

GOOD EVENING.
The Weather:
Tonight and Tuesday, occasional light rain or snow; continued cold; winds mostly westerly.

THE OREGON DAILY Journal
SHEPHERD'S OWN WINGS

THE Journal Is Not An Organ
It does not seek to serve the private ambitions of anyone. Therefore it gives all the news without coloring any of it for private ends.

VOL. II. NO. 287.

PORTLAND, OREGON, MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 8, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

BALTIMORE'S MAGNIFICENT BUSINESS DISTRICT COMPLETELY OBLITERATED BY GREATEST FIRE IN HISTORY OF AMERICA

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 6—At 3:15 o'clock under an immense outpour of water from probably the greatest fire forces ever assembled in the world's history it was believed the terrible conflagration had been put under control and practically held within the boundaries given by the geodetic survey. Never in any history have more fearfully exciting episodes been enacted. The total loss cannot now be correctly estimated but it is believed that \$300,000,000 will not cover the great damage. People are panic stricken and rumors are current that more than three score of lives have been lost. Many of the handsomest buildings are destroyed and not for many years can this old city recover from her great affliction.

AN AWFUL HOLOCAUST

Fire Fiend Continues Its Work Aided by the High Winds.

HARBOR IS DESTROYED

Many Firemen and Policemen Overcome and Are Carried to the Hospitals—Citizens in Fear of Panic.

Very latest fire news on page 4.

(Journal Special Service.)
Baltimore, Md., Feb. 8.—The morning broke with the sign of abatement of the flames and presented a sad sight of blocks upon blocks of ruined dwellings and business houses.
Where stately piles once stood twisted beams and tottering walls now appear. A big contingent of fire apparatus arrived from near by cities. A greater fire brigade never assembled before on earth. In all about 600 police from the same outside cities are assisting to keep away vandals who have been prowling over the burned district waiting a chance to steal property. A number of arrests have been made and the prisoners are sent from the city to jails in towns adjacent.
The governor has issued a call for the militia to report for guard duty, as it is impossible to restrain the people who seem panic stricken. Communication with the district in flames is difficult as telegraph wires in the city are all down.
Of Vast Expense.
At nearly noon the fire extends and covers everything south of Fayette street to Light north to Lexington, west to Liberty and then south to Hopkins Place, east to Bowley's wharf and Pratt street then in a direct line to a point on West Falls avenue north of the Block street.
The geodetic survey in giving out the above statement says it includes 140 acres. The latest estimate of losses to building alone is \$125,000,000, which, added to the contents, brings the amounts, according to the fire underwriters, to near the quarter-billion mark.
The New York fire department with seven engines and six hose reels on trucks arrived at 3 o'clock and immediately entered the fight. The militia is now in full charge of the district assisted by regulars. One New York insurance company at 10 o'clock this morning, figures its losses at \$60,000,000.
Firemen Submerged.
Hundreds of firemen succumbed during the forenoon to the terrific heat. The emergency hospitals are filled, and many cases are taken by citizens. The body of Fireman Eigenritz, who came with the relief crew from York, Pa., was found at noon in the Equitable building, where he tried to carry a line of hose. President Hood of the Baltimore fire department said:
"The Western Union established temporary offices with 20 wires at noon at North and Saratoga streets, which were immediately deluged with press matter. Only one paper is being published in the city, that of the Evening World, a Scripps paper, its building having escaped. Thousands surround the office, where extras are issued as fast as possible. The mayor has called a meeting of leading citizens to discuss ways and means.
A Quarter Billion Loss.
At 9 o'clock this morning the flames were still beyond control. The wind was blowing a gale and practically all the wholesale and a large part of the retail district is swept. About 40 blocks stretching a mile in one direction is in ruins. The loss is easily \$100,000,000 and may go to \$300,000,000. The 4th and 5th regiments of the Maryland militia and regulars from Fort Henry and police from Washington, Philadelphia and New York are guarding property. All local newspaper plants except one are consumed. Some papers are being issued from the Star and Post plants in Washington.



THE DOVE OF PEACE IS SHATTERED

London, Feb. 8.—Minister Noyashi said in an interview this morning that a state of war exists and it is possible there will be no further declaration.
The British foreign office is in receipt of a constant stream of cablegrams and Great Britain's navy is preparing for mobilization at a moment's notice.
Tokio, Feb. 8.—It is expected here that the first battle between Russia and Japan will occur off Port Arthur, where the harbor is inadequate to protect the entire Russian fleet. The Japanese fleet is now proceeding there from Nagasaki.



THE CITY WRECKED

Complete Destruction of Commercial District of Baltimore.

AWFUL CONFLAGRATION

Details of the Greatest Fire Which Has Visited the American Continent—Work of the Departments.

Baltimore, Feb. 8.—Not in the history of any city has more excitement and panic been experienced than that occasioned by the terrible conflagration which began yesterday and by 3 o'clock had destroyed probably \$200,000,000 of property.
At 2:30 p. m. today dynamite is again being resorted to and the scene is indescribable. The entire business section is devastated. Where stood magnificent office buildings, hotels, sky-scrapers and densely packed commercial houses representing the wealth of Baltimore in wholesale districts, banks, newspaper offices, churches and public buildings it is now a mere waste, crumbled walls steaming while the streets are marked by tangled wires.
On the water front fire is raging and a half dozen of the principal steamship lines have already suffered the loss of docks, warehouses and many vessels.
Ten big flour mills and a score of manufacturing plants are consumed. Only the families of janitors and others living in the big office buildings are made homeless. The loss of life will be small, probably, so far as known, but hardly a man of the army remains but has received some bruise, scratch or burn.
Millions of feet of lumber are gone with the burning of the water front. The manufacturing district is still threatened if the wind changes; if not the fire can be controlled.
The Start.
At 11 o'clock yesterday morning, while a gale was blowing from the Chesapeake a fire started in the wholesale dry goods store of John E. Hurst & Co., on Hopkins street. It began in the heart of the business section of the city and spread with fearful rapidity.
A series of explosions announced the incipency of the fire and before any assistance could arrive flames were leaping from many windows in the building.
It is believed today that the explosion was occasioned by gasoline of which there were several large cans stored in the building. The point where the conflagration began cannot yet be reached and it is impossible to determine the exact cause of the start.
Three persons were on duty as watchmen at the time, but none have been found to tell the true story.
A half hour after the fire was discovered the entire city department was on the scene and fully 200 streams were working within the next hour, but so fiercely blew the wind that all efforts to stop the progress were futile.
When it was found impossible to control the spread of the flames, telegrams were sent to Washington, Philadelphia and neighboring cities for aid. It was nearly dark before the assistance came, but by 7 o'clock there were fully 400 streams employed in vain endeavor to defeat the fire demon.
New York City, Jersey City, Brooklyn and Newark, N. J., were asked to send help and they at once responded. Policemen by the hundreds were also dispatched from neighboring cities. The latter were badly needed, owing to the savage attack on unprotected property by vandals.
Within an hour after the beginning the fire had spread on Baltimore street to the block between Liberty and Sharp streets. Mallin's hotel was soon in a blaze and other buildings near it. The big Baltimore Bargain house was the next doomed.
The dry goods houses of Daniel Miller & Sons and M. A. Suttou & Co. came next, and on German street from the Harat building, a score of buildings were burning.
The Hopkins savings bank and National Exchange bank were the first to be destroyed.

CARTOONIST MURPHY SHOWS THE PERILOUS POSITION THAT THE DOVE OF PEACE IN THE FAR EAST HAS BEEN IN DURING THE LAST FORTNIGHT. NOW THE CANNONS BRING THE NEWS THAT THE POOR BIRD HAS BEEN SHATTERED BY ONE OF THE BIG GUNS.

HE RISKED PRISON

Sensational Testimony Against Wakefield of Home Buyers.

Witnesses for the government testified this forenoon in the case against C. G. Wakefield and Ross Nicholas of the Fraternal Order of Home Buyers, accused of using the mails to defraud.
J. M. Head said: "I had a number of talks with Mr. Wakefield relative to the Order of Fraternal Home Buyers. He made me a proposition to go to work for the firm as a solicitor. He unfolded the scheme to me and after I had read some of the advertising matter of the order I came to the conclusion that the scheme was a bad one, and told him that it was a misrepresentation and that the order could not live up to the promises they made and that eventually it would go up in the air and some one was likely to get into trouble. Wakefield told me that if I did not want to become an agent he would give me an office job at \$125 a month, that he wanted to get rid of both Harbaugh and Glos, who at that time were working in the office. I told him that the whole thing was a fraud and that I would have no connection with it.
Was \$7,500 to the Good.
"Wakefield told me that the scheme was a paying proposition and was making money, and he was not afraid of it, that up to October he was \$7,500 to the good, and that people would give him credit for getting the money. That even if he did get three years in the penitentiary he had made enough money to be willing to do so without having any kick coming. He further said that he was the whole company and that the others associated with him were only dummies, and that he could handle the thing as he saw fit. He also said that the company would in time wind up in a natural manner and there would be no trouble."
Postal Inspector Testifies.
O. C. Riches, the postal inspector who made the investigation which led up to the arrest of Wakefield and Nicholas for the alleged violation of the postal laws, gave the following testimony:
"My investigation is on the assumption that both the contract holder and the Order of Fraternal Home Buyers live up to their agreement. My findings are practically the same as those testified to by Frank Davey last Friday. Taking 1,000 \$2,000 contracts for a basis, the result at the end of 20 months but 25 contracts will have matured and that there will be only \$75 in the treasury. According to the terms of the contract the company guaranteed to mature all the contracts in that period or re-

RUSSIA AND JAPAN BOTH READY TO UNLEASH THE DOGS OF WAR

Japan Making Eager Preparations for the Spring on Korea--At the Beginning a Tremendous Naval Struggle Is Looked For--The Japanese Ambassador Has Already Left St. Petersburg.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Washington, Feb. 8.—"Goaded to frenzy and entirely beyond endurance over the delay of Russia in answering her last note, and convinced that this delay was merely a cover for warlike preparations, the Japanese government was forced to break off diplomatic relations with Russia.
This in the statement made by the Japanese minister, Mr. Kogora Takahira. He thinks that his government will very shortly issue a statement explaining its course and motives.
Expressing his personal opinion as to the motives that led Japan to notify her minister at St. Petersburg to ask for his passports, the minister said: "Japan's last note, or representation, to Russia was sent January 12, and at that time the Russian government was specially requested to answer the note as soon as possible. It was represented to Russia in polite and diplomatic language that Japan had already waited for definite settlement of the questions at issue for several months. The Japanese government declared that it had earnestly and in good faith and for a long period, used every effort to reach an understanding, and under the circumstances it must oppose any further delay."
The best information at the disposition of the legation here is to the effect that there are 400 Japanese at Seoul and 180 or 200 Russians. Official and social intercourse between the Japanese and Russian representatives and their attaches end for the present. Of course, should Count Cassini and Minister Takahira meet on the street they would bow, probably, with exaggerated politeness. But they will not intentionally be guests at the same social functions, and under the circumstances it must oppose any further delay."
The War Question in Europe.
(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
New York, Feb. 8.—The Sun's London correspondent, H. P. Chamberlain, cables as follows: War has not yet technically begun, but hostilities, it is believed, are a question of hours only. It is hardly expected that a formal declaration will follow, but Japan will probably notify the powers that a state of war exists, as was the case of the United States and Spain.
It is not expected that either side will attempt serious military operations until spring is well advanced. Japan's naval campaign will probably be of a very active description. Several prominent English naval authorities during the week made careful calculations regarding the efficiency and equipment of the two powers and reached the conclusion that the chances were 19 to 14 in Japan's favor. Japan's decision on the whole comes as a surprise to most European diplomats. Premier Delcasse exaggerated yesterday when he said Russia had conceded 75 per cent of Japan's demands. Forty per cent would have been nearer the fact, but nobody took Japan quite literally when she announced at the outset that she was not trying to bargain, but was setting the irreducible minimum of her interests. Now that it is known she meant just what she said, it is clear that war has been practically inevitable from the first.
The danger of complications involving other powers are not immediate. Grave peril threatens nevertheless, and it probably will be increased a few weeks hence by hostilities in the far east. The most hopeful element is the Anglo-French cordiality. Both countries are depended upon to do their best to localize the war, and every probable contingency has been considered.
A careful reading of the Anglo-Japanese treaty of alliance shows the present situation is precisely what it was designed to cover. It does not matter whether Japan acts as the aggressor or on the defensive so long as she is seeking to maintain the independence and territorial integrity of China and Korea. England's duty now is to maintain neutrality and to use her efforts to prevent other powers from joining hostilities against Japan.
Regarding the financial and commercial effects of war, they will be greater on the continent, especially in France, than in England. The situation has been pretty well discounted in the London markets while France has been optimistic up to within a few days.
At the Seat of War.
Tokio, Feb. 8.—Restless activity is the only term that can be applied to the situation in Japan today. On the other hand, the government is calm and patient, awaiting the formal reply of Russia to the Japanese requests. Japan does not by any means hope to avert war, for war is on already, but merely in a passive way. At the navy yards forces are working day and night and rapid movements of troops situation has been pretty well advanced on Korea. The council this morning is considering war plans and a declaration of hostilities. Before night the signal for strife may be given. The army and navy is ready to strike the initial blow, but the conflict will be confined to naval maneuvers during the early period of the difficulty.
Vladivostok, Feb. 8.—An icebreaker has kept this port open despite the frost until it is now possible for the Russian squadron to take refuge here any time.
Yokohama, Feb. 8.—All the banks in this city have withdrawn their open letters of credit to the entire world.
The War in the United States.
Washington, Feb. 8.—The state department has been advised that Minister Kurino has left St. Petersburg. Baron De Rosch, the Russian ambassador, may leave Tokyo tomorrow.

COLD FOR TWO DAYS

"Old Probs" Predicts More Snow for Portland.

Snow to the depth of one-half inch fell last night but it had nearly all disappeared from the streets by noon, but by 1 o'clock snow was again falling. Along the foothills back of the city the white covering lies heavy. The thermometer stands at 34 degrees above zero, and information received by the weather bureau shows there is likely to be continued cold weather for a day or two. At 5 o'clock this morning the temperature was 32 degrees, and a couple of hours later the mercury had dropped down to 31. The weather then began to moderate, and at 9 o'clock a temperature of 34 degrees was reached.
For a time the weather man was of the opinion that the cold wave which is sweeping the northern states west of the Rocky mountains was going to extend over toward the Pacific coast. For a time it appeared that way, but reports received from different localities this morning indicate that the Williams valley which are being experienced by the residents of Montana, the Dakotas and Minnesota.
The snowfall on January 19, last month, was 4 of an inch, and the following day there was an additional fall of 3 of an inch. Hence this is less of a snowstorm than the one of the preceding month, unless a sudden change sets in for the worse.
No one in Portland has yet had the temerity to attempt to take a sleigh ride this year. Some of them have sleighs standing in readiness to be used at a moment's warning, and all they now lack to carry out their plans is snow and plenty of it.
The terminal lines into the city this morning reported no trouble on account of snow. Southern Pacific and O. R. & N. trains arrived on time and the snow durrly was chiefly local and in no division along the Cascade range was sufficient to delay traffic. Railroad men say that so far this winter delays caused by blockades and snowdrifts have been more infrequent than is usual, and snowplows have been ordered out but a few times during the season, even in the Blue and Cascade mountains, where cold weather and heavy snowfalls begin early and usually give trouble until late in the spring.
NEW YORK WILL AID.
(Journal Special Service.)
New York, Feb. 8.—The chamber of commerce, which gave \$1,000,000 during the Chicago fire, was one of the first to ask if any financial help was needed. The New York banks assured the Baltimore bankers they could have any assistance within reason.

(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Two.)

(Continued on Page Two.)