

THE NEW AGE.

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FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

Designated Depository and Financial Agent of the United States.
President, H. W. Corbett; cashier, E. G. Withington; assistant cashier, J. W. Newkirk; second assistant cashier, W. C. Alvord.
Letters of credit issued, available in Europe and the Eastern states. Sight exchange and telegraphic transfers sold on New York, Boston, Chicago, Omaha, St. Paul, San Francisco and the principal points in the Northwest. Sight and time bills drawn in sums to suit on London, Paris, Berlin, Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Hong Kong.
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THE BANK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Transacts a General Banking Business.

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GRAND RONDE VALLEY IN EASTERN OREGON

After a continuous residence of over 10 years in this Famous Valley, and a close study of the past accomplishments and future possibilities of its soil, and a personal knowledge of its climate, I feel that no one, seeking a home, will make any mistake in locating here.
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Marine and Stationary Engines and Boilers, Saw Mill, Logging and Mining Machinery, Roll Grinding and Corrugating Machinery, Power Transmission Machinery.

We are constantly developing Modern Machinery for special purposes, which our up-to-date plant enables us to build accurately and economically.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

OREGON STATE NEWS

Items of Interest From All Parts of the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL HAPPENINGS

A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth.

Sheridan—The depot at Sheridan is finished.

Coquille—It is proposed at Coquille to organize a fire company.

Table Rock—The Table Rock Irrigating Ditch Company will soon begin work of cleaning and repairing its ditches.

Bald Mountain—The new quartz mill of the Bald Mountain mine started up last week.

Ritter—The floor was blown off the suspension foot bridge at Ritter several days ago by wind.

Hood River—The prospects of the strawberry crop at Hood River are good, and there is an increased acreage.

Union—A plan for starting a free reading room and library at Union is being perfected by women of the city.

Milton—The Offner Fruit Packing Company, of Walla Walla, contemplates erection of a large warehouse at Milton.

Klamath Falls—The work of cleaning out the Klamath Falls Irrigating ditch began this week. The ditch will also be widened.

Union—A scheme is under way at Union to erect and equip a two-story brick building for the use of a town commercial club.

Greenhorn—It is reported that the Inter Mountain group in the Greenhorn district has been sold to a syndicate of California capitalists.

Gold Hill—G. Lane will have 25 or 30 tons of ore crushed at Humason & Cheney's quartz mill at Gold Hill. This ore is from the Elsie mine on Blackwell Hill.

Umatilla—An O. R. & N. freight train between Umatilla and Wallula passed over a man who was lying on the rails and crushed him beyond recognition.

Granite—There is no public school nearer the Red Boy mine than at Granite, and application has been made for a new school district, with Red Boy as the center.

Condon—A disastrous "pile-up" took place at the sheep camp of S. B. Barker, near Condon. On a separation of the ewes from the lambs the latter piled up in a ditch, and 88 head were smothered.

Sumpter—It is reported from Sumpter that the Golconda mine is showing another rich ore body, and that as underground development continues the prospects of the mine grow better each succeeding day.

Canyon City—James Robinson, one of the oldest and best-known citizens of Grant county, died at Canyon City after a lingering illness of nearly 12 years. Deceased was born in New Brunswick, January 12, 1834.

Klamath Falls—The Ashland-Klamath Falls mail route and schedule has been changed. It will hereafter be a daylight run, and the route from Parker's station to Jenny creek will be over the logging camp road.

Canyonville—A company contemplates building a flume from Canyon Creek, five miles south of Canyonville, to the mines owned by Lewis Ash, which are situated about halfway between Riddle and Canyonville.

PORTLAND MARKET.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 56¢@57¢; valley, nominal; bluestem, 59¢ per bushel.

Flour—Best graded, \$2.80@3.40 per barrel; Graham, \$2.60.

Oats—White, \$1.25 per cental; gray, \$1.20@1.22½ per cental.

Barley—Feed, \$16.50@17; brewing, \$16.50@17 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$16 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$17.50; chop, \$16.

Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$7@9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.

Hops—12@14c per pound; 1899 crop, 6@7c.

Wool—Valley, 14@15c; Eastern Oregon, 9@12c; mohair, 20@21c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 22½@25c; dairy, 17½@20c; store, 10@12½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 13@13½c per dozen.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@5; hens, \$5@5.50; dressed, 11@12c per pound; spring, \$4@6 per dozen; ducks, \$5@6; geese \$6@8 per dozen; turkeys, live, 9@10c per pound; dressed, 13@14c per pound.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13@13½c; Young America, 13½@14c per pound.

Potatoes—45@55c per sack.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers, \$4.75; ewes, \$4@4.50; dressed 6½@7c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5@5.25; light, \$4.75@5; dressed, 6@7c per pound.

Veal—Large, 7@7½c per pound; small, 8½@9c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.50@4.75; cows, \$4@4.50; dressed beef, 7@8c per pound.

ENGLAND CALLS A HALT.

Warns China Against Signing Any Private Treaty.

WASHINGTON, March 29.—The British government has protested against China making a convention with any power touching territorial or financial matters until the present troubles in that country are concluded.

The fact of the British protest was made known here for the first time today by a dispatch from one of the foreign officers of Europe. It says the protest was made through Sir Ernest Satow, the British minister at Peking. It does not state when the representations were made, but from the fact that the dispatch was received in Washington today, it is taken that the protest occurred within the last day or two.

Although the Russian agreement is not specifically referred to, it is said to be clear that the British action is directed against the Russian agreement. The language appears to be similar to that used by Secretary Hay, in the American protest. The effect of the British action is to place the United States, Japan and Great Britain in formal opposition to the signing of a convention by China with any power pending the settlement of the Chinese troubles.

The course of Great Britain is the more significant from the fact that that government and Germany have a written alliance relating to Chinese affairs.

The concurrence of these protests probably explains why the Manchurian agreement has not been signed.

There was no definite information received here today at the state department or at any of the foreign embassies as to whether the agreement had been signed or rejected. There was something of a stir in diplomatic quarters over the report coming from official sources that the United States was considering the advisability of addressing Russia directly on the subject.

Heretofore, the American objections to the Manchurian agreement have been addressed to China. Copies were furnished the Russian authorities. Several of the foreign representatives advised their governments that this step was contemplated by the United States, but there is no official information available as to how far the consideration of the move has proceeded.

FLOODS IN NEW YORK STATE.

Much Damage Caused to Property by High Water.

NEW YORK, March 29.—From many parts of the state come news tonight of damage by flood. The waters of rivers and the smaller tributary streams are overflowing, overflowing their banks, causing widespread inundations which threaten to destroy much property before they begin to subside.

Up to midnight the only accident in which any one was injured was that due to the washing out of a culvert near Norwich ditching a Delaware & Lackawanna train. In the accident three people were slightly hurt.

This rush of water which is swelling the streams is due to heavy rains and the consequent melting of the snow which has lain for months and has been deeper than usual in the central and western portions of the state.

The Mohawk river, swollen by torrents of water flowing from the snow-covered Adirondacks, is higher than at any time in almost 40 years, and much fear was expressed at Utica during the day that the rising waters would interfere with railroad traffic before tomorrow, but tonight's reports show that the high point is reached, and water is receding.

The waters of the Mohawk carried the ice out of the river at Schenectady, and the pressure thus relieved has secured Schenectady so far from serious damage. The water has risen so high, however, that Little Falls reports New York Central trains being run over the West Shore between Frankfort and Utica.

The Genesee valley is afloat in many places, the Genesee and its tributaries not having been so full in five years. A rise of 15 inches in 12 hours is an indication of the rapid rate at which the water is flowing into Rochester and the adjacent villages. Much railroad property is already under water.

DENMARK'S TERMS.

Conditions for the Sale of West Indies to the United States.

LONDON, March 29.—The Daily News publishes the following dispatch from its Copenhagen correspondent: "I am able to state, on the very best authority, that Denmark has communicated to the United States the following conditions for the sale of the Danish West Indies:

"First, \$4,000,000 to be paid to Denmark."

"Second, the population to decide by vote whether to remain Danish or to be transferred to the United States."

"Third, if the vote is favorable to the United States, then the inhabitants to become immediately not only American subjects, but American citizens."

"Fourth, products of the island to be admitted to the United States free of duty."

"It is supposed here that Washington will not readily agree to the third and fourth conditions."

Goldborough's Trial Trip.

Seattle, March 29.—The navy department has designated April 1 as the day for the official trial trip of the torpedo-boat destroyer Goldborough, which was built at Portland. The department officials have not yet announced just where the trip will take place.

There is no doubt that the boat will more than make the required time of 30 knots. She has done some speedy running upon the Sound, that has made it apparent that she will make a fine showing when she makes the trial trip that will determine whether or not she will be admitted into the navy as one of the defenders of Uncle Sam.

PLOT AGAINST CZAR

Attempt to Blow Up His Palace Near St. Petersburg.

A MINE WAS DISCOVERED UNDER IT

Several Notabilities Are Implicated in the Conspiracy—Nicholas Advised to Take a Yachting Tour, But is Afraid.

LONDON, March 28.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Paris states on the highest authority that a mine has been discovered beneath the palace of Emperor Nicholas, at Tzarskoe-Selo, 17 miles south of St. Petersburg. Several notables, the dispatch further states, are implicated in the plot against his majesty. The Russian press was not permitted to mention the affair.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg to Reuters' Telegraph Agency says that, in consonance with what is believed to be the czar's expressed wish, the minister of the interior has published instructions for the authorities of the towns and provinces, recommending preventive measures against disturbances as being more effective than severe repression after disturbances have been started.

The Birmingham Post, which is closely in touch with Joseph Chamberlain, says news received in high quarters in London indicates that the czar is in a very nervous state, owing to the condition of the political horizon.

It is said that he fears the result of the policy of his ministers in the far east, while the student troubles and threats against his life, of which there are more than have been published, have completely unnerved his majesty. His medical advisers have strongly counseled a yachting cruise, but the czar has refused to follow their advice.

Those behind the scene in Russia take a very grave view of the present agitation, and think it is the beginning of more serious trouble.

For Suppression of Riots.

St. Petersburg, March 28.—A circular issued by the minister of the interior blames the police for not crushing the demonstrations at the outset by the dispersion of gathering crowds. It is said the police must learn where and when demonstrations are planned, and mass their forces there. Above all, order must be restored at any cost, and the authorities must not fear to use the necessary force and severity.

The military, the circular further says, can be called upon when firing is necessary, and the cavalry may be summoned upon any occasion to clear the streets.

The Russian Authors' Mutual Aid Association, founded by the Russian Literary Society, has been ordered to close its premises, owing to a protest of the authorities during the recent riots, issued a short time ago.

A student at the St. Petersburg university, named Proskurakoff, who had been sentenced to two years' military service and drafted into a regiment soon to leave for Turkestan, a woman student named Smirnova, and Lieutenant Kutness, of a Sapper battalion, have been found dead near Yamaburg in the St. Petersburg province. The student held a revolver, and it was evident that the three persons had committed suicide.

The press is beginning to display uneasiness on account of the position taken by Japan with regard to Manchuria, although the Bourse Gazette expresses itself optimistically, declaring its confidence that "this question will never become an apple of discord between the two mightiest Asiatic powers."

OLD WARSHIP HARTFORD.

Returns to New York After an Absence of 26 Years.

NEW YORK, March 29.—After an absence from these waters of 26 years, the famous old warship Hartford is again at the Brooklyn navy yard. It was in 1875 that Admiral Farragut's old flagship was last seen in this port. The Hartford was laid up for years at the Mare Island navy yard, San Francisco, until it was decided to remodel her and fit her out for service as a training ship. The vessel is now on a training cruise, with a crew of 400 men and boys, most of them apprentices. She will remain at the Brooklyn yard for a week, undergoing some repairs, and then will resume her cruises.

The Hartford sailed from San Francisco about a year ago. Her cruise extended to Boston. She left that port in July of last year on another cruise going first to England, then to Holland, Belgium, France and Portugal. From European ports she went to the West Indies. While there she was ordered to Venezuela. Returning from Southern waters, she stopped at Washington, and from there went to Boston, coming to Brooklyn from the latter port. When the Hartford leaves here she will go on another European and West Indian cruise, returning to Hampton Roads on October 1.

While the historic ship is at the navy yard a company of her big-jacks etc. will take part in the military tournament in Madison Square Garden.

Robbed a Country Bank.

Columbus, O., March 27.—A telephone message from Somerset, Perry county, received at the police station at 2 A. M., stated that six men had ridden into the city and blown open the safe in the local bank and secured \$1,500 in money and a large amount in bonds. The robbers escaped.

A NEW PHASE.

America May Be Deprived of a Voice in the Settlement.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—While attention has been centered upon the crisis connected with the Manchurian agreement, an entirely new and important phase of the Chinese question has been presented by the action of the ministers at Peking in agreeing yesterday to submit to their various governments whether articles 8 and 9 of the Chinese protocol shall be carried out by the military authorities of all the powers interested in China, or only by those powers who are continuing to take part in the application of these articles. The action of the ministers has been communicated to several foreign embassies and legations here, and doubtless Mr. Rockhill has made or will make known the same facts. The articles in question are as follows:

"Article 8. The destruction of the forts which might obstruct free communication between Peking and the sea."

"Article 9. The right to maintain occupation of certain points, to be determined by an understanding among the powers, in order to obtain open communication between the capital and the sea."

These two questions appear to involve territorial affairs, and it may become of considerable moment whether the determination of such affairs is to be left with the military authorities of all the powers or only with such powers as continue their military forces in China.

In the latter case, the United States government may be quietly but effectually deprived of all voice in the settlement of so much of the Chinese question as relates to the determination of the strength of the military forces to be continued there in the future by the powers. It is also possible that an affirmative decision which would exclude the United States from participation in the discussion of this important point might be extended to put us out of China altogether.

OBJECT TO NEW SCHOOL LAW.

Teachers Deem Change in Time for Making Contracts an Injustice.

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 28.—The full import of house bill No. 9, passed by the legislature toward the close of the session, has begun to dawn on the state's educators, and it cannot be said that they are favorably impressed with it. The bill amends the state school law in several important particulars, and went into effect immediately upon its approval by the governor.

Prior to that time school elections were held on the first Saturday in May. The new law provides that they shall occur on the first Saturday in June. It also provides that the newly elected officers shall take their positions the first Monday in June, and that they are to employ the teachers for the ensuing year. The old law gave the retiring board the right to employ the teachers for the coming year, and this is where the "howl" will be raised. It has been the custom to employ teachers as early in the year as possible—sometimes in February. In the event that a teacher was not successful in securing a position from one board, the early election made it possible for him to look elsewhere. Now all this will be changed, because the June election will force boards of directors to make their selections at about the same time. Already complaint of the injustice worked by the new law has begun to be made to the state superintendent's office, but that official is powerless to remedy matters.

A DOUBLE EXPLOSION.

Serious Accident in a New Pennsylvania Mine.

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa., March 28.—The first mine explosion to occur in the new Klondike region of Fayette county happened today. One man was killed instantly, five will die, and 10 are burned and crushed so terribly that it is doubtful if they will recover.

The body of the dead man is missing. The injured men have been brought to the Cottage state hospital. As a result of the explosion, the mine is on fire. The cause of the explosion was an accumulation of gas in the new Klondike region of Fayette county. The explosion occurred at 9 o'clock this forenoon a group of 16 miners had gathered in a cross entry about 600 feet from the bottom of the shaft and 50 feet from the face, awaiting the discharge of a blast. The charge of powder was put into the blast as usual and touched off by Michael Goble, the blaster. In the meantime a pocket of gas had accumulated at the face and gradually drifted out toward the heading. The same instant the fuse was touched off there was a blinding flash which suddenly filled the entry in which the miners had taken refuge. There were two explosions. The first was so terrific that it left the men dazed and stiffened; then there was another rush of air, bringing with it a second puff of gas and then another explosion.

Playing With Dynamite.

Chicago, March 28.—As a result of stealing a stick of dynamite two Polish boys of Hawthorne received probably fatal injuries and several others were burned and bruised, but not seriously.

The explosion occurred as the children were going home from school. Thirty of them stopped to see the man putting in the Hawthorne sewer. The children watched the man blow up some hardpan, and some of the boys thought it would be fun to get some of the sticks and see what they could do with them.