked and punished.

We deny the right of any executive to disregard or suspend any Constitutional privilege or limitation. Obedience to the laws and respect for their requirements are alike the supreme duty of the citizen and the official.

The military should be used only to support and maintain the law. We unqualifiedly condemn its employment for the summary banishment of citizens without trial, or for the control of elections.

We approve the measure which passed the United States Senate in 1896, but which a Republican Congress has ever since refused to enact, relating to contempt in Federal Courts and providing for trial by jury in cases of indirect contempt.

WATERWAYS.

We favor liberal appropriations for the care and improvement of the waterways of the country. When any waterway like the Mississippi River is of sufficient importance to demand special aid of the Government, such aid should be extended with a definite plan of continuous work until permanent improvement is secured.

We oppose the Republican policy of starving home development in order to feed the greed for conquest, and the appetite for National "prestige" and display of strength.

ECONOMY OF ADMINISTRATION.

First—Large reductions can easily be made in the annual expenditures of the Government without impairing the efficiency of any branch of the public service, and we shall insist upon the strictest economy and frugality compatible with vigorous and effective civil, military and naval administration for the people.

Second—We favor honesty in the public service, the enforcement of honesty in the public service, and to that end a thorough executive investigation of those departments of the Government already known to team with corruption, as well as other departments suspected of harboring corruption and the punishment of ascertained corruptionists without fear or favor or regard to persons. The persistent and delicate refusal of both the Senate and House of Representatives to permit such investigation to be made demonstrates that only by a change in the Executive and in the legislative department can complete exposure, punishment and conviction be obtained.

FEDERAL CONTRACTS WITH TRUSTS.

We condemn the action of the Republican party in Congress in refusing to prohibit the executive department from entering into contracts with convicted trusts or unlawful combinations in restraint of interstate trade.

We have one of the best methods of economy and honesty in the public service, and that is to have public officials, from the occupant of the White House down to the lowest of them, return as nearly as possible to Jeffersonian simplicity of living.

EXECUTIVE USURPATION.

We favor the nomination and election of a President imbued with the principles of the Constitution, who will set his face sternly against executive usurpation of legislative and judicial functions, whether that usurpation be veiled under the guise of executive construction of existing laws, or whether it takes refuge in the tyrant's plans of necessity of superior wisdom.

IMPERIALISM.

We favor the preservation, so far as we can, of an open door for the world's commerce in the Orient, without an unnecessary entanglement in Oriental and European affairs, and without arbitrary, unlimited, irresponsible and absolute government anywhere within our jurisdiction. We oppose, fervently, as did George Washington himself, an indefinite, irresponsible, discretionary and vague absolutism and a policy of colonial exploitation, no matter where or by whom exercised. We believe with Thomas Jefferson and John Adams that no government has a right to make one set of laws for those "at home" and another and a different set of laws, absolute in character, for those "in the colonies."

All men under the American flag are entitled to the protection of the institutions whose emblem the flag is. If they are inherently unfit to be members of the American body politic—wherever there may exist a people incapable of being governed upon American laws under the American Constitution—that territory or people ought not to be a part of the American domain. We insist that we ought to do for the Filipinos what we have done already for the Cubans, and it is our duty to make that promise now and, upon suitable guarantee of protection to citizens of our own and other countries resident there at the time of our withdrawal, set the Filipino people upon their feet, free and independent to work out their own destiny.

The endeavor of the Secretary of War, by pledging the Government's indorsement for "promoters" in the Philippine Islands to make the United States a partner in speculative legislation of the archipelago, which was only temporarily held up by the opposition of the Democratic Senators in the last session, will if successful, lead to entanglements, from which it will be difficult to escape.

TARIFF.

The Democratic party has been, and will continue to be, the consistent opponent of that class of tariff legislation by which certain interests have been permitted, through Congressional favor, to draw a heavy tribute from the American. This monstrous perversion of those equal opportunities which our political institutions were established to secure, has caused what may once have been infant industries to become the greatest combinations of capital that the world has ever known. These special favorites of the Government have, through trust methods, become monopolies, thus bringing to an end domestic competition, which was the only alleged check upon the extravagant profits made possible by the protective system. These industrial combinations, by the financial assistance they can give, now control the policy of the Republican party.

We denounce protection as a robbery of the many to enrich the few, and we favor a tariff limited to the necessities of the Government, economically administered, and so levied as not to discriminate against any industry, class or section, to the end that the burdens of taxation shall be distributed as evenly as possible.

We favor a revision and a gradual reduction of the tariff by the friends of the masses and for the common weal, and not by the friends of its abuses, its extortions and its discriminations, keeping in view the ultimate ends of "equality of burdens" and "equality of opportunities" and the executive purpose of raising a revenue by taxation, to wit, the support of the Federal Government in all its integrity and virility, but in simplicity.

TRUSTS AND UNLAWFUL COMBINATIONS.

We recognize that the gigantic trusts and combinations designed to enable capital to secure more than its just share of the joint products of capital and labor, and which have been fostered and promoted under Republican rule, are a menace to beneficial competition and an obstacle to permanent business prosperity. A private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable. Individual equality of opportunity and free competition are essential to a healthy and permanent commercial prosperity, and any trust, combination or monopoly tending to destroy these by controlling production, restricting competition or fixing prices, should be prohibited and punished by law.

We especially denounce rebates and

(Continued on Page 7.)