Morning Oregonian.

VOL. LI—NO. 15,675. PORTLAND, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1911. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

ALDRICH FAVORS RECIPROCITY BILL

Chief of Standpatters Writes to Taft.

SURPRISE REIGNS IN SENATE

Dictator Who Abdicates Will Not Return to Fight.

BIG STICK IS ALL READY

Interview With McCall Means That Taft Will Call Extra Session if Congress Fails to Act—Consternation Is Result.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Senator Aldrich, chairman of the finance committee of the Senate, has written President Taft that he favors the confirmation of the Canadian reciprocity agreement.

Whether the letter makes promises of assistance in getting action in the Senate at the present session has not been disclosed, but Senators who have seen it intimate the Senator will do all he can to aid the President. An announcement that Aldrich was in favor of the reciprocity agreement was received with surprise in the Senate, especially by the "standpat" Senators, who have come out against the agreement on the ground that it is not in compliance with the tenets of the Republican party on protection.

Aldrich May Not Return.

No announcement was made at the White House today in respect to the letter and there was considerable speculation at the Capitol as to whether the message would be made public. Aldrich, on account of his health, is spending the Winter at Jekyl Island, Georgia, and, although much better, is not likely to take part in any further tariff legislation, as his term expires March 4.

Soon after the Canadian agreement was sent to Congress and it was reported there was little chance for action in the Senate at the present session, the President wrote to Aldrich. It is understood the executive urged him to come back and take charge of the fight for the measure in the Senate. At one time it was rumored Aldrich might be back this session, but this was denied.

Big Stick in Working Order.

Senators who discussed today the statement issued by Representative McCall, after his Sunday interview with the President, construed it to mean that an extraordinary session of Congress surely would be called in the event the Senate failed to ach on the agreement and that the statement was issued with the President's sanction, if not under his direction.

There is no doubt that it filled some Senators with consternation, while some others felt it was only a gentle reminder from the White House that the "big stick" was in working order.

Senator Bailey, who is opposed to the agreement, was an early caller at the White House today. As he left the executive offices he said he would not oppose consideration of the measure and that, if it were defeated, it would be by Republicans. Personally, he said, he was opposed to the bill and would vote against it.

BRITONS DISCUSS RECIPROCITY

Asquith Does Not Think Inquiry as to Clark's Talk Necessary.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—Again today in the House of Commons the government was made the target for questions regarding the United States-Canadian reciprocity agreement. In most instances the replies of the ministers were colorless reiteration of known facts. They evaded political controversy.

The Unionists were especially active in suggesting that Ambassador Bryce had failed in his duty of watching over British interests, but Premier Asquith staunchly defended the diplomat. He said the Canadian delegates had furnished him from time to time with a resume of the situation.

Regarding the expression by Representative Clark, who told the House of Representatives that he hoped to see the Stars and Stripes flying over the British North American possessions, Mr. Asquith remarked:

"I consider it unnecessary to give a fictitious importance to the alleged statement by sending official instructions to the Ambassador to inquire if the statement was made. I am quite ready to believe that it was made, but I have no official knowledge thereof."

Seattle Chamber Protests.

SEATTLE, Feb. 20.—The trustees of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce today adopted a resolution of protest against the Canadian reciprocity agreement and telegraphed it to Washington. The resolution asserts that the business men of the Northwest are opposed to the agreement.

UNIVERSITY FUNDS MAY BE HELD UP

COTTAGE GROVE STARTS REFERENDUM MOVE.

Money Subscribed and Committees Named to Secure Signatures to Petition at Mass Meeting.

COTTAGE GROVE, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—At a mass meeting held here tonight a movement was started to hold up the University of Oregon appropriation for two years through the referendum. Taxpayers of Southern Lane County and Northern Douglas County gathered in the Commercial Club to the number of several hundred to utter a protest against the appropriations of more than a half million dollars for the State University.

Money was subscribed and committees appointed to secure the necessary signatures to the referendum petitions after the meeting had expressed, through unanimous vote, in favor of invoking the referendum upon the appropriations for the institution at Eugene. Resolutions framed declared the appropriations extravagant and needless at this particular time.

Stirring speeches were made denouncing not only the appropriation for the University of Oregon, but against several other measures passed by the recent Legislature.

EUGENE, Or., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—"Spitework because of the defeat of Cottage Grove's county division aspirations last Fall," was the comment heard here tonight where it became known that a movement had been started to call the referendum on the university appropriation.

WOMAN IS HELD SLAYER

Arsenic Found in Dead Child's Stomach—Other Deaths Suspicious.

EL PASO, Tex., Feb. 20.—Mrs. Agnes Orner was placed under arrest this afternoon following her return from the funeral of her little daughter, who died Saturday afternoon under suspicious circumstances. Arsenic was found in the child's stomach. The woman's husband died here two years ago under what are said to have been suspicious circumstances. One other child and a trained nurse also died under the same roof with suspicious symptoms.

Mrs. Orner was arrested in Globe, Ariz., about three years ago, on a charge of poisoning one of her children, but the case was dismissed on account of insufficient evidence. The woman is in the county jail.

LABOR PARTY COMES NEXT

Gompers Says It Must Enter Field Against Old Parties.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 20.—"A constructive, progressive, radical labor party must soon enter the field of politics against the Republican and Democratic parties," said Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a speech today to the members of the Indiana Legislature.

"The Republican party, if it remains as it is now, will represent the power of wealth," continued Mr. Gompers, "and the Democratic party will compete with it for the same leadership until the Demorcats turn to the people to lead them out of bondage. There must be a change. Discontent must find expression in a broader and more humane party than either of the old parties as they stand at this time."

RELIEF FUND INSUFFICIENT

Beneficiary Not Barred from Suing Railroad for Damages.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The constitutionality of the law of Iowa passed in 1898, enabling an employe of the operating department of a railroad to sue a railroad for injuries, notwithstanding the fact that he had received injury benefits from a relief department supported partially by the railroad, was upheld.

The constitutionality of the law was attacked when Charles I. McGuire sued the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company for $2000 damages for injuries. McGuire had been given $88 by the Burlington Relief Department, an association maintained by the railroad and its employes. The company first contended that the recovery from the relief fund was a bar to the action in court.

RATE CUT BRINGS PROTEST

San Francisco Request Urges Taft to Defeat Pacific Mail's Aim.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—The traffic bureau of the Merchants Exchange sent a letter to President Taft today, urging him to use his influence and the Federal laws to defeat what is alleged to be an attempt on the part of the Pacific Mail to destroy a competing line by means of a temporary rate cut.

The tariff concerned is that between this port and New York, by way of Panama.

CAPTAIN'S BODY IS FOUND

Crew Member of Ill-Fated Schooner Oshkosh Is Fourth Recovered.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 20.—Another body, supposed to be that of Captain Latham or Charles Larson, a member of the crew of the schooner Oshkosh, which turned turtle February 13, was recovered tonight.

This makes four found of the six drowned. The body will be brought here for identification by Coroner Gilbaugh.

CHINA AWAKENS TO FIGHT PLAGUE

Dead Burned in Funeral Pyres Every Day.

SUPERSTITION FLUNG ASIDE

Every House Inspected Daily and Streets Kept Clean.

IDLE GOVERNOR AROUSED

Clad in Mask and Bandages, He Personally Superintends Cremation. Villages Half Depopulated by Pest—Travel Is Avoided.

PEKIN, Feb. 20.—There is noticeable activity by the Chinese government to stay the spread of the plague, and sanitary measurers are being strictly enforced in all the towns where a few weeks ago the disease was allowed full swing. Instructions have been issued that every village burn its dead.

The panic and fear of the plague have overridden the Chinese superstition of the cremation of the bodies of the victims, and now almost daily the torch is applied to piles of hastily constructed coffins, among which are often seen bodies wrapped only in shrouds.

Masked Men Gather Dead.

In Kwang Changtse, near the Manchurian railway, where the daily death list has numbered a hundred or more, masked men go about with sleds and pick up the bodies lying in the streets, where they have been placed by relatives. The sleds transport them to the west gate and from there they are removed in carts to the cremation grounds.

Every house is inspected daily. The important shops keep a man at the door with an atomizer, and with this he sprays all persons entering the shop with a solution of carbolic acid.

The refuse, which was formerly thrown into the streets, is now removed daily from the houses.

Doctors and Nurses Sent Out.

The Mukden authorities are promptly dispatching physicians and nurses, with all the requisites for taking care of the sick, to villages where new outbreaks occur, and this precaution, it is believed, will result in checking the disease.

A correspondent, who visited Hu Lan, 30 miles north of Harbin, found that town sorely afflicted. For many weeks the Governor, with the customary fatalism, was indifferent to the awful work of the plague. He has been suddenly aroused into activity, however, and, clad in mask and bandages, personally superintends the cremation of the accumulated bodies.

One Village Loses Half People.

In one billage, near by, where formerly 70 people lived, there are now 34, the other 36 having died from the plague and been cremated.

The dread of death seems to have set in throughout the afflicted regions, and

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LUMBERMEN ASK PROOF OF TRUST

PRESIDENT DUNLAP CALLS ON SENATE COMMITTEE TO ACT.

Oregon Man Makes Reply to Attack at Pacific Coast Convention at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 20.—Over 350 lumber dealers were in attendance when President James Kolph, of the Merchants Exchange, welcomed the eight annual convention of the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association at the Palace Hotel today. President J. H. Dunlop, of Cascade Locks, Or., designated J. F. Parkinson, of Palo Alto, to respond on behalf of the delegates.

In his annual speech, Mr. Dunlop ridiculed the prevailing idea that there is a lumber trust controlling prices of this commodity. He demanded a report from the United States Senate committee, to which the matter was referred at the time an open accusation of such a combination was made on the floor of the Senate.

The speaker advocated a uniform scale of board thickness, East and West, as the most urgently needed mill reform, maintaining that it would materially reduce retail prices.

John W. Barry, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., in the principal address of the afternoon session, said that never before would a load of hogs or corn or potatoes buy so much lumber as today. He pleaded for a fair price to the lumberment, asking: "Is it right that a crop God takes ages to produce should be cheaper than one that is produced annually?"

"The Osirian Cloister" held a session tonight, at which several members were initiated.

The committee on membership, resolutions and nominations will report tomorrow morning. The annual election of officers will take place tomorrow afternoon.

LIMANTOUR IS COMING MAN

He Will Replace Creel and Reorganize Mexican Republic.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—The review of the political crisis in Mexico made in Paris today by Senor Limantour, Mexican Minister of Finance, received attention in various quarters here today, in view of the fact that information has reached here that, upon Senor Limantour's return to Mexico he will replace Senor Enrique Creel as Minister of Foreign Relations.

A general readjustment in the Diaz cabinet, in fact, is likely to follow Senor Limantour's return to the Mexican capital, and it also is believed other changes are contemplated which will do much toward quelling disorders in the Republic.

President Diaz is known to recognize in Senor Limantour a champion of political reorganization in Mexico.

DRUMMERS ARE TO BOOST

Travelers to Organize to Divert Immigration to Northwest.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Feb. 20.—A call has been authorized by President George Matthews, of the Montana State Association of Commercial Travelers, for a meeting of the members at Great Falls, March 3, for the purpose of arranging a meeting of delegates from the states of Minnesota, the two Dakotas, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, in order to organize the Northwestern Development League, which will have for its object the diverting of the stream of Western immigration to the states mentioned.

PIE BRINGS MANY TO LEYVA'S ARMY

Rebels Receive Stores From United States.

INSURGENTS ARE LIVING HIGH

News of Chops and Other Delicacies Inspires Patriots.

GENERAL WEARS NEW SUIT

Insurrectos, Stocked With Supplies Sent by American Friends, Now Plan to Capture Vega and His $100,000.

MEXICALI, Mex., Feb. 20.—Thanks to allies and friends of the revolutionists in the United States, the insurrectos under General Leyva regaled themselves today with a sumptuous breakfast consisting of chops, potatoes, pie, canned cream and coffee, and secured arms and ammunition for 400 men.

Large stores of arms, clothing and food appeared mysteriously in the rebels' camp this morning and Leyva, who has heretofore worn civilian garb, donned a corduroy uniform similar to that which his second in command, Simon Berthold, wore upon his return recently from Los Angeles.

It is known that all the supplies came from the United States, but the rebels seems to have acquired them without the knowledge of the United States officers who are patroling the international boundary.

Rations Bring Recruits.

Reports of the high-class rations which Leyva's army is enjoying has proved a great incentive to enlistment among the Mexican patriots in this vicinity. Many appeared, licking their chops, at the rebel camp today and swore allegiance to the cause of Madero. They were promptly given red ribbons and assigned their places in the ranks.

Berthold said that as a result of the arrival of supplies, more than 400 men are fitted with good weapons and with 150 rounds of ammunition each.

The arrival of stores delayed preparations for an immediate departure on an offensive campaign and it is said the insurrecto army may not leave until late in the week.

Las Juntas to be Attacked.

It is intimated that the first attack will be made on Las Juntas, where Governor Vega is supposed to be reorganizing his shattered forces.

The report that Vega had $100,000 of the state funds with him excited the cupidity of the insurrecto leaders.

"That sum would buy a battery of machine guns," said Leyva. "Then we could hold Lower California against the entire Mexican army."

The remark was made in a manner to indicate that if it was true that Vega had this amount the insurrecto leader expected to gain possession of it.

From Las Juntas, providing success attends the rebels, Leyva and Berthold

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LOOKING FOR THE GOOD ONES.

MAN, GRUBSTAKED, WOULD GET RICH

ONCE WEALTHY SIMON METTLER SEEKS FORTUNE NORTH.

With Creditors Crying to Have Former Influential Tacoman Declared Bankrupt, Wife Is True.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 20.—(Special.)—A few weeks ago chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Pierce County and a wealthy and influential citizen, Simon Mettler is today seeking to rehabilitate his fortunes in Alaska, grubstaked by friends and leaving behind a half-dozen creditors who are petitioning the courts that he be declared bankrupt, as he had left for parts unknown.

Accompanying Mettler in his search of the gold fields is George E. Vergowe, who went down with Mettler in the financial crash of the Wells Construction Company. Struggling to assist her husband is Anna Mettler, his wife, now keeping a lodging-house in Vancouver, B. C. The Wells Construction Company was organized by Joe Wells, built the Armory in Tacoma and did a large amount of street improvement work. Vergowe, a well-known contractor, was in the company with Mettler and Wells.

The Bank of Vancouver, B. C., and the State Bank of Sumner have filed suits in the court against Mettler, as has also Molson's Bank, of Vancouver. The British Columbia banks allege Mettler owes them $80,000, the Molson Bank claim being for $50,575.89. The Sumner Bank's claim is for about $2000.

Mettler's term as County Commissioner expired last month. He is said to have dropped $100,000 of his own in the Wells Company. Several large contracts in Vancouver, B. C., are only partly finished.

RUBBERS CAUSE OF BLAZE

Overshoes Placed Against Radiator Explode; Starts Fire in Office.

Combustible substance in the composition of a pair of rubbers set fire to the desk, carpet and legal papers in the private office of John C. Shillock, an attorney in the Gerlinger building, yesterday. The desk was destroyed and a number of valuable papers consumed.

The rubbers were set against a radiator by Mr. Shillock the day before. That a fire might result from the contact of rubbers with a hot radiator never occurred to the owner. He entered his private office to find desk and carpet smouldering. His efforts to put out the fire did not succeed, for a bundle of papers suddenly broke into flame. An alarm was then turned in.

It was only after a careful investigation that the odd cause of the fire was discovered. One of the rubbers was torn and flattened out in a way that indicated an explosion. Just what substance was used in the rubbers that would act in such a way has not been ascertained.

BALLOONISTS BRAVE COLD

In Zero Weather French Couple Ascend, but Soon Descend.

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Feb. 20.—Muffled in furs, Mr. and Mrs. Emilie Barlatier braved zero weather and a cutting southwest win in the first Winter balloon flight ever made in this part of the country.

The French aeronaut and his wife sailed away from Ogdensburg at 9:15 last night. Thousands saw them swing low over the city and disappear in the direction of Montreal.

CORNWALL, Ont., Feb. 20.—The balloon in which Mr. and Mrs. Barlatier left Ogdensburg was forced to descend at Summerstown because of a strong east wind.

MORGAN'S PARTNER WEDS

Harjes' Bride Is Mrs. Fredericka Gilpin, of Philadelphia.

PARIS, Feb. 20.—Mrs. Fredericka Berind Gilpin, of Philadelphia, and H. Herman Harjes, head of the Paris house of Morgan, Harjes & Co., bankers, were married today at the church in the Rue de Barri.

The bride is the daughter of the late Charles E. Berwind. Her first husband was Charles Gilpin III, of Philadelphia, from whom she obtained a divorce in that city on January 23.

FIVE CAPTURED BY ONE MAN

American Soldier Takes Armed Mexican Rebels Into Custody.

PRESIDIO, Tex., Feb. 20.—Five armed insurgents were captured on the American side of the Rio Grande today by Sergeant Goodrich of Troop F, Third United States Cavalry. They had rifles and revolvers.

They were members of Antonio Garrace's band and were carrying provisions to their companions. Goodrich captured them single-handed.

AMERICAN MAY BE SHOT

He Is Arrested by Mexican Rurales on Suspicion of Being Rebel.

SAN DIEGO, Feb. 20.—A telephone message from Tia Juana, on the American side of the international line, says that an American suspected of being an insurrecto was arrested and thrown into the Cuartel at Tia Juana, on the Mexican side, last evening.

The message adds that the American will be shot near the town. The prisoner's name cannot be learned.

SEATTLE PROBERS ASK 2 QUESTION

Graft Jury Puts Bond of Witness High.

BUSINESS MEN CALLED

Queries: 'Where'd You Get It' 'What'd You Do With It?'

FRIENDS OF WAPPY CALLE

Seven Policemen Are Summoned, Two of Whom Were Known as Personal Emissaries of ex-Chief of Police.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 20.—Business men, supposed to have intimate knowledge of the affairs of the so-called "vice syndicate" policemen, and political advisers of the administration, ousted in the recent recall election, were among the witnesses summoned before the special grand jury investigating charges of graft in the police department under the administration of ex-Chief of Police Wappenstein today.

Clarence Gerald, a close friend of ex-Mayor Gill, whose name has frequently been mentioned in connection with the gambling privilege under the old regime, and Gideon Tupper a saloonkeeper in the old King-street district, were two of the most important witnesses examined.

Witness Seeks Health.

Tupper has been before the jury three times and when he emerged from the inquisitors' room late today he stated that he had obtained permission to go to Hot Springs, Ark., for his health. He said that he had been notified to furnish a bond of $7500 to assure his appearance upon demand by the prosecuting attorney before leaving the state.

Tupper set about at once arranging his bond.

Among the other witnesses who appeared before the investigators today were Robert Boyce, private secretary

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