

SEE THEIR NEWS

Charge Against Scientists in Government Employ.

MAY SHOW CORRUPTION

Magazines and Newspapers Given Material Obtained on United States Surveys Before Reports Are Published.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 6.—(Special.)—Investigation by the Keep committee may or may not disclose absolute corruption in the Geological Survey; it can not fail to disclose conditions of things which should not be tolerated. There should be a probing into this arm of the Interior Department, and this probing should and probably will bring about much needed reforms. It is a notorious fact that for years scientists and other experts of the Geological Survey, sent into different parts of the United States to gather information for the Government, have made private use of information gathered in this way and have turned this information to profit. In other words, these men sent into the field by the Government and at the Government's expense, have used their knowledge so acquired in magazines and newspaper articles often times before it was given to the public through the medium of Government documents for which it was intended. Time and again, as every experienced newspaper man in Washington knows to his sorrow, representatives of the Geological Survey returning from the field, perhaps from the gold fields of Alaska, or some other such interesting point, have been beseeched for fresh news, but without exception have been told to wait until the report is published as an official document. In the meantime, before the official document makes its appearance, the meat of the Government's report, dressed up in good, readable style, appears in some magazine, over the signature of the man who wrote the official report. These magazine articles are not written for nothing; else they would not appear until after the publication of the official reports. And yet legitimate newspaper men are denied this very information which employees of the Geological Survey sell to magazines in advance of publication by the Interior Department. Technically, this may not be graft; to all practical intents and purposes it is, and while perhaps lacking the criminal features of the operations of the men involved in the certain scandals in the Agricultural Department, the general effect is the same. These men are selling information which belongs to the Government, and in addition, they are writing for the Government. These writers and scientists are employed to gather information for the Government, and while so employed should not be permitted to write for magazines or to make personal profit out of information which they gather at Government expense for the Geological Survey. Exactly the same thing is done by the representatives of the Bureau of Fisheries. No bureau of the Government is so reticent about giving out information as that presided over by Commissioner George M. Bowers. It is impossible to get real life news of the doings of that bureau; it is out of the question to get reports of the current workings of the Fisheries Bureau until the official report, which are from one to two years delayed in publication. Meanwhile the real discoveries, the real news junks out through magazine articles written by the scientists of the bureau, and paid for at a good liberal rate. These magazine articles by scientists in the Government's employ, are sold at a price, for they are held to possess more value than the same information from an unofficial source.

MOORE DENIES THE SCANDAL

Weather Bureau Run Without Reference to Politics.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 6.—(Special.)—The wave of scandal sweeping over Washington has reached to almost every department, and some injustice has no doubt been done by preliminary reports which have not been investigated. It has been intimated, among other things, that there has been grafting in the Weather Bureau, and specific charges were made that the bureau has maintained a station in the Blue Ridge Mountains, near Washington, for the primary object of affording comfortable summer quarters for the favored officials of the service.

Professor Moore, head of the service, denies that there has been any scandal at this head or elsewhere, and explains every transaction in connection with that comfortable office on the summit. There is this to be said about the Weather Bureau, regardless of what may develop: Professor Willis L. Moore, during his incumbency, has made every effort to keep his service at the highest possible standard, and has exercised exceptional vigilance to maintain a high personnel. It has been one of the principal aims of Professor Moore to keep his service free from scandal or anything bordering on it, and he has surrounded himself by a corps of men charged with this very duty. The service may be liable to criticism on some grounds; some of its forecasts may be assailable by them from what is actually known in Washington, it can be said there has been no evidence of corruption in its connection with the Weather Bureau or its officials in late years. Professor Moore has demanded respectability for his men, but he has always demanded good character and reputation, as well. Furthermore, more than any other bureau chief, he has in this way benefited his service beyond others at the head of equally important bureaus, who have allowed themselves to be handicapped.

KILLS HIS STEP-FATHER

BAY CITY FRUIT PEDDLERS HAVE A FATAL QUARREL.

Mother of J. A. L. Bell Is Cut With Ax in Struggle Before Shooting.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 6.—John A. Logan Bell, aged 27 years, today shot and killed his step-father, Joseph Bartlett, aged 56 years. Bartlett was a fruit peddler, and Bell worked for him. The men were continually quarreling. Today another quarrel arose. Bell is understood, while Bartlett was large and powerful. They came to blows, and Bell severed the ax, but Bartlett wrested it from the younger man and cut him with it. During the fight Mrs. Bartlett, mother of Bell, tried to act as peacemaker, and was accidentally struck with the ax. She fainted, and Bell ran into the house to get a small rifle. It is alleged that Bartlett then started to attack Bell with the ax, and was warned away, but did not stop. Bell then shot him in the breast, and death soon followed. Mother and son were taken into custody.

THREE HITS TO ONE

Why Japanese Won the Great Naval Battle.

MISTAKES OF RUSSIANS

Double-Column Formation and Attempt to Aid Each Other Made

Vessels an Easy Prey in Japan Sea.

TOKIO, Japan, July 5.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—Commander Akvama, who participated in the battle of the Sea of Japan, has prepared for publication an extended statement relating to the great conflict, and its weight is on the side of gunnery, the battleships and tactics, as against the destroyer and torpedo. He professes his statement by declaring that good gunnery depends mainly upon the division officers, and asserts that the Russian officers were lamentably lacking in training.

In the early part of the battle the Russians scored but one hit, to three landed by the Japanese. Under these circumstances, it may be said that the Japanese had three or four guns in action to every one of the Russians, and there was nothing remarkable about the disparity of losses.

FACTS ABOUT OREGON.

Size and Population of Lewis and Clark Country.

The old "Oregon Country" includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho and a small portion of Montana and Wyoming. The State of Washington alone is larger than the New England states, together with the State of Delaware and the District of Columbia.

The "Oregon Country" is equal in extent to the 13 original states of the Union, which now support a population of more than 20,000,000 inhabitants.

The New England states, together with New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, had a population of 21,214,000 in 1900, while Washington and Oregon together had but 23,520.

The combined area of England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Denmark, Holland and Belgium is 6000 square miles less than the area of Washington and Oregon, and these countries have a population of more than 50,000,000.

France and Germany have each an area just about two-thirds as great as the old "Oregon country," and they support populations of 40,000,000 and 50,000,000, respectively.

Owners Will Defend Their Shacks. ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—All the owners of shacks which have been ordered razed by a resolution of the Council in 20 days, on the ground that contracts were entered into for their demolition after a certain date, say that they have employed lawyers and are prepared to defend their property even with the sword and the rifle. The shacks are in the fire district.

Mayor Lindstrom has given his personal notice that he will order the buildings torn down and a local war is in prospect.

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FOUNDED 1862. BUILT WITHOUT ASKING FOR SITE OR BONUS

MYSTERIOUS NEW FACTORY AT ABERDEEN, WASH., AND ITS OWNER, JAMES ALEXANDER.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—The mystery which has surrounded the building of a factory on the south side of the river at this point is to be solved in two weeks, probably.

Several months ago, James Alexander, of the phlegmatic type of Englishman, but who has warmed into the American spirit since his arrival, came to Gray's Harbor and manifested everybody by the peculiarity of his actions and his movements. He asked a free site near a house, and this of itself stamped him as a most peculiar man, inasmuch as Gray's Harbor people have been called upon ever since the founding of the site in this vicinity to give of their savings toward any and every enterprise that was intended and expected to build up the community.

But Alexander would have none of it. He finally bought a site on the south side of the Chehalis, paid for it and paid for the lumber that has gone into a queer-looking building. Alexander was followed soon after his arrival by his two sons, and with them and other workmen has built the plant, which is still an enigma as to its probable use.

The cone-shaped main structure has attracted a little interest, and in every inquiry as to its possible or probable use Mr. Alexander has given no word of information. He has always been willing to admit its usefulness for the manufacture of any kind of commodity from hair dye to soap, but as to the real object of his concern he has intimated to no one what he expects to carry on. He is now installing a lot of fine machinery and says that the plant when complete will represent an outlay of something like \$20,000.

Alexander came here, it is said, from Helena, Mont., where he was the chief chemist for the Amalgamated Copper interests of that section and the millmen, who have agreed to furnish him their refuse wood, sludge, and by-products of the acid process. The plant, they say, if successful, means much to this city.

minutes would have sufficed to finish the unpleasant task. Any other course than surrender would have condemned to needless death 2000 officers and men. Accurate estimates of the actual Russian casualties are impossible to obtain, but they are far under first estimates. The rescued and surrendered exceeded 7000, and making due allowance for those who escaped in the Albatross, Izumrud, Orel, Aurora, Jemchug and the auxiliaries, the number actually lost is somewhere between 2000 and 3000.

FARRIS IS CLEARED. Jury in Ahum Bill Case Say "Not Guilty."

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Aug. 6.—Senator Frank H. Farris was today acquitted by a jury in the Circuit Court on a charge of bribery in connection with a bill introduced at the session of the State Legislature in 1901 to repeal the statute prohibiting the use of alum in the manufacture of baking powder, commonly known as the "alum bill."

The jury retired to consider a verdict at 9:30 last night. The first ballot resulted slight for acquittal and four for conviction. The same result continued on subsequent ballots, and the jury was locked up for the night at 11:30 P. M.

At 8:25 this morning word came from the jury-room that a verdict had been reached, and Judge Davis convened a special session of court to hear the results. The acquittal was greeted with cheers by the friends of Senator Farris, and the latter was warmly congratulated.

The trial had lasted for a week, the principal testimony for the state being that of ex-Lieutenant-Governor John Lee, on whose testimony before the grand jury the charges in this case against Farris and ex-Senator C. A. Smith.

It was arranged today that the application for a change of venue in the case of Smith be withdrawn, as it is regarded that the acquittal of Farris precludes the possibility of a conviction in the Smith case, as the charges in each instance were identical. The Smith case will be taken up before Judge Martin, and it is announced, will be dismissed by the state.

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FITTING SOUVENIRS OF THE WEST

BULL DOGS

Bluffs, Ia.: Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Wright and daughter, of Yakima, Wash.; Miss Sherman, of New York City; Mr. Gray, of San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Love, Mrs. Sarah Evans, Mrs. Edyth Tostler-Weathered, Mrs. Emma Morgan, Miss Agnes Lane and Miss E. M. Gardner, of Portland.

The visitors were very much pleased with Forest Grove. "It is the prettiest place we have seen in Oregon," said one, and this opinion seemed to be unanimous.

PICNIC AT FOREST GROVE

MEMBERS OF STATE FAIR COMMISSION PAY VISIT.

Lunch is Spread Under the Trees on the Campus of Pacific University.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—About 40 people, including members of the several state commissions and their friends at the Lewis and Clark Fair, came out from Portland this morning, and spent a pleasant day resting under the cool shade trees on the Pacific University campus.

The excursion was planned by Mrs. Edyth Tostler-Weathered, who is doing much to influence those who have been down to Portland by the Fair, to travel about the state and view its resources and the beauty of its scenery. Trips have already been taken to Gladstone Park, Cananda, Oswego and other places, and arrangements are being made for others, including an excursion to Newport and boat rides up and down the Columbia.

All were enthusiastic over what they have seen in Oregon. Professor Van Dewar, the noted horticulturist, was especially complimentary in his praise of Oregon as a fruit-growing state. It was he who awarded the Wilder medal to the Webfoot fruit exhibit at Buffalo, and he is still more earnest in his belief in the state's resources along this line, since studying conditions here closely. Among those who composed the party were:

Senator and Mrs. Fairbanks, Mr. and Mrs. Peckler and Mrs. Shaw, of Massachusetts; Professor and Mrs. Van Deman and daughter, Mr. Moon, Miss Sampson and the Misses Greer, of Washington; D. C. Mrs. L. S. Thomas, Mrs. Burkey and Miss Bowman, of Chicago; Dr. and Mrs. Think, of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Smith and daughter, of Buffalo; N. Y.; Mrs. E. S. Helzer, of Council Bluffs, Ia.; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Wright and daughter, of Yakima, Wash.; Miss Sherman, of New York City; Mr. Gray, of San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Love, Mrs. Sarah Evans, Mrs. Edyth Tostler-Weathered, Mrs. Emma Morgan, Miss Agnes Lane and Miss E. M. Gardner, of Portland.

Lone Robber Holds Up Saloon. GAZELLE, Cal., Aug. 6.—Behlke Bros' saloon was entered last night by a masked robber, who held up 15 men. Laying his revolver on the bar, he commanded the men to line up and step forward one at a time and hand out their valuables. He got about \$100 from the crowd and took \$68 from the register. He was heavily masked and is known to have taken the northbound train.

HOQUAM AND OLYMPIA WIN.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Aug. 6.—(Special.)—In the Southwestern Washington League today, Hoquiam and Olympia played two games, Hoquiam winning one by the score of 8 to 3, and Olympia one by the score of 5 to 7.

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