

The Morning Astorian.

VOL. LVII.

ASTORIA, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1904.

NO. 134.

LOOKS RATHER SORRY FOR DIETRICH

Testimony Taken at Hearing of Nebraska Senator Shows Him Up in a Somewhat Bad Light.

Witness Asserts That Offer Was Made to Sell Postoffice Appointment at Hastings.

HE NEEDED THE MONEY BAD

Editor Avers That Senator Intended to Recoup His Depleted Purse by Helping Aspiring Postmasters.

Washington, March 11.—Inquiry into the conduct of Senator Dietrich, of Nebraska, regarding alleged irregularities in the appointment of Jacob Fisher, postmaster at Hastings, Neb., which was requested by Dietrich, was commenced before a senate committee today. Three witnesses were on the stand during the day. Leopold Hahan testified that Dietrich had offered to sell the appointment to Fisher for \$2800, payable in annual installments of \$700.

J. S. Williams, editor of the Hastings News, related the conversation which it was alleged he held with Dietrich. Williams stated that Dietrich had told him the senatorship had cost him (Dietrich) \$15,000. Williams said he replied that this was excessive and in answer Dietrich said, in effect, he expected to recoup his expenses through the appointment of postmasters.

Jacob Fisher, the present postmaster at Hastings, contradicted the testimony of Hahan and Williams. The committee adjourned while Fisher was on the stand.

MURDERERS LET OFF EASY.

Those Who Massacred Helpless Jews Receive Light Sentences.

Kishineff, March 11.—The trial of prisoners charged with participating in the massacre of Jews last April is closed. The court today gave judgment in the case of Rusneke and 57 others, of whom 18 were charged with homicide during the anti-Jewish rioting

and 40 with creating disorder. Rusneke and one Bodijan were found guilty of murder of a Jewish couple. Rusneke was sentenced to four years' imprisonment and Bodijan to 20 years. Fifteen persons accused of rioting were each sentenced to a year's imprisonment, and three others to four months. Others were discharged.

CHECKS INDEPENDENT SPIRIT

Mormonism Demands All for Church, Says Important Witness.

Washington, March 11.—The only witness on the stand today in the investigation of the Senator Smoot case before the senate committee on privileges and elections, was E. B. Critchlow, formerly assistant of the United States attorney for Utah. He continued his history of the Mormon church, detailing an instance in which high officers of the church have manifested their power over members in order to compel obedience in all affairs and in which excommunication has been the price of independent spirit. Senator Beveridge assisted in the examination and his attempts to prove certain evidence incompetent lived what otherwise would have been the first dull day of the hearing.

CHILD'S AWFUL DEATH.

Northern Part of Seattle Shaken by Dynamite Explosion.

Seattle, March 11.—A terrific dynamite explosion that shook the entire northern part of the city today resulted in the instant death of Terrence Scott, a nine-year-old boy. A large quantity of the explosive was placed in a kettle to thaw and left near an open fire. Five minutes afterward, just as young Scott drew near the fire, the explosion came. The boy's mangled body was hurled 30 feet through the air.

AUGUSTUS COOK DEAD.

New York, March 11.—Augustus Cook, father of Elmer, Robert and one of the best known actors on the American stage, is dead from liver trouble, aged 50. He came to the United States from England in 1839.

For many years Cook was a member of the Lyceum stock company, but his greatest success was achieved by his impersonation of Napoleon in Madame Sans Gene.

To Form Non-Mormon Party.

Salt Lake, March 11.—Representative Gentiles of this city held a meeting tonight and took preliminary steps toward the organization of a non-Mormon party. A committee was appointed to formulate the plan of campaign and organization to meet the conditions now existing in Utah.

HOT ACTION TAKES PLACE BETWEEN CRUISERS AND TORPEDO BOATS

According to Report Sent Out by Admiral Makaroff Both His Own Force and That of Enemy Lose Each a Vessel.

When Russian Torpedo Boat Stereguschki Begins to Sink Rest of Fleet Put to Her Assistance But Are Kept at Distance by Overwhelming Numbers—Ship Founders and Crew Either Captured or Drowned.

Mukden, March 11.—Admiral Makaroff, commanding the Russian fleet, reports from Port Arthur as follows: "Six torpedo boats which went to sea on the night of March 10, encountered the enemy's torpedo boats followed by cruisers, and a hot action ensued. The torpedo boat destroyer Vlastina discharged a torpedo and sank one of the enemy's boats. On the way back the torpedo boat destroyer Stereguschki sustained damages, her engines being disabled, and she began to founder. By 3 o'clock in the morning five of our torpedo boat destroyers had returned. When the critical condition of the disabled boat became evident I hoisted my flag on the cruiser Novik and went with the Novik and the cruiser Boyari to the rescue. But as five of the enemy's cruisers surrounded our destroyers, and their battleship squadron was approaching I did not succeed in saving her. She foundered and part of the crew were made prisoners and part were drowned.

"On the ships that participated in the first attack one officer was seriously wounded and three others were slightly wounded, two soldiers were killed and 18 wounded.

"At 9 o'clock 14 of the enemy's ships assembled before Port Arthur and a bombardment was begun with heavy guns at long range.

"This lasted until 1 o'clock in the afternoon. The damage to our vessels was insignificant. Our losses were one officer slightly wounded, one soldier killed and four wounded.

"With the commencement of the bombardment at dawn, the guns of the fortress replied to the enemy's fire. The crews of all the ships engaged gave proof of remarkable coolness in action. A bombardment at such a distance must be regarded as ineffective, but the Japanese cruiser Takasago is reported to have been seen to suffer serious damage. Many shells were fired at a range of seven and one-half miles."

"The United States' attitude towards Japan is understandable because of her commercial relations with Japan and in Manchuria, and by reason of her aspiration to the hegemony of the Pacific. If the United States should maintain her claims to predominance in the Pacific, she must reckon with Japan, either as a friend or an enemy. For the moment the United States' interests require friendly relation with Japan, taking into consideration the limited American navy and the British-Japanese alliance. For the time this allowance will check American hegemony on the Asiatic side of the Pacific."

The editor regards an American-British-Japanese alliance as a possibility.

RUSSIANS BEHAVE VALIANTLY.

Make Dash for Foe Though the Odds Were Against Them.

St. Petersburg, March 11.—A complete story of the fierce fight off Port Arthur between the torpedo flotillas, which occurred Wednesday, and the bombardment which followed on Thursday morning, was not given out here until after midnight.

Two official messages from Viceroy Alexieff were received during the day and were presented to the emperor, but the public remained in suspense. All sorts of rumors of the information contained in the dispatches were spread among the officials. It is evident that the collisions between the torpedo flotillas had occurred accidentally during the night while the Russians were scouting in search of the enemy.

As far as known here, this is the first time torpedo boats have engaged each other at sea. Although the odds were against the Russians, as the squadron was supported by the cruisers of the enemy, the Russians made a heroic dash for the foe and apparently had the better of the combat, sinking a Japanese torpedo boat until the cruisers got within range and one of the latter's shells crippled the Stereguschki.

London, March 11.—The correspondent of the Telegraph at Seoul describes recent Japanese attacks on Port Arthur as "successful preparatory bomb-

countrymen in Manchuria, not only in the interior, but in places on the seaboard, whence the Russians refuse to permit them to depart.

It has been decided with the help of British missionaries to establish a hospital at New Chwang and organize relief work in the interior. The chief difficulty in connection with the latter plan is the absence of transport facilities for the women and children. The committee hopes to obtain the co-operation and support of the Russian authorities.

CAN'T STAND THE LIGHT.

Factory Hands Refuse to Work on Account of Peculiar Windows.

Chicago, March 11.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Elgin, Ill., says: Peculiar glass in the windows of the new \$250,000 factory of a local watch company may lead to a strike which will involve 500 employes.

When the building was opened six weeks ago it was found the windows were of a peculiar manufacture and would admit light readily, but could not be seen through. Because of the glamour in the rooms, the employes objected when moved from the old building. The foremen advised them to wait until a trial had been made, and quiet was then restored. Five weeks' test has resulted in severe eye troubles and, it is said, severe headaches.

A mass meeting was held and committees appointed to draft a resolution for presentation to the company's officials.

The dead are H. W. Howard and A. C. Cox; injured, G. W. Estes, Thomas Smith, T. H. Mills, John Hunt, Frank Larimer and Nels Lundstrom.

There were about 20 men employed at the mine. Those who escaped injury immediately went to work to rescue their comrades and after working all night recovered the bodies of those killed, and rescued the survivors.

All of the surface plant of the mine was carried away except the superintendent's office. The slide occurred near the place where Superintendent F. C. Dobler, of Cornucopia mine, was killed last spring by being caught in a slide.

Woman's Clever Escape. New York, March 11.—A daring and clever feat has been performed by a Japanese woman who escaped from Dalny by means which are still shrouded in secrecy, says a World's dispatch from Tien-Tsin. It is said she secured official plans of the harbors of Dalny and Port Arthur, took them to Tokio, getting away simply as an ordinary refugee. A decoration for her heroism is the reported reward.

First to Operate. Pueblo, Colo., March 11.—Blast furnace "C" at the Minnequa steel works has been blown in. This is the first blast furnace to be put into operation since the shutting down of the works last November.

Some of these may not have been lost as it was their intention on leaving Nome to disembark at way ports.

Seattle, March 11.—The names of the 28 passengers who embarked from Nome on the ill-fated steamship Discovery October 16, which has not since been heard of, have been learned from a Nome paper. The list is as follows: Carl W. Larsen, F. A. Seaberg, E. C. Weaver, H. Logan, Jene Ghum, X. B. Jones, Annie L. Jones, Aug. Foster, Otto Maple, N. McLaughlin, H. Vermer, O. Borgh, F. J. Stewart, Miss Canton, Miss Christomon, B. M. Christomon, J. Anderson, J. North, George A. Schrack, L. M. Davis, Oscar Graff, D. Journey, H. Steider, C. Langton, R. J. Hicks, H. Rorebery, H. Herman, A. E. Johanson.

Some of these may not have been lost as it was their intention on leaving Nome to disembark at way ports.

The Bee Hive

Invites the ladies to call and see a splendid line of

New Lace Trimmings

Real Clung Wood Fibre Embroidered Chiffon

Imitation Cluny Antique Persian Bands Medallions

Etc., etc., etc.

You can buy them cheaper at The Bee Hive

Easy Sheet Music

10c Per Copy While they last

Just the thing for beginners and those learning. Easy, melodious and progressive. Only a limited number of copies.

J. N. GRIFFIN

It's Plain as Print

That the place to purchase CLOTHING is at Stokes; Reason, superior goods and lowest prices.



Remember our Dunlap Hats Finest on earth.

Hart Schaffner & Marx Hand Tailored

P. A. STOKES