

# The Corvallis Times.

WEEKLY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

Vol. XVII.--No. 9.

CORVALLIS, OREGON, APRIL 23, 1904.

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## A BIG CONFLAGRATION.

OVER TEN MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF PROPERTY GOES UP IN SMOKE.

Near-By Cities Send Men and Engines to the Scene—Chief Jumps Six Stories and Only Suffers a Broken Leg—Other News.

Toronto, Ont., April 19.—Fire swept through a section of Toronto's wholesale business district tonight, causing a loss which will probably reach \$10,000,000. The fire started in a factory in Wellington street about 9 o'clock. In less than an hour the flames had spread from buildings on both sides of the street until the whole block was a mass of flames, and the fire was utterly beyond the control of the local department. Appeals were sent to every surrounding city where fire apparatus could be obtained asking for assistance. Montreal, London, Hamilton and Buffalo at once responded, but it will be hours before they can be of assistance.

It was believed at 11 o'clock that the fire was under control, but a sudden shift of the wind again fanned the flames into a roar and clouds of sparks and burning brands were carried down side streets until three entire blocks were doomed. The firemen were making a gallant fight amid the falling buildings and a mass of tangled wires, but their efforts at midnight seemed to be fruitless.

Chief Thompson of the fire department, and George Dowkes, of Montreal, were cut off by the flames while directing the work of firemen from a roof. Thompson jumped six stories to the ground and miraculously escaping with a broken leg, a mass of tangled wires broke his fall near the ground. Dowkes has not been seen since, and it is believed he perished.

From the Currie warehouse on Wellington street, where it originated, the fire spread with astounding rapidity to the west, destroying buildings occupied by the Eckhardt Casket Company and Warwick Bros., and Rutter & Gage Company and then made a clean sweep up Wellington street to the Queen's Hotel. The thick fire walls of the hotel and the concentrated efforts of the fire-fighters stopped the flames there, but in the meantime the fire had swept across the street and the block of buildings from Bay street went to the National Club and wiped it out.

At this time, the firemen believed that the fire was under control when a shift in the wind sent the flames roaring down Bay street, destroying every building on both sides from the National Club to Front street.

Nothing could resist the force of the James as they swept down Bay street towards the lake and the firemen fought back the fire from side streets, confining the fire zone to the one thoroughfare wherever possible. Several frame buildings which threatened to cause a spread of the fire were blown up by dynamite.

Washington, April 19.—After a debate extending through the entire session the House today passed the bill providing for joint statehood of Oklahoma and Indian Territory under the name of Oklahoma, and of Arizona and New Mexico under the name of Arizona.

The bill was passed, 147 to 104, a strict party vote.

New Orleans, April 19.—In the general election today the democrats swept the state, electing their ticket, headed by ex-Judge N. C. Blanchard for governor, and practically a solid representation in both houses of the legislature. Ex-Mayor W. J. Behan, a prominent sugar planter, headed the opposition ticket of "Lilly White" republicans. The regular republicans put no ticket in the field and practically no negro votes were cast. The Lilly Whites control the Federal offices here, and their contest today was simply to maintain their organization. Indications point to a total vote of approximately 50,000, with Blanchard's majority estimated at 25,000.

The legislature elected today will choose a United States senator. Senator Murphy J. Foster, having been

nominated in the primaries, will receive practically the solid vote of both houses.

Salem, Or., April 19.—"It is admirable, admirable," Henry Watterson said this evening when asked for his opinion of the platform adopted yesterday by the New York democrats. The warmth of his tone left no doubt that the editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal is thoroughly pleased with the platform. "That's all, that enough," he replied, when pressed for a more specific statement of his views. "When I say that it is admirable I have said all there is to say."

Colonel Watterson was in Salem tonight to deliver a lecture under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., on "Abraham Lincoln." A large audience, composed of Salem's representative citizens greeted the Kentucky editor when he appeared upon the stage while the orchestra played "Dixie." The speaker was introduced by ex-Governor Geer. His lecture was well received, the hearers expressing their appreciation.

St. Petersburg, April 21.—The subjoin telegram from General Kouroupatkin received by the czar yesterday has been made public. General Kashtalinsky reports as follows on April 19: "All is quiet on the Yalu. The Japanese are throwing up intrenchments opposite Golutzky and further to the north. The number of Japanese troops are increasing. They are concentrating at Wiju and spreading north along the Yalu. "Cossacks sentinels have observed the lights of Japanese transports near Ching Tai Tse, opposite the village of Potinsa, 25 versts west of Tatungkau. The vessels were anchored at a distance of 50 versts from the shore. "According to dispatches from General Mischenko, Japanese ships were also seen near Sou Chou." The appearance of Japanese troops off Potinsa is believed here to be the beginning of the oft-rumored attempt on the part of the enemy to inaugurate a flanking movement. If the troops are landed under the guns of warships, their landing cannot be prevented, and they will be in a position to threaten Mukden, where the Russian army headquarters are now located. Military experts here have long regarded the vicinity of Potinsa as the probable point of disembarkation of the second Japanese expedition. It is not far away from Taku Shan, 10 miles to the east, and connects by road with Port Arthur, 150 miles to the southwest, and Feng Huan Cheng, 50 miles to the northwest, where the Russians will make their first obstinate resistance. Though the Japanese are building intrenchments on the Yalu, it is believed they will advance soon. The arrangements for a flanking

## THE ORIENTAL WAR.

JAPANESE READY TO ADVANCE ON THE ENEMY.

Japs Will Be in a Good Position to Attack Mukden—Feng Hang Chen Will Be the Scene of a Great Battle—Other News.

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movement are complete, and experts say that such a move could properly begin at Taku Shan, as Feng Huan Cheng lies at the angle of a triangle, with Taku Shan and the mouth of the Yalu at angles at the base of the triangle.

"We will strike after they have landed," grimly said a member of the general staff.

General Kouroupatkin is aware of the strategic importance of the vicinity of Taku Shan, and it is understood he has made arrangements accordingly.

Washington, April 19.—The corner stone of the memorial Continental hall to be erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution was placed in position this afternoon before an assemblage of 5,000 people. The Masonic ritual was employed with Grand Master Wetmore presiding.

The trowel was the one used by George Washington in laying the corner stone of the capitol. Chaplain of the Senate Hale invoked the blessing, followed by Mrs. Fairbanks, president-general, whospoke. The building will cost \$500,000.

San Francisco, April 19.—With but few exceptions every prominent American passenger official is gathering in Santa Barbara where the Transcontinental Passenger association meets. They will discuss the rates to St. Louis and take up the question of the rates to the Portland Lewis and Clark exposition. They expect to make a reduction from all Eastern points for the Oregon fair.

It is said that many conventions will meet in Portland during the exposition and that the estimated number of people going to Portland next year for the various conventions alone, from Los Angeles to Portland, will be more than 200,000.

The eastern rates will be made so that all tickets sold to the coast during the season will permit the holders to stop off and visit the Lewis and Clark exposition, which will be extremely featured and advertised by the railway agents and bureaus throughout the East.

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