

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

OUR TRADE WITH CUBA.

A Decline From One Hundred Millions to Twenty Millions. Washington, June 21.—A significant report on our trade with Cuba from 1887 to 1897, prepared by Chief Hitchcock, of the foreign markets section of the agricultural department, has been promulgated by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson. The statistics show very clearly the effect of present hostilities in Cuba on the commercial intercourse of the United States with that island. During the last fiscal year, 1896, the total value of our Cuban trade amounted to only \$47,548,610, as compared with \$102,864,204 in 1893, the year preceding the breaking out of the war. This was a falling off of more than 50 per cent in these returns. Returns already available for the current fiscal year indicate a still further decline, the records for the nine months ending March 31, 1897, placing the total value of the trade for that period as low as \$14,926,817. At this rate, the figures for the fiscal year 1898 will hardly reach \$20,000,000, or less than one-fifth the value recorded in 1893. The report also demonstrated that in past years our imports from Cuba have generally been much in excess of our exports to that island, the balance of trade being decidedly against the United States.

GENERAL WOODFORD'S TASK.

The New Minister Will Bring Spain to Terms.

Chicago, June 21.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: Spain is to be brought to terms. General Stewart L. Woodford, the new minister to Spain, after dining with President McKinley last night, spent the evening at the White House. He received instructions as to his work in the Spanish capital, for which he will start in a week or two. General Woodford's task is divided into three parts. His first mission will be to present a demand for reparation and indemnity for the death of Dr. Ruiz. His second task is to prepare the Spanish government for the inevitable, and the inevitable is the loss of Cuba as a colony. The third phase of his work is the presentation of a distinct proposal from the United States as to the disposition of Cuba. It is as to the first and second chapters that General Woodford is now conferring with the president. He will receive full instructions as to the third either before he sails or as soon as he shall have had an opportunity to report upon the state of mind in which he finds the Spanish ministry and the queen regent. President McKinley also instructed General Woodford to impress upon the public men at Madrid these vital points: First—The United States is not actuated by an unfriendly feeling toward Spain. Second—The United States does not desire to take advantage of Spain's troubles with her colony to bring about the annexation of Cuba to this country. Third—Unless Spain will herself make a move toward meeting the inevitable, toward giving Cuba freedom, the United States will be compelled to interfere and in the case of intervention annexation might naturally follow.

The Tornado's Path.

Lincoln, Ill., June 21.—A tornado which passed over the central and southern portions of Logan county this afternoon destroyed thousands of dollars' worth of property and completely demolished the immense cow barn on the farm of the state institution for the feeble minded. Twenty-six persons seeking refuge from the storm were buried in the debris. Four of the refugees, boy pupils from Chicago, were taken out dead. Five others were severely injured, one of whom, the farm superintendent, will probably die.

Italians Fought Frenchmen.

Paris, June 21.—In a fight between Italians and French workmen at Barcine yesterday, two Frenchmen were killed. The district is intensely excited and the police are taking steps to quell further disturbances. Another affray between French and Italian workmen has taken place near Arles. Troops have been sent to the scene.

Cyclones Add to Spain's Misery.

London, June 21.—The Madrid correspondent of the Mail says: A succession of cyclones and fierce hail storms have destroyed the crops and vineyards in the provinces of Valladolid and Guadalajara. In the district of Newcastle, houses have been flooded, hundreds of cattle drowned and a number of lives lost.

Spanish Defeat in Philippines.

New York, June 21.—A dispatch to the Herald from Madrid says an official telegram from Manila announces a desperate combat in the Philippine islands against the rebel general Aguinaldo. The Spanish losses were over 100 killed and wounded. The news has caused a profoundly painful impression.

Railroad Speed.

Nyack, N. Y., June 21.—The steam yacht Ellide, built for E. Burgess Warren, of New York, in her trial trip over a measured course, made the mile in one minute and 30 seconds, which is at the rate of 40 miles an hour, the fastest time on record.

THE TARIFF DEBATE.

Senate Has Disposed of the Agricultural Schedule.

Washington, June 18.—The senate made rapid work on the tariff bill today. There was no long speeches and the debate was of a snappy character, which at times enlivened but did not delay the serious work on the bill. Thirteen pages were disposed of, carrying the senate through the agricultural schedule and up to schedule H, relating to spirits, wines, etc. During the day, the paragraphs on dairy products, farm products, fish, fruit and nuts, meat products and miscellaneous agricultural products were acted on. The finance committee proposed many changes, in the main advancing rates somewhat over those heretofore reported. The committee was sustained on every vote, although a contest was made on almost every paragraph. Vest's motion to restore salt to the free list was rejected—ayes 24, noes 31. The important paragraph proposing a tax on tea went over at the suggestion of Allison, who expressed the hope that this duty on tea might be dispensed with.

The senate met at 11 A. M., and will continue to meet at that hour until the bill is disposed of.

The Treaty in the Senate.

Washington, June 18.—The treaty for the annexation of the Hawaiian islands reached the senate chamber at 5 o'clock today. The senate went into executive session, and as soon as the doors were closed the message of President McKinley, accompanying the treaty, and the treaty itself, were read to the senate.

The message of the president was not a very long document. It dealt with historical facts concerning the island, and showed that the United States and Hawaii are becoming more closely bound to each other. This was not really annexation, he said, but a continuation of existing relations, with closer bonds between people closely related by blood and kindred ties. Since 1820, says the president, the predominance of the United States has been known. The sending of the first envoy there brought the islands in closer relations with the United States, and their relations grew firm by succeeding events.

At the time the tripartite agreement was made for the government of Samoa, he said, Great Britain and Germany wanted to include Hawaii in the group over which a protectorate was established, but the suggestion was rejected by the United States, because this government held there already existed relations between Hawaii and the United States which placed the islands under the special care of this country, and this government would not allow any other country to interfere in the affairs of Hawaii. The annexation of the islands, said the president, and making them a part of the United States, was in accordance with the established policy of this country.

The president called attention to the fact that a legitimate and existing government of Hawaii offered to annex the islands to the United States in 1851; but, on account of what was deemed the best policy, the annexation was not accepted by this country. He stated that the United States virtually exercised a protectorate over the islands since the first American mission, and guaranteed the autonomy of the government of the group. The islands had been largely settled by our own people, and our people were now interested in them. American interests predominated, and we had grown to consider them under our own protection. The present treaty was in the light of a consummation of what had practically been in existence for years.

The Queen Almost Blind.

London, June 18.—The whole aspect of the coming jubilee has been suddenly changed by painful information which comes from a source making it impossible to doubt its accuracy. It is announced on the authority of one of the royal physicians attendant upon her majesty that "the queen is almost totally blind."

This is the true reason why she will not leave the carriage at the service at St. Paul's cathedral Tuesday. It is semi-officially announced that she will be unable to respond to the greetings extended along the line of the royal procession.

Fatal Accident Near Eugene.

Eugene, Or., June 18.—A terrible accident occurred about four miles north of Eugene this evening, which will probably result fatally. The reports are meager, and the names were not learned.

A family was in camp near the farm of Palmer Ayres, and a woman and her child were working about a camp fire, when the clothing of the child caught. The mother strove frantically to extinguish the flames, and her own clothing was set on fire. Both were horribly burned.

The mother is thought to be injured beyond any hope of recovery, while there is only a slight chance for the child. Paris of the bodies of both are burned to a crisp.

A Detroit (Mich.) man is said to have a \$3,000 cane.

SUGAR OUT OF THE WAY.

Senate Should Now Make Good Progress on the Tariff Bill.

Washington, June 17.—The senate made a great stride forward today by completing the consideration of the sugar schedule of the tariff bill, except the provisions relating to Hawaii, which went over. The schedule has been the storm center of the entire bill, and with it disposed of there is a better prospect for speedy action on the bill as a whole. The first paragraph of the sugar schedule has served to bring out all the speeches and the test votes, and when this was passed early today, the other paragraphs of the schedule were agreed to without further opposition. As agreed to, the schedule places on sugar not above No. 16, Dutch standard, 1 cent per pound, and .03 of a cent for every degree above 75, and on sugars above No. 1, Dutch standard, 1.95 cents per pound, but on sugars testing below 87 deg., 1-10 of a cent per pound shall be deducted. The other provisions of the schedule relate to maple sugar, maple syrup, candy, etc.

Only one aye and no vote was taken during the day, on the amendment of Lindsey to make the rate 1.8 cents per pound on sugar above No. 16, Dutch standard. The amendment was defeated, 32 to 35.

The Pettigrew amendment, relating to trusts, was then taken up and discussed at length. It developed considerable divergence of view on both sides of the chamber, the two Alabama senators—Morgan and Pettus—joining Hoar in opposition. Allison finally tested the sense of the senate by moving to table the amendment, which motion prevailed—ayes 35, noes 32.

Consideration of the agricultural schedule was then resumed, the latter paragraph being agreed to as reported.

THE HAWAIIAN TREATY.

Annexation Question May Go Over Until the Regular Session.

Washington, June 17.—The suggested course of procedure when the Hawaiian annexation treaty is sent to the senate is that it should be made public in order that the proposition to restore the house provision in the tariff bill may be accomplished, with the understanding that the treaty of annexation possibly will be in effect before a year's notice of abrogation could be given. One reason given for making the treaty public would be that it could be discussed in connection with the Hawaiian provision in the bill.

It is not believed there will be any attempt to secure immediate action on the treaty, and possibly it might not be considered at this special session. Some question has arisen as to whether the senate is competent to act upon a treaty which acquired territory, and whether the house would not be called upon to concur, but the precedents are that the treaty-making power—the president and senate—can act, and the only manner in which the house would be considered would be in voting on an appropriation necessary to carry the treaty into effect.

The manner in which the treaty will come before the house is in the paragraph providing that the United States shall assume the present debt of Hawaii. This will not in any way effect the treaty or interfere in its adoption.

Before the matter will be submitted to the house will come the ratification of the treaty by the senate. If the treaty is ratified no action by the house can change the condition. The failure of the house to appropriate money to pay the debt or interest on it may become a future complication, but the ratification of the treaty by the senate will annex the islands.

No Pension for Lil.

Washington, June 17.—One point of importance in which the Hawaiian treaty differs from the convention negotiated by Secretary Foster in President Harrison's administration is the omission of any provision for ex-Queen Liliuokalani and Princess Kaiulani. In the original treaty it was provided that the United States should pay the ex-queen the sum of \$20,000 cash and the same amount of money as a pension each year during the remainder of her life, provided that she in good faith submitted to the government of the United States and the local government of the islands, Princess Kaiulani being next in line of royal blood was to have received a cash payment of \$150,000, but no pension under a similar proviso as in the case of the ex-queen.

It is understood any objection that might be expected to the annexation of the islands based on the large proportion of coolies in the population, has been forestalled by an article not only prohibiting further immigration of such laborers to the Hawaiian islands, but also prohibiting the coming of any Chinese from the islands to other parts of the United States.

Comment of London Papers.

London, June 17.—All the afternoon papers have taken up the Hawaiian question in the light of the proposed annexation of the island to the United States. The Globe says: "The question is essentially international, and cannot be disposed of by the decree of one power alone. Great Britain and France are in the same position toward Hawaii as the United States."

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

There was not much trade in wheat last week but prices were firmer and the close was 2 cents higher than the preceding Saturday. It is safe to say that with the statistical situation so strong as at present, the volume of general trade never was lighter. Speculation is confined to professional traders who have been educated up to see nothing but the short side. However, there is another side to the market.

The Orange Judd Farmer makes an estimate of the prospective yield of winter and spring wheat, placing it at 515,000,000 bushels, somewhat lower than the former estimates from other sources. The real stimulus to the market at present is the unseasonable weather that has prevailed in the Northwest for the past two weeks, and if the wheat crop has recently been as badly damaged by frost as it is claimed, we will see a sharp advance as soon as this fact is fully determined. We are inclined to look for further advance under the prevailing conditions. Receipts of wheat for eastern shipment at Duluth have been light, most of the spring now going to Minneapolis where there is an extraordinary milling demand. Beerbohm's report estimated the world's shipments for the week at only 5,600,000 bushels. The exports from both coasts of North America were reported at 1,890,000 bushels, compared with 2,620,000 bushels last week, and 2,932,000 bushels the corresponding week of last year. The amount on passage to importing countries decreased in the seven days 1,100,000 bushels. The American visible supply decreased 1,764,000 bushels and now totals 23,686,000 bushels. A year ago the visible decreased only 6730,000 bushels, and totaled 494,800,000 bushels.

The long expected advance in stocks is now under full headway, and values have advanced steadily all week, with scarcely any reaction to speak of.

Portland Markets.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$3.75; Benton county and White Lily, \$3.75; Graham, \$3.40; superfine, \$2.60 per barrel. Wheat—Walla Walla, 74@75c; Valley, 76c per bushel. Oats—Choice white, 38@40c per bushel; choice gray, 37@39c. Hay—Timothy, \$13.00@14.00 per ton; clover, \$11.50@12.50; wheat and oat, \$10.00@11.00 per ton. Barley—Feed barley, \$16.50 per ton; brewing, \$18@19. Millstuffs—Bran, \$14.50, shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$23.50. Butter—Creamery, 30c; dairy, 20@25c; store, 17 1/2@30c per roll. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 40@50c; Garnet Chilies, 55@65c; Early Rose, 35@40c per sack; sweets, \$2.75 per cental for Merced; new potatoes, 1@1 1/2c per pound. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@3.25; geese, \$4.00@5.00; turkeys, live, 10c; ducks, \$2.50@3.50 per dozen. Eggs—Oregon, 11@12c per dozen. Cheese—Oregon, 11 1/2c; Young America, 12 1/2c per pound. Wool—Valley, 12c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c. Hops—7c per pound. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50; cows, \$2.50@3.00; dressed beef, 5@6 1/2c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 2 1/2c; dressed mutton, 4 1/2@5c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$4.00@4.50; light and feeders, \$2.50@3.00; dressed \$3.00@5.50 per cwt. Veal—Large, 3 1/2@4c; small, 4 1/2@5c per pound.

Seattle Markets.

Wheat—Chicken feed, \$26 per ton. Oats—Choice, \$21@22 per ton. Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$4.60; Novelty A, \$4.30; California brands, \$4.75; Dakota, \$5.65; patent, \$6.40. Barley—Rolled or ground, \$20 per ton; whole, \$19. Corn—Whole, \$20 per ton; cracked, \$20; feed meal, \$20. Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.00 per ton; shorts, \$18. Hay—Puget sound, per ton, \$12.00; Eastern Washington, \$17; California, \$13@14. Feed—Chopped feed, \$18.00 per ton; middlings, \$22; oilcake meal, \$30. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 11c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.50; ducks, \$5@6. Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 16c; ranch, 10@12. Cheese—Native Washington, 10@11c; Eastern, 11c; California, 9 1/2c. Vegetables—Potatoes, per ton, \$12.00@14; parsnips, per sack, \$1; beets, per sack, \$1.00; turnips, per sack, \$1.00; rutabagas, per sack, 50c; carrots, per sack, 75c; cabbage, per 100 lbs, \$1.75; onions, per 100 lbs, \$1.50. Sweet potatoes—Per 100 lbs, \$3.50; new potatoes, 1 1/2c per lb. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 14@15c. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 7c; cows, 6 1/2c; mutton, sheep, 6 1/2c per pound; lamb, 5c; pork, 6 1/2c per pound; veal, small, 6@7c. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 4@5c; salmon, 6@8c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and soles, 3@4c. Provisions—Hams, large, 11c; hams, small, 11 1/2c; breakfast bacon, 10c; dry salt sides, 6 1/2c per pound. Fruits—Lemons, California, fancy, \$3.00@3.50; choice, \$2.50; California fancy navals, \$3@3.50.

Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

News Gathered in All the Towns of our Neighboring States—Improvement Noted in All Industries—Oregon.

Astoria now has a paid fire department.

Pendleton is considering the proposition of buying in its own paper, as an investment for funds.

The locks at the Cascades were opened for the season last week, as high water is over for this year.

Baker City's praises are loudly sung by all the visiting firemen who took part in the tournament there.

Indian Agent Harper says that many fish are being taken in the Umatilla river by persons using dynamite.

Winans Bros. brought into The Dalles 1,200 pounds of salmon one day last week. The run is light, but the fish are of excellent quality.

Seven emigrant wagons passed through Lakeview. Three of them were bound for Indiana, and the rest for Nebraska. They were from Rogue river valley.

The bicyclists of Astoria are talking of building a bicycle path, and it is suggested that the county join them in building a good road to John Day's and Knappa.

Lane county's jail has been without an occupant since the March term of circuit court, the longest period it has been empty during the present sheriff's term of office.

The Lane county court has let the contract to build a 100-foot strain beam truss bridge, with crib pier, across Salmon creek, for \$890. Seven bids were handed in by four bidders.

The grasshoppers are doing considerable damage in the vicinity of Lexington, Or. Gardens have been completely ruined, and in many places entire fields of wheat have been eaten up.

The graduating class at the Corvallis college this year numbers 17, against 48 last year and 51 the year previous. The reduction in the number is largely due to an extension of the course from three to four years.

There will be no grain raised in the northern part of Morrow county this year, and but a small amount of hay, the grasshoppers having destroyed everything in sight. The portion of the county that they have not visited will raise an average crop.

The Weston Leader says that a number of pioneer relics were exhibited at the reunion tent there recently. Thomas Spence's contribution was a pocket rifle 100 years old, made in Massachusetts. It is a harmless-looking affair now, but was considered a trusty weapon by Mr. Spence's father, who, armed with it alone chased a band of Indian horse-thieves for three days.

Washington.

The free text-book proposition was voted down in Mount Vernon.

Steamboat men at Gray's harbor are talking of putting a steamer on North river, above the jam.

The number of deaths in Seattle during May was 38. Eight of these were children and two were from drowning.

At the school election in Walla Walla the proposition to furnish free text-books was defeated by a vote of 31 to 14.

Winfield Scott Rich, of Cambridge, Mass., has been engaged as principal of the Spokane high school, at a salary of \$1,200 a year.

All laws passed by the last session of the Washington legislature, to which no emergency clause is attached, have become operative.

Bemis' shingle mill, in Cowlitz county, that has been delayed on account of the jam of bolts in the Toutle river, will be started up at once.

An ordinance has been passed by the Olympia council denying to all bicycle riders the use of the sidewalks for riding during the dry season.

Three Seattle wheelmen made the run from Seattle to Olympia and return last Sunday, covering the entire distance of 154 miles on their bicycles.

The Atlas Lumber Company, at Murray, is putting an additional engine into its sawmill. Last month the company shipped more than 70 carloads of lumber East.

The Lewis county commissioners at their latest meeting, decided to postpone indefinitely the proposition to issue funding bonds to take up the county's floating indebtedness.

Two rolls of steel wire cable were received in Shelton, Mason county, recently for Simpson's logging camps. Each roll is 4,000 feet long and weighs 5,000 pounds. They cost in St. Louis \$2,000.

Miners in the Swauk district in Kittitas county have begun work for the season and clean-ups are yielding well. Two large dams on Baker creek, to hold 25,000,000 gallons of water, are to be built this summer.