

# FOREST FIRES WHICH ARE CAUSING MUCH DAMAGE ARE EATING THEIR WAY DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO VANCOUVER

## VANCOUVER AND THE ORCHARDS THREATENED BY ANOTHER VESSEL FOR JAPAN

### Terrific Forest Fires Sweeping Toward Washington Cities—Presumably of Incendiary Origin.

### Saw Mills and a Dozen Dwellings Already Disappear—Families Have Narrow Escapes—Other Fires Are Gaining.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
 Vancouver, Wash., Aug. 18.—Black clouds of smoke hovering over the sky today proclaim the danger that threatens orchards and causes apprehension in the minds of residents of the country north and east of Vancouver.

Already the flames have destroyed the sawmill of the Homestead Lumber company, on the Plains road, together with nearly 100,000 feet of lumber and quantities of saw logs, and a dozen dwellings with outbuildings have added to the depolation of the fiery path. Narrow escapes are reported and a fight is nearly useless.

The most exasperating feature of the disaster is that it is believed to have been caused by incendiaries.

The fire was started, it is said, by the presumed maliciousness of some wood-cutter from Portland. A short distance from the sawmill and houses that were destroyed was a large slaking, and it was by setting fire to this slaking that the fire started. In order to burn a slaking in Clarke county it is necessary to first secure permission from the county commissioners. The permission is, as a matter of fact, always granted, but with certain preceding requirements to be complied with. These requirements are usually "that all the adjoining property owners or renters shall be notified of the time and place the fire is to be set out."

This notice is given in order to enable the citizens of Clarke county to prevent such incendiary destructions as that of yesterday and may yet be added thereto before the close of this day.

**Had No Permission.**  
 The fire that started yesterday which destroyed the mill and houses in that vicinity was not started with the permission of the county commissioners. No such permission was asked. The

## HARRIMAN GAINS HIS SECURITIES DECISION

(Journal Special Service.)  
 Trenton, Aug. 18.—Judge Bradford this morning filed in the circuit court a decree in the suit of Harriman & Pierce against the Northern Securities company, enjoining the company from disposing of any of its 370,380 shares of common stock of the Northern Pacific railway. The decree also prevents a distribution of the remaining 347,090 shares of the company.

The Oregon Short line must furnish a bond of \$2,000,000 to indemnify persons who may suffer by the injunction in a final decision.

## CAT SOUNDS ALARM AND SAVES LODGERS

One hundred and sixty-three men, roomers in the New House hotel, front and back streets, will contribute to a fund to purchase a silver collar for Tabby, the pet cat of the hotel. For today Tabby is a heroine and is receiving more attention than any other feline in the big city of Portland.

That all these 163 men are alive and uninjured they have just this one little cat to thank for. Tabby sounded an alarm of fire in the hotel this morning at 1:30, threatening the second attempt of an incendiary to burn the building and cremate its sleeping inmates.

Evidently smelling the smoke that came from a mattress that was fired in room 28 on the second floor of the building, Tabby rushed wildly about, emitting yowls and meows and scratching the walls frantically. She succeeded in awakening a sleeper in the next room, who arose to ascertain the cause of the cat's actions. He quickly detected the odor of smoke, saw the flames leaping in the bunk and shouted to A. H. Welch, the night clerk. He in turn sent in a telephone call to fire headquarters. House No. 2 and chemical No. 1 were dispatched to the scene.

It was the second call to the hotel, for half an hour before the firemen had been summoned to quench two blazes

### Additional Vessel to Be Placed at Disposal of Exporters.

## PROBABLY THE QUITO

### Deal Will Soon Be Closed by Portland-Asiatic Company to Secure Another Vessel to Take Care of Local Shipment to Orient.

R. P. Schwerin, general manager of the Harriman steamship lines, announced today that by tomorrow he expects to charter another vessel to load at Portland for Japan. It is probable that the British steamship Quito, now lying at Vancouver, B. C., will be engaged for the purpose. Negotiations are under way with that end in view. Since the war risks have declined to a low figure, she is being offered at a far more reasonable charter rate.

Agents of the Portland & Asiatic company, both in this city and San Francisco, were notified today to receive flour and other freight consigned to Japanese ports. This indicates that the ships have been making further to sea from the Russian warships.

After all the space on the Atsee had been contracted for it was found that it would be impossible for her to handle the full amount of freight that is being offered by the exporters. It is said that she will only carry about 4,500 tons of flour, while there are other large orders which the shippers are anxious to fill before the new import duty imposed by the Japanese government goes into effect on October 1. Within the next few days, it is asserted by those who are in a position to know, that additional cargo can be easily secured. When asked about the matter this morning Mr. Schwerin replied that available tonnage is scarce on the coast, but every effort would be made to handle all the business in sight.

"As yet I have not received an answer to the cable which I sent to Japan," he continued, "but I am expecting a reply almost any minute. It is very probable the shipping from the Pacific coast will shortly be resumed with its old-time activity."

**Confers With the Shippers.**  
 Mr. Schwerin has been busily occupied all day conferring with the exporters and the officials of the steamship line. As this is the last trip that he is likely to make to the Oregon metropolis for some months to come he has embraced every opportunity to familiarize himself thoroughly with local conditions.

"Do you know," he inquired, "that if a few natural difficulties were overcome, Portland would soon become one of the leading commercial centers. I refer to the permanent improvement of the river and the bar. I understand that an appropriation of \$2,500,000 would be sufficient to give the channel from Portland to the sea a uniform depth of 30 feet during the low water season, and considering the enormous returns that this expenditure would afford, I am at a loss to understand why the people have not united to get the government's assistance to which they are entitled. In order to secure the assistance that they need all that the people here will have to do is to make a comparison of the appropriations which other less favored ports have received."

## MORE HOPEFUL SITUATION.

Reports from Linn County show fire-fighters gain.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
 Albany, O., Aug. 18.—The wind of the last few days went down yesterday, and as a result of this it is found that the fire situation in this section of Oregon is much improved today, as the fighters of the flames had secured control in all cases, and the indications are that the damage done will not be as great as at first supposed.

The worst of these fires was east of Lebanon, where the shingle mill of Gilbert Bros. was destroyed a few days ago. This fire, after burning up a body of valuable timber, entered a strip of country burned over years ago, and which is almost worthless as timber. Here its progress was necessarily slow, as the wind died down and the fighters gained on the fire.

From other points similar reports are received, and the belief is that the worst is over.

A thick cloud of smoke overhung the

## KIDNAPERS HAVE FLED TO ITALY

(Journal Special Service.)  
 New York, Aug. 18.—The belief is gaining ground that the kidnapers of little Antonio Mannino, becoming alarmed at the activity of the police have fled to Italy with him. A few minutes before the steamer Nord American sailed for Naples and Genoa yesterday, two men having a boy between them boarded the steamer. The boy was crying bitterly and attracted the attention of several officers.

Today it was found that two men and a boy were on the sailing list of the vessel but their residence is not given.

This action on the part of the law-abiding members of the Italian colony has been brought about owing to the surprising frequency of the demands that are being made by the members of the secret society, who are exacting tribute from the small merchant and the banker alike. Recent developments tend to show that many of the more active members of the blackmailing organization are arrivals fresh from Europe. Hundreds of letters have been received by wealthy Italian residents of this city demanding sums varying from \$100 to \$10,000 on penalty of dire



ANTONIO MANNINO. Kidnaped Boy Held for Ransom by Conspirators of the Black Hand Society.

## BLACKMAR REFUSE TO SURRENDER

### Grand Army of the Republic Veterans Elect New Officers.

## DENVER GETS THE NEXT

### Tonight Witnesses Electrical Parade, a Feature of the Greatest Encampment in the History of the Organization.

(Journal Special Service.)  
 Boston, Aug. 18.—Gen. W. W. Blackmar of Massachusetts was today unanimously elected commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

John R. King of Maryland was elected vice-commander-in-chief. Rev. J. H. Bradford of Washington, D. C., was made chaplain-in-chief, and Warren King of Indiana, surgeon-general, after which the convention adjourned.

Denver was selected as the place for the next Grand Army encampment.

The sessions of the G. A. R. encampment and the meetings of the several auxiliary organizations were cut short in order to permit the delegates to take part in the great automobile ride this afternoon.

Thanks to the generosity of the automobile owners of Boston and vicinity, several thousand machines of various descriptions were placed at the disposal of the entertainment committee. In these gaily decorated vehicles the veterans left Symphony hall at 7 o'clock this afternoon and in two divisions began a 20-mile tour over the historic road leading through Cambridge, Arlington, Lexington and Concord.

Returning to the city this evening the victors will be treated to still another of the elaborate features of entertainment arranged in their honor. This will be the great electrical parade, which promises to be one of the most novel and gorgeous spectacles ever witnessed in this city.

It will be a parade of illuminated floats, proceeding over the surface railroads, representing 16 of the most important events of American history, including the birth of the nation, the purchase of the Louisiana territory, the civil war and the acquisition of the Philippines and other insular possessions.

Another notable event of the evening will be the great campfire of the Woman's Relief Corps. In order to accommodate the large crowd expected it has been decided to hold the meeting in Mechanics' building. Governor Bates and Mayor Collins will deliver addresses of welcome in behalf of the state and city, respectively, and other speakers will be Gen. John C. Black, Mrs. Sarah Wisnani, national president of the W. R. C., and Miss Clara Barton.

## TWO BROTHERS FIGHT DUEL WITH PISTOLS

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
 Rio, Idaho, Aug. 18.—J. O. and L. R. Randall, brothers, fought a duel with pistols over a crop harvest yesterday near here. L. R. was shot in the leg and received a flesh wound on the back.

The father of the two young men looked on calmly and, it is said, made no effort to stop the affray, which ended only when their ammunition was exhausted.

## INSPECT THE SUMPTER VALLEY.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
 Baker City, Or., Aug. 18.—General Manager Calvin and General Superintendent O'Brien of the O. R. & N. were here today and inspected the Sumpter Valley railway. They are the guests

## SEND ROOSEVELT BONES OF NEGROES

(Journal Special Service.)  
 Savannah, Aug. 18.—The situation at Statesboro is still regarded as serious. Reports are coming in from all parts of the county of the promiscuous whipping and shooting of negroes. The blacks are thoroughly terrified and it is impossible to predict the outcome. Many negroes are leaving the county.

The bones and charred remains of the lynched negroes were put in a box and addressed to Roosevelt, with the following note:

"You'll never get with these niggers."

The more conservative citizens removed the box from the express office. The state guard have asked for their discharges and charges of mismanagement on the part of the officers in command are frequently heard.

### Russians Will Fight to the End—Decline to Pass Noncombatants.

## 5,000 JAPANESE KILLED

### Report to Berlin Says an Attack Was Made Yesterday and Mikado's Men Suffered Repulse With Wholesale Losses.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)  
 Washington, Aug. 18.—The following dispatch was received by the Japanese legation here today: "The commander of the Japanese forces besieging Port Arthur reports that on the 16th inst. he sent an officer under a flag of truce into the city bearing a communication embodying the wishes of the emperor for the release of all non-combatants and a letter advising the surrender of the fortress."

The documents were handed to the chief of the staff of the garrison. On the 17th inst. a Russian officer, under a flag of truce, came with a reply. The commander refused both the offer and the advice.

Minister Grikom from Tokio cables the state department confirming the above dispatch received at the legation.

Private advices accompanying the dispatch state that there is no probability that anything but starvation or actual death will induce the Russians to relinquish their hold on the fortress.

**REPORT A REPULSE.**  
 Berlin, Aug. 18.—The Japanese suffer losses of 5,000 men.

(Journal Special Service.)  
 Berlin, Aug. 18.—Die Post correspondent in the far east reports that an attack was made on Port Arthur yesterday and that the Japanese lost 5,000 men killed. The dispatch states that immediately after the reply of the Russians, refusing to either surrender or release non-combatants, was received a general attack was made and prosecuted with great vigor. The Russians, however, fought with such determination that the Japanese, after several hours' fighting, were completely repulsed.

## HAVE LOST 20,000.

Port Arthur Refugees Say Japanese Are Being Slaughtered.

Chefoo, Aug. 18.—Refugees who left Port Arthur last night state that the Japanese began a bombardment at the time set for replying to the Japanese demand.

They confirm the previous reports that seven Russian ships are in the harbor in addition to several torpedo boat destroyers. They say the Japanese have lost 20,000 men before Port Arthur in the last ten days.

## RUSSIA WILL ACQUIRE.

(Journal Special Service.)  
 St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—It is stated on good authority that the validity of the British-American view of what constitutes conditional and absolute contraband of war will in all probability be recognized by Russia.

The Russian reply will assert their interpretation of special claims to be disposed of later.

What these special claims are is not known, but it is presumed to govern certain articles of steel and material which could be readily used in the manufacture of ammunition.

It is not doubted that the Russian reply will in all ways satisfy both Great Britain and America, and that with better understanding will come an avoidance of further difficulties.