

# The Corvallis Times.

WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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B. F. IRVINE  
Editor and Proprietor.

## A PRIMITIVE MAN.

ERNEST W. DARLING, SON OF  
A PORTLAND PHYSICIAN,  
STARTS NEW CULT IN  
HEALING.

Discards Practically All Clothing  
and Lives Out of Doors—His  
Bed Is a Hole in the  
Ground Four Feet by  
Seven and Two  
Feet Deep.

Portland, April 12.—The Journal says: A son of a Portland physician has created a sensation in the scientific world by the startling and novel method of living which he has adopted, and which he advises all to adopt who desire perfect health and a rugged constitution. He advocates a return to the primitive way of living by discarding clothing.

Ernest W. Darling, a son of Dr. J. W. Darling of this city, is the man who advocates the return to the ways primeval. Until a year ago he lived in Portland, but was compelled to seek a sunnier clime on account of his health. For the past year he has lived on the summit of a hill on the outskirts of Los Angeles, Cal. He does not occupy a house, nor even a tent. The sole habitation of which he can boast, is a bed that consists of a hole in the ground of about four by seven feet and two feet in depth. In that peculiar place, wrapped in blankets, he seeks rest. He is an ardent lover and studies the works of nature and believes that by his method of living he is able to commune more closely with its invisible forms and at the same time build up his constitution, which was shattered by disease.

"Good health is the first requisite for religion, or anything else," he says, when questioned concerning his novel ideas. "I firmly believe that if we take perfect care of our health, avoiding all accident or disease, we shall live eternally in these bodies of ours. Every person should learn gradually to live out doors and to live on natural food—that is, food just as it comes from the hand of nature. Personally, I prefer the fruit of the tropics—bananas, persimmons, figs, dates—which have been proved to give as great strength and endurance as does any mixed diet.

"The objects in living on natural food are:

"First—To make us more natural in thought and in action.  
"Second—From an economical standpoint, it is far cheaper where these fruits grow. It is well known by travelers in the tropics that we can live on one dollar a month, or less.

"Third—There is a very decided humanitarian issue in this diet. No animal has to suffer imprisonment and final slaughter in order to feed the fruitarian. The fruitarian will take his meal from the tree and eat the meal that was cooked by God himself."

Mr. Darling has evidently found these results in his mode of life, for he has built himself up wonderfully. When he left Portland a year ago he weighed 90 pounds, while now he weighs in the neighborhood of 175 pounds. It was done without a drop of medicine. It was while a student at Leland Stanford, Jr., university that the desire to get "nearer to nature's heart" came upon him, and he secluded himself.

He rises at daylight, takes a quick, cold shower bath, then runs half a mile or so, throwing off superfluous clothing. Then he goes through a series of calisthenic exercises before eating breakfast, of fruit. He declares that he eats regularly three times each day and always has a good appetite.

Mr. Darling left his home near Los Angeles last week. He sailed for Honolulu where he will reside for a time before making a trip to the Samoan Islands. Before being compelled to leave Portland he was confined in a hospital for a time. It is said that he is rapidly regaining his health.

Niu Chwang, April 11.—A misunderstanding of the customs house flash-light signals caused great excitement here last midnight.

Officers in command of forts

thought the Japanese were making an attack and opened fire on a fleet of pilot boats to merchantmen outward bound.

Two Chinese seamen were struck by a shell and killed. Several shots were fired before the artillerymen discovered their mistake.

The incident shows the mental strain under which the Russians are laboring.

Feverish activity prevails among the military, who are doing the best they can to prepare for any Japanese assault.

Dispatches received here today from Port Arthur state that a feverish excitement prevails owing to a constant fear and persistent rumors that the Japanese are ready to make a final attack on the forts. The information contained in the dispatches shows that nothing is definitely known of Japan's intentions.

It is also stated that 10 miles off Port Arthur several Japanese war vessels were seen early yesterday morning lying inactive on a smooth sea. The whereabouts of the remaining vessels of this fleet are not known.

Vancouver, Wash., April 12.—Sheriff Blessecker and City Marshal Bateman today arrested and took into custody Fred Armstrong, alias Frank Strong. On a charge of burglary. Armstrong is believed to be the masked highwayman who held up at the muzzle of a pistol the bartender and a number of guests of the Hotel Columbia, in the barroom of the hotel, about a week ago, and who also attempted to hold up C. C. Gridley, an abstractor, at his office in this city last night.

The attempt to hold up Gridley was frustrated by the pluck and presence of mind of Gridley, who, when confronted at his office door about ten o'clock by a man wearing a mask and with a gun pointed at his face, grappled with the assailant and threw him into the street and then slammed the door in the robber's face and telephoned for the police. Armstrong was formerly sergeant in the Seventeenth Infantry, receiving his discharge about a year ago. Afterward he married a daughter of a prominent farmer of this county. Later Armstrong and his wife went to Baker City, Or., where he was implicated with two others in a number of highway robberies in that place. Armstrong was identified today by two of the victims of the hotel hold-up. He was also recognized by Gridley.

Baker City, Or., April 12.—W. Gossett, of Pleasant Valley, was badly injured here this afternoon while attempting to board an outgoing freight train on the O. R. & N. He caught the caboose, but as he swung on his foot slipped and he was thrown to the ground, striking on his head. The scalp was torn from the right side of his head, the frontal bone over the right eye fractured, his nose broken, his neck partly dislocated and a gash cut under the right eye three inches long, down to the bone. The doctor thinks he will recover.

Mr. Gossett is the proprietor of the Pleasant Valley Lime Works, and is quite prominent in business circles in this part of the state.

Washington, April 13.—Shortly after 10 o'clock this morning, President Roosevelt affixed his signature to the Lewis and Clark Fair bill and made it a law. Senator Mitchell went to the White House especially to witness the signing of the measure. As the President added the last stroke of his signature he turned and said:

"Senator, I would be glad to give you the pen with which I have signed this bill as a souvenir, but Mr. Scott, president of the association, exacted a promise of me some time ago that I should give it to him, and I then agreed to do so."

Mr. Scott will present the pen to the Oregon Historical society, and it is expected it will be on exhibition during the exposition.

In behalf of the people of Oregon Senator Mitchell extended sincere thanks to the president. The executive replied he was pleased to be in a position to do something toward a proper commemoration of the Lewis & Clark expedition.

Cures Coughs and Colds.

Mrs. C. Peterson, 625 Lake St., Topeka, Kansas, says: "Of all cough remedies Ballard's Horehound Syrup is my favorite; it has done and will do all that is claimed for it—to speedily cure all coughs and colds—and it is so sweet and pleasant to the taste." 25c, 50c, \$1.00 bottle. Sold by Graham & Wortham.

## ANOTHER BOAT LOST.

ADMIRAL MAKAROFF GOES  
DOWN WITH HIS SHIP  
AND 800 MEN.

Russian Vessel Strikes a Submerged Mine—Grand Duke Cyril, One of the Few Who Escaped—Ship Turns Turtle and Sinks—Other News.

St. Petersburg, April 13.—Striking a submerged mine at Port Arthur today, the Petropavlovsk, the flagship of the Russian fleet went down and carried with her Admiral Makaroff and between 600 and 800 men. Grand Duke Cyril escaped, but is wounded.

Admiral Makaroff ordered his entire squadron out to engage the Japanese fleet of 40 vessels which appeared off the port early in the day and began an attack which still continues.

According to the Associated Press informant while Admiral Makaroff was returning after going out to attack the Japanese fleet the Petropavlovsk struck a mine on her Starboard side amidship and immediately began to keel. Before the crew could flood the port compartments of the vessel, in order to keep her in an even keel, she turned turtle and sank in a few minutes, carrying down almost the entire crew. Captain Njakovloff, the Grand Duke Cyril and two other officers were saved because they were standing on the super-bridge. The frightful loss of life among the officers and men was due to the fact that they were all at their stations ready for action.

The Petropavlovsk turned turtle in a manner similar to the British battle ship Victoria, which was rammed by the Camperdown in 1893, and to the incident in the China-Japanese war, when a Chinese warship turned turtle, many of the crew remained aboard for several days hammering desperately on the upturned hull.

The following dispatch to the czar has been received from Viceroy Alexieff:

"Mukden, April 13.—A telegram has just been received from Lieutenant General Stoessel, commander of the military forces at Port Arthur. I regret to report to your majesty that the Pacific fleet has suffered irreparable loss by the death of its brave and capable commander, who was lost, together with the Petropavlovsk."

Another dispatch from Viceroy Alexieff says:

According to reports from the commandant at Port Arthur, the battle ships and cruisers went out to meet the enemy, but, owing to the enemy receiving reinforcement, making his strength 30 vessels, our squadron returned to the roadstead, whereupon the Petropavlovsk touched a mine, resulting in her destruction. Grand Duke Cyril, who was on board was saved. He was slightly injured. The whole squadron then re-entered port. The Japanese are now off Cape Liao Shan."

Rear-Admiral Gigorovitch has reported to the czar that the Russian squadron was under Golden Hill when the flagship struck a mine and turned turtle.

Even if Rear-Admiral Ouktomsky, who is now in charge of the fleet at Port Arthur, is able to go to see with four battle ships, which it is not certain he can do, Vice Admiral Togo could bring against him

a greatly superior force. It is now pointed out that all the Japanese admiral need now do is to be outside Port Arthur, and that transport can pass with absolute impunity. Every one admits tonight that the outlook on the sea is decidedly gloomy for Russia.

No actual news has yet reached London beyond the Russian official telegrams, but dispatches from Wei Hai Wei induce the confident belief here that a naval engagement occurred off Port Arthur of a severe character and that later telegrams will show that the Russians suffered a severer loss than is yet admitted.

A Rumor has reached Rome that Vice-Admiral Makaroff's squadron was attacked by the whole of the Japanese fleet, concealed behind the Miaotoa Islands, and his retreat was cut off and he was forced to fight against odds, with the result that all his ships were damaged, while the Petropavlovsk was surrounded by torpedo boats, struck by five torpedoes and blown up.

Another rumor is to the effect that Rear Admiral Molas is among those killed aboard the Petropavlovsk. No great attention is paid to these rumors, but the universal opinion here is that the official explanations of the disaster are unsatisfactory.

It was a magnificently powerful squadron which Admiral Togo had in action today. It was the most powerful individual fleet that ever sailed the Eastern seas. Including the torpedo fleet, there were more than 40 vessels before Port Arthur.

Boise, Idaho, April 12.—George Levy, the condemned murderer, whose sentence to be hanged next Friday was last evening commuted to life imprisonment by the state prison board, was called into the warden's office this morning, about 8:30 o'clock, and notified of the action of the board.

"I don't want my sentence commuted," he exclaimed. "I refuse to accept it."

As soon as he was called to the warden's office, Levy knew that the board had rendered some kind of a decision, and his manner was quite nervous as he entered the office.

As soon as he had heard the words that consigned him to a prison cell for the remainder of his life, he broke out in a disjointed avowal that he wanted the warden to hang him. The old argument that if he was guilty, he should be hanged, and if innocent, should be permitted to go free, was used again, and he declared he would not accept the commutation offered him by the board. He talked in an indirect way of suicide, although he made no direct threats of taking his life.

Levy was in a better frame of mind when he left the Warden's office than when he was first told of the commutation, but as a matter of precaution, it was deemed best to keep him locked in his cell for a few days, until he should be in a better mental condition.

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