

Lincoln County Leader.

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TULEDO, OREGON.

AGAIN VICTORIOUS

The Japanese Destroy China's Greatest Battleship.

TWO CRUISERS ARE CAPTURED

The Encounter Means an End Has Been Put to China's Fighting on the Seas—The Japanese Handled Their Guns, Etc., With Greater Skill.

SHANGHAI, August 1.—News has just reached here of a desperate battle between the fleets of China and Japan in which the Chinese were defeated and the Chen Yuen, the largest battleship but one in the Chinese service, was sunk and two other large Chinese vessels, said to be first-class cruisers, captured or destroyed. The battle was hotly contested, but the Japanese appeared to have handled their guns, ships and torpedoes with more skill than the Chinese. The Chinese fleet engaged carried nearly 1,000 men, and a large number are reported killed or drowned. Later dispatches say that few, if any, of the Chinese engaged in the battle escaped. Two German officers in command of the Chen Yuen are reported to have met death with the crew.

The news of the battle was received here by private telegram from Tien-Tsin. If the report is true, of which there is little doubt, it means an end has been put to China's fighting upon the seas. The Chen Yuen must have started from Taku after leaving the Chinese transports there.

The two Chinese cruisers supposed to have been captured or destroyed during the engagement which ended so fatally for the Chen Yuen are supposed to be the Chen Yuen and the Chen Yuen. The Chen Yuen was a protected cruiser, built at Emswick, England. She had a displacement of 2,300 tons. Her armament consisted of three 8.4-inch Krupp and two six-inch Armstrongs, protected by splinter-proof shields, several eight-pound rapid-firing Hotchkiss guns, six gatling and four torpedo tubes. The Chen Yuen was also an English-built protected cruiser, very much similar to the Chen Yuen. She had a displacement of 2,600 tons, was built of steel in 1880, and carried ten guns of about the same caliber as those carried by the Chen Yuen.

Tien-Tsin, August 1.—A naval battle was fought yesterday between the Chinese and Japanese fleets. The Japanese sank the Chinese warship Chen Yuen. Two large cruisers, supposed to be vessels built for China by Armstrong, were captured or destroyed. The Chen Yuen was a battleship of 7,400 tons displacement, carrying 14.5-inch and compound armor at the water-line. Her battery included four twelve-inch guns protected by armored breastworks and two small Krabbs, eleven Hotchkiss cannon and tubes for Whitehead torpedoes, two 8.4-inch and six-inch Krupp and a second battery of Hotchkiss revolving cannon. The Chen Yuen was built for China at the Stettin works. She was a sister ship of the Ling Yuen, and was the most powerful ship in the Chinese Navy with the exception of the Ling Yuen.

ANOTHER BATTLE REPORTED.
SHANGHAI, August 1.—It is reported today that the Japanese forces attacked the China position at Yashan Friday and Saturday last. The Japanese, it is said, were repulsed with heavy loss. The Chinese loss was trivial.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Japanese Government Gives Its Report of the Situation.

YOKOHAMA, August 1.—The following official statement of the difficulties between China and Japan has been issued by the Japanese government: Japan and China were approaching a settlement of the difficulties when China suddenly suggested that Japan withdraw her fleet from Korea and give formal compliance with the Chinese demands by July 20; otherwise the whole Chinese force were to land, and a sea advance upon the part of China would be made. The Japanese regarded this as an ultimatum, but, acting under the advice of the friendly powers, agreed to the proposals in the principle in an amended form, at the same time declaring that, if the threatened Chinese advance were made on July 20, it would be regarded as an overt act. It is conjectured the Japanese commanders were instructed to be on the watch for the Chinese warships and, seeing the latter advancing July 27, opened fire. The Japanese do not believe the Kow Shung, the Chinese transport sunk by a Japanese cruiser, was flying the British flag, but were using the flag as a ruse. The Japanese indignantly deny the charges of brutality brought against the officers and crew which sank the Chinese transport.

AN OMNIBUS COMPLAINT.

It Will Include All Strikers in Jail in Northern California.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31.—The United States District Attorney is preparing an omnibus complaint against all union men who are in jail in Northern California charged with offenses against the Federal law. Complaint will probably be lodged before United States Commissioner Peacock as committing magistrate today. This complaint is to take the place of the multiplicity of complaints now on file against the railroad strikers. The charge will allege interference with interstate commerce and trade and a conspiracy to retard the progress of the United States mails. The desire is to simplify the many charges against the strikers of overt acts occurring at different times and places. Assistant District Attorney Knight said:

"We do not want these men to feel that we are piling up charges against them. There is a desire to treat the strikers in a spirit of fairness and not to persecute them, but to punish them for their criminal acts."

The defendants will include between thirty and forty strikers from Sacramento and Red Bluff, several of whom are now incarcerated in San Francisco.

Spokane in Luck.

WASHINGTON, August 1.—Spokane won its fight for a public building, and gets not only site purchase money, but \$100,000 for the building. An attempt to force the Tacoma fight meant defeat for any Washington city. The fight in progress over the river and harbor bill continues. It is mostly confined to Eastern projects. There is a probability that the bill will go over until the next session.

THE KOW SHUNG.

Chinese Give Their Version of the Sinking of the Ship.

CARRIED THE ENGLISH FLAG

Several German Officers Lost With the Vessel—England and Germany May Be Involved—Large Chinese Army Marching Down the Peninsula.

SHANGHAI, July 31.—The following is the latest version of the sinking of the troopship Kow Shung: The Japanese cruiser sent a boat alongside the transport with a prize crew to convey her to Japan. Captain Galsworthy, an Englishman, refused to obey orders, and the Japanese withdrew. The cruiser then opened fire, using machine guns mounted in the tops of the Japanese ship. This fire soon cleared the Kow Shung's decks. The cruiser then discharged two torpedoes at the transport, sinking her and drowning nearly all the 200 souls on board. Colonel Von Honneken, a German, formerly the Viceroy's aide-de-camp, and other foreign officers were among those killed by the fire from the torpedoes. According to reports received here, two German passengers, on the way to Korea to settle up their business affairs before the war began, succeeded in swimming to the Japanese cruiser, but in spite of their appeals were shot. The Chinese who swam to the cruiser shared the same fate. The French warship Lion rescued some unfortunate Chinese soldiers, but all foreigners are said to have behaved with utter disregard of the laws of civilized warfare.

A large Chinese army has crossed the northwestern frontier of Korea, and is marching down the peninsula. A second army is being hastily equipped. No details have been received of a battle said to have taken place at Asan between Chinese and Japanese forces. It is reported that several Chinese steamers have been captured and others destroyed. The Chinese have been seen in the Yangtze-Kiang river in order to compel vessels to pass within easy range of the Woo Sung forts.

CHINESE SIDE OF THE STORY.

PEKING, July 31.—Following is the Chinese official version of the engagement between the Chinese and Japanese fleets: A collision between Chinese and Japanese ships occurred in Prince Jerome Gulf, an inlet on which they were escorting the second and smaller division of troops dispatched from Taku to reinforce the army at Asan. The Japanese opened fire, the Chinese having strict orders not to fire unless they were attacked or if the landing of Chinese troops was opposed. The result of the action was that one Japanese ironclad was disabled by the Chinese battleship Chen Yuen. The Kow Shung, which was sunk by the Japanese, was a chartered transport flying the British flag. No news has been received here of the loss of the Chinese warship Prince Kiang, said to have been captured by the Japanese.

ENGLAND MUST NOTICE IT.

LONDON, July 31.—The news that the Kow Shung was flying the British flag when sunk was received with great satisfaction at the Chinese legation. It was said Great Britain and Germany were bound to notice this breach of neutrality.

LATEST SOUTHERN REVOLT.

Fifteen Hundred Nicaraguan Troops to Meet at Greytown.

MANAGUA, July 31.—Five hundred troops left Granada and 1,000 left here today for the coast. They will meet at Greytown. It is reported that 700 volunteers from Honduras are on the way to the coast. President Zelaya has sent notes on the Mosquito question to all the Central American governments. He has asked aid from Guatemala and Honduras.

THE STRIKE IN CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 30.—To-night Company C of Marysville and of Oroville, Eighth Regiment, National Guard, left for their homes. It is thought that by to-morrow night all the militia now here will have been sent home. The regulars will remain here until the militia are sent home. There are some points along the line of railroad where guards must be maintained in order to hold in check a few men of the more reckless and vindictive class who seem disposed to be troublesome. It is expected that some additional men will be put to work by the railroad company August 1. Upward of 100 cars of fruit left here for the East to-day and much others freight.

General Kelly on the Coast.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31.—General Charles Kelly, who led the Industrial Army from Oakland April 3 last, has returned from Washington to his home in West Oakland. He is now convalescing from an attack of typhoid fever contracted at Washington, and as soon as he has regained his strength, says he will enlist another army and take it to Washington, which is the opinion of the best way of bringing the attention of the people to the absolute needs of a large portion of the working classes. The new army will be composed of the contingents from Los Angeles, Oakland and this city.

Washington's Public Buildings.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Tacoma and Spokane are at loggerheads over the location of the State's public buildings. Each of the four new Western States provided for a site. Spokane won in Washington by Wilson's efforts, and an amendment was reported to that effect. Doolittle is now raising the dust because Tacoma is not in it. Unless some agreement is reached, Washington will be left out altogether. Senators from other States will recommend that course in order to save themselves.

Jack McAuliffe Knocked Out.

BROOKLYN, July 31.—Jack McAuliffe, the prize fighter, was marked this morning to Catharine Rowe, known on the stage as Pearl Innan.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Emperor William continues to enjoy his trip to Norway, and is doing his best to suit the popular taste.

Ferdinand of Bulgaria says the Russian Svet has professed readiness to embrace the orthodox Russian creed, have his heir baptized in the orthodox Russian Church and reinstated in the Bulgarian throne upon military Protestants, if in return they will only recognize him as Prince of Bulgaria.

W. W. Thomas, late United States Minister to Norway and Sweden, with Mrs. Thomas and their boy, are spending the summer at Lysekil, Sweden. He is employing his leisure in writing a lecture on Sweden and the Swedes, which he will deliver in various parts of the United States during the coming winter.

The Prussian committee of the Vietsla basin reports twenty-two deaths from cholera during the past week. A strict river inspection has been adopted at Dusseldorf and Cologne. Suspicious cases have been reported from Thorne, Bonaick and Grantz. The cholera committee of the health office met in Berlin yesterday in the terrible atmosphere that is taken along the Russian frontier.

In connection with the withdrawal of the Equitable life insurance from doing business in Prussia it must be said that public opinion in Berlin is not favorable to the American enterprise. It is said that the Mutual Life Insurance Company is in the same fix as the Equitable. It must be added, however, that the new position of the government is directed against all companies, among which are many English ones and all the German capitalists.

The heat throughout Germany has been intense, causing much suffering, and many sunstrokes have been the result. Outdoor work has often been suspended, and complete lethargy prevails in Berlin. Every one able to do so has left town, and those who remain are loitering in the terrible atmosphere. This hot wave is another fulfillment of Falbe's prophecies, and he predicts the warm weather will last for another fortnight, after which there will be much rain.

The sugar manufacturers have held several conferences at the offices of the imperial treasury to discuss the new sugar tariff of the United States. They are almost unanimous in begging the government to relate in case the American import tax on sugar be increased, but the government treats their proposals coldly. Official opinion is thoroughly opposed to anything like a tariff war with the United States. Under the treaty of 1891 Germany would still be the most favored nation, even if the tariff be left at the figure fixed in the German bill.

Several battalions of pioneer troops, which had been ordered out to practice bridge-building on the Vietsla in August, have been relieved of this service indefinitely, owing to the spread of cholera in the Vietsla basin. It is impossible to obtain a clear idea of the disease, as the medical concealment whenever possible all deaths from cholera, and refuse to report cases of sickness. The Vietsla and tributaries have been declared infected, yet the boatmen and their families still drink the water. Outside the Vietsla basin there have been only a few isolated cases of cholera or cholera in Prussia.

The Bergen Post tells a remarkable story of a mad drive taken by the Emperor of Germany recently from Voss to Stalheim, a distance of about twenty-seven miles, which he covered in two and one-half hours, or two hours less than the usual time. The temperature was 96 degrees in the shade. The Emperor took the rein at the start, and stopped but once on the way. The coachman told the bystanders at Stalheim that it was the most terrible ride of his life, and that half of the time he was in the water. The pace was killing on the horses, and he was nearly down at the end of the last half hour. He added that all the money in the world would not induce him to go driving again with the Emperor.

Prince Bismarck has consented to receive a Posen delegation of 700 at Varsen the first week in September, and he is expected to then give a review in person of his political friends, the Social Democrats. The Hamburg Nachrichten said this week in an article defending his repressive laws that Bismarck never feared the dangers threatened by the Social Democrats and declined to have the guard of secret police until the old Emperor commanded him to do so. He added: "The present political leaders do not need such protection, as the parties from which the outrages are to be expected are the supporters of the government."

The editor of the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung replies: "That is a coarse and inexcusable insinuation. Bismarck has been and is being attacked by the Social Democrats. It is not believe that the Social Democrats can keep Capri in power any more than they did Bismarck."

THE OREGON NAVIGATION.

Its Competition for East-bound California Business.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 30.—The fact that the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company has opened an office in this city for the transaction of freight and passenger business and has entered the field to compete for the overland traffic between San Francisco and the East has awakened considerable interest in mercantile circles. Merchants who are opposed to the Southern Pacific see an advantage in building up opposition freight traffic out of California. They argue that it may result in a reduction of freight rates. Assistant General Freight Agent Sprule of the Southern Pacific says that any opposition which might be established by the Oregon company could not affect the Southern Pacific in the least, adding:

"The Northern Pacific and the Great Northern are not the connections of the Oregon company. They have no traffic relations whatever. They connect the Spokane, but they exchange no business."

The representatives of the Oregon company, on the other hand, say that, while this has been true in the past, there is no indication that it is bound to remain so. In fact, it is very likely that a traffic arrangement between the roads mentioned will be perfected within the next few days, as negotiations to that end are now in progress.

For a Salmon Hatchery.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—It has been a hard fight before the Appropriations Committee by Mitchell and Dolph for an appropriation for a salmon hatchery and the preservation of the salmon in the Columbia and tributaries. Fish Commissioner McDonald recommends that the hatchery be built on the Columbia. It shall not be used until the Legislature makes laws he recommends. The committee says the law be made first, but it is possible that such an appropriation will be made, with the proviso and anticipation that Oregon and Washington will early pass fish preservation laws.

PACIFIC ROADS.

A Supplementary Statement to the Minority Report.

ANOTHER SUGGESTION MADE

Mr. Harris, the Kansas Representative, Would Like to Have the Government Operate a Transcontinental Line—He Opposes the Reilly Bill.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Harris of Kansas, a member of the House Committee on Pacific Railroads, has submitted the following supplementary statement to the minority report against the Reilly bill:

"I fully concur in the foregoing (Bourne's) views of the minority, except so far as the opinion is expressed that the government should, in the event of foreclosure, proceed to sell or transfer the property acquired to some other corporation or company, as indicated and suggested in the Patterson report."

"The agents of the State for the performance of a public duty have, as a rule, proven incompetent and dishonest; incompetent in protecting the rights and interests of the public, and dishonest in using the powers entrusted to them wholly for selfish ends and for the purpose of building up vast private fortunes at the expense of the people. In the case of the Pacific railways the object of the original act was stated to be 'to promote the public interests and welfare,' and to that end subject to alteration, amendment or repeal. Hence the subsidies of lands and money were granted to the companies as trustees for the accomplishment of that object. Their breach of faith is unparalleled and undeniable, and their sole excuse is that they did only that which other companies did and followed the common custom of railway builders and managers. Why then should we have an extraordinary alliance and permit or risk the sacrifice of public duty and functions to private avarice, greed and bad faith?"

"I believe that foreclosure of the government lien should at once follow default in payment, in that complete transference of the property to the private hands of the companies should be operated by the only competent and legitimate power—the people—through their government. Such will be the influence of this action that probably no further changes in the transportation system of the country would be necessary, but that the public duty and its performance will be recognized as paramount, and that capital honestly invested will be satisfied with a fair and reasonable compensation, honestly and justly earned."

RUN DOWN AT LAST.

A Striker Will Now Answer to the Charge of Murder.

SACRAMENTO, July 31.—A special dispatch from Woodland this afternoon says a few days before the ditching of the train on the trestle several members of the union called upon Rev. Father Grace and asked permission to be allowed to go on the dome of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Sacramento for the purpose of making certain observations and giving certain signals. Father Grace, knowing the mission of the men to be unlawful, refused to give his consent. Notwithstanding this refusal a union man, equipped with a marine glass, was seen on the lofty roof of the cathedral July 11 before Engineer Clark took the ill-fated train out of the depot. This man, perched high against the blue sky, was there to see whether the men who were to wreck the mail train carrying the Pullman cars and twenty United States artillery soldiers had done their heliograph work. As the train, the first to attempt the blockade since the strike was declared, moved out of the depot, it signaled the fact to some of his fellow-conspirators stationed where they could, unobserved themselves, observe his motion. His first signal was:

"The train is crossing the Yolo bridge."

"Then there was a pause as he watched through the glass the progress of the train. It was a pause long enough for trestle No. 2 to be reached. Then when the engine and tender bumped over the trestle and threw a headlong somersault from the bank into the slough, scalding and burying poor Clark in the mud and crushing four soldiers to death, this man on the top of the dome signaled exultingly that the Southern Pacific Company had been crushed and in its attempt to send Pullmans over the trestle had killed lawyers for the prosecution say occurred on that gruesome day. From that day until yesterday this man, who knew the train and all on board were soon to plunge off the trestle, and who held his peace because he approved of the murder so long as it was done by the Pullmans, was hunted for. He left a trail that was followed persistently and determinedly and yesterday the hand of the law clutched him by the collar and wrote 'murder' against his name."

An Inhuman Couple.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., July 28.—An inhuman act is reported from the forest region up the Little Kanawha river. A man named Valentine, who is married and has a family, and Mrs. Jacob Trader, a widow, both residing on Stair creek, Calhoun county, have been keeping company for some time. Last week they resolved to leave the county. What seemed to them a hindrance to their plans was Mrs. Trader's four-year-old daughter. They took the little girl to the woods, tied her feet to a tree and set her on fire. Then they disappeared, and have not been heard from since. The child was found by the neighbors, and was released before the fire reached her. Warrants have been issued for the arrest of the inhuman couple.

Existence of Trusts Unconstitutional.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Hutchinson of Texas has introduced a resolution for an amendment to the constitution to give Congress jurisdiction over trusts. The amendment proposed is as follows: "Trusts and monopolies dealing in agricultural products or other articles of the United States, and Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

The Last Act.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—The President has approved the naval, diplomatic and consular and Military Academy appropriation bills; the bill prescribing limitations of time for the completion of titles under the donation acts; the bill extending the time for final proof and payment for public lands; the bill authorizing the construction of a bridge over the Missouri river at Lexington, Mo.

THE ANTI-LOTTERY LAWS.

Religious Bodies Urge the Passage of Senator Hoar's Bill.

WASHINGTON, July 30.—A strong demand is being made by religious bodies for the House to pass the anti-lottery bill which Hoar introduced in the Senate, and which passed that body. Broderick of the Judiciary Committee, who reported the bill to the House Friday, has received hundreds of letters urging the passing of the bill, and the other members of the committee have been the recipients of much correspondence on the subject. Most of this has come from religious organizations, but many individuals have written. While the present anti-lottery laws were strongly drawn to prevent the use of the mails for lottery business, the measure now before Congress goes much further, including the commerce and commerce between the States. The penalties provided for by the pending bill are very heavy, the first offense being punishable by imprisonment and by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both, and after the first offense by imprisonment only. The first offense by imprisonment only. The act embraces persons who cause to be carried within the United States from abroad or deposited or carried in the mails or carried from one State to another any paper purporting to be or represent a ticket, share or interest in any lottery or similar enterprise, or who cause any advertisement of such enterprise to be brought into the United States, deposited in the mails or carried from one State to another. It stipulates that no part of the bill shall be construed as repealing any former act for similar purposes.

Some opposition was raised in the Judiciary by those who argued that the bill would if enacted be an infringement upon personal rights. As a concession to this sentiment an amendment was inserted providing that the contraband goods must be brought into the United States for the purpose of disposing of the same. Whether the bill will receive consideration from the House this session depends upon how long the session is protracted. Its friends are confident that it will eventually become a law. They point out that the publications which have been made to the effect that it would interfere with church fairs and similar enterprises are unfounded, since Congress has decided to abstain from meddling over the mails or in the matter of commerce between foreign nations and the United States.

TALK WITH BRICE.

The Ohio Senator Says the Senate Bill Will Pass.

NEW YORK, July 30.—Senator Calvin B. Brice was at Manhattan Beach to-day. He said he thought the tariff bill would pass in the form as amended and adopted by the Senate. He added that three of four Senators, he would not mention names, were in a very peculiar position. They had only pledged themselves, purely in the interests of party unity, to support the bill. Notwithstanding the fact that they objected to the income tax and therefore to the bill, they would have much preferred to have stood out against it, but the Senators had stood firmly and manfully by their pledge through all the parliamentary exigencies of the Senate fight and had thus preserved intact the body of forty-three Senators for the bill. Continuing, he said:

"These Senators now watch closely any attempt to change the bill from its form as they support it, and will eagerly accept any opportunity which a change in the provisions in the bill would give them to bolt and go over with Hill into complete opposition to the bill."

The Senator was asked what he thought of Hill's speech in support of Cleveland. His reply was that such a speech was directly in line with Hill's policy of opposition to the bill, which he had continually maintained. Cleveland opposed the bill in his Wilson message with reference to coal and iron. Hill was therefore perfectly consistent in standing up for Cleveland. Brice said the Pullman case was not a precedent for Senators to do what they pleased as an attack upon Cleveland. (Horman simply stood up for the Senate in reply to charges made by Cleveland in what had been originally a private letter, but afterward by its publication became a public communication.)

Lake Washington Canal.

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Secretary Herbert through a letter to Senator Spire has submitted to the conference on the river and harbor bill a report of a board of naval engineers recommending for the benefit of the navy in Pacific water the construction of a waterway connecting Puget Sound with Lakes Union and Washington, which was provided for in the bill as it passed the Senate. This board has been examining the dry dock in course of construction at the Port Orchard naval station, and visited the proposed waterway, which would connect the great advantage would be to the navy, as well as to commerce at large, and also emphasize the feasibility of the project.

Russia's Interest and Attitude.

VIENNA, July 30.—The Politische Correspondent prints under a St. Petersburg date a semi-official communication, which says: So far as Russia's interests are concerned, it would be better if there should be no war between China and Japan, inasmuch as the victory of neither would be an advantage to her. If war proves unavoidable, it will be the task of Russian diplomacy to assist in ending it as speedily as possible. Russia cannot on any account permit Korea to be robbed of her independence by either China or Japan. It is equally certain Russia would not willingly suffer any single European power to interfere in Korean affairs, especially England.

To Establish a Colony.

VANCOUVER, B. C., August 1.—A co-operative colony is to be established here at an early date. A large number of persons have formed a club for the purpose of starting one, and the government has promised its assistance. It is proposed to obtain one of the many fertile islands up the coast and send a dozen pioneers, who will build houses and clear the land. The settlement is to be gradually increased from time to time. The settlers intend to engage in farming and fishing, the island being near the halibut banks.

Chewing Gum Killed Him.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 1.—The peculiar circumstances surrounding the death of Hubert E. Perry, a young medical student, has been cleared up by his fellow knights of the scalpel, who have discovered that the cause of Perry's sudden demise June 17 was his insatiable habit of gum-chewing. An analysis of the stomach disclosed the fact that the digestive organs had become clogged with small pellets of chewing gum, which caused sudden congestion of the lungs and other organs.

Affairs of the World's Fair.

CHICAGO, August 1.—A. F. Seaberger, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the World's Fair, this morning announced his office by resignation. E. F. Bugbee, the cashier in the Treasurer's department, was chosen as Acting Treasurer. The resignation of Seaberger was in pursuance of the general plan of the directors to vacate the offices as rapidly as the work would permit.

Telegrams to China.

NEW YORK, July 31.—The Commercial Cable Company and the Anglo-American Telegraph Company announce that cablegrams to China must be written in plain language except to Shanghai, Amoy, Hong Kong and Macao.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Discussion of the Evicted Tenants Bill Limited.

LONDON, August 3.—In the House of Commons to-day Sir William Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, moved a time limit for the discussion of each clause of the evicted tenants bill, with a final closure of the committee stage August 7. In making this motion Sir William said the government regarded the bill as urgent and appreciated the necessity that the time allotted for further discussion of the measure should be ample. He was not enamored of exceptional measures of closure, and resorted to them with sincere regret, but the fact that there were twenty-two pages of amendments to the bill justified the summary procedure. Mr. Balfour said that never in the history of Parliament had there been a proposal like this. No government had ever ventured to suggest after only a two days' debate of a measure in committee that the House be gagged, yet a Minister making such a proposition has thought it sufficient to express regret in a few perfunctory words, giving as the only approach a reason for the proposal in the number of amendments. So, he said, because the House showed a desire to discuss the bill the discussion must be stopped. Mr. Balfour warned the House that such procedure would inevitably end in the abasement of the House as a legislative body in the eyes of the country.

Mr. Chamberlain said that the government should deprive the minority of their just rights and thereby make a fair debate impossible and bring the whole proceedings into deserved contempt. Mr. John Morley twitted Mr. Balfour with having singularly moved closure on the bill by constituting the Parnell Commission. Mr. Chamberlain said that the bill had been supported by both sides of the House and only obstructed by a small knot of Irish members. A large number of amendments to the evicted tenants bill, he said, were introduced by Irish members. If these amendments were rejected, the government would be liable for Ireland against the views of Irish members. If they were accepted, the bill would be transformed far beyond Mr. Morley's pledges. Mr. Labouchere asked what was the use of discussing the bill week after week. It was certain to be rejected by the House of Lords. It would be better to have discussed possible appeal to the country to settle the question whether the House of Commons was the master of the situation or whether its members were the subservient and humble servants of hereditary laws. Balfour's amendment, protesting against the brevity of time allowed for discussion, was rejected.

The Unionist members of the House of Commons have decided to abstain from further action on the evicted tenants bill and to refrain from moving amendments standing in their name. They will take no part in divisions on the amendments yet to be considered. Many of them are McCarthyite motions. Thus the bill is likely to be virtually discussed for weeks to come. The opposition may possibly raise debate on the third reading of the bill, but they will move no amendments.

APPLYING FOR WORK.

There Are More Applicants Than Places at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 1.—There are 500 vacancies to be filled in the departments of the railroad service at West Oakland presided over by Master Mechanic William McKenzie and Master Car Repairer W. B. Ludlow, and there are over 2,000 applicants for the positions. The applications are on file in Superintendent Wilber's office, and it is expected that to-day the successful applicants for work will be notified to report for duty. The positions referred to embrace the machine shops, blacksmith shops, boiler shops, car shops and ship yards. There would have been more applications, but many of the strikers, who became prominently identified with the cause of the American Railway Union, have given up all hope of getting back into the employ of the company, and have not drawn up their applications.

The Fires Still Burning.

MILWAUKEE, July 31.—Governor Peck and party returned this morning from Phillips. The forest fires are still raging throughout the north central part of the State, and the towns of Fifield, Prentice, Medford and Chelsea, besides many saw-mill settlements and farming communities, are in danger of being burned out, should heavy winds come up. When the Governor passed through Chelsea the authorities besought aid for the families burned out. The Governor said the unfortunate would be cared for. Fears are entertained for the safety of the town of Mosinee, where a fire has broken out, and that half of it has been burned out, and that the rest is threatened with destruction. The wires on the line are down.

Railroads Ask Damages.

CHICAGO, July 30.—Large bills for damage to and destruction of railway property by the strike rioters are now coming into the city hall. J. T. Brooks, Second Vice-President of the Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis, has presented a bill which aggregates \$449,091. The largest item is \$401,691 for 729 freight cars destroyed and forty-two damaged. The Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago presented a bill of \$21,547. The largest item is for fourteen freight cars destroyed and fifty-eight damaged, \$14,496.

The Duel Postponed.

PARIS, July 30.—M. Drumont, editor of La Libre Parole, who is in Belgium, has refused to come home to fight the duel to which Comte d'Elva has challenged him. As Comte d'Elva objects to the Belgian law by fighting there, the duel is not likely to take place soon.

Pure Food Bill.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—In the House to-day the Committee on Commerce was in session on the bill for the consideration of the pure food bill. The measure was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, of which Hatch is Chairman.