

GOLD HILL NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

GOLD HILL, OREGON.

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Culled From the Telegraph Columns.

An underground railroad is to be constructed in Berlin, at a cost of \$25,000,000.

The government is taking vigorous measures to suppress outlawry in the Philippines.

Until the tariff question is settled, business in Puerto Rico will remain at a standstill.

The double turrets of the new battle ship Kearsarge have been tested and proven a success.

Ex-United States Senator Gibson, of Maryland, died of heart disease at Washington, D. C.

General Louis Botha has been appointed to succeed General Joubert in command of the Boer army.

The 57th annual boat race between Cambridge and Oxford resulted in an easy victory for Cambridge.

Senator McEride introduced a bill creating a Crater Lake National park, at Crater lake, Southern Oregon.

Seattle printers have raised the price of job work 30 to 50 per cent, caused by the increased cost of stock and high rentals.

Russia is active. Military preparations in several directions are being pushed with vigor. War with Japan is not probable.

John Hayslip, of Kansas City, has been found guilty of murder in the second degree and sentenced to 90 years in the penitentiary.

Robert Bradley, alias Barclay, has been arrested in San Francisco, for counterfeiting silver dollars. An entire outfit was captured.

Several persons perished by being burned by the igniting of petroleum tanks, caused by a collision between two trains, at Vladivokos, Caucasus.

All the coal mines in Indiana have suspended operations, due to the failure of the operators to sign a wage contract for the year. About 9,000 men are idle as a result.

All the coal miners in the Pittsburg, Pa., district, celebrated the establishment of an eight-hour working day, causing complete idleness in the district for one day.

The Boers are rushing men to the front.

Latest advices report two new cases of plague at Honolulu.

Five men were killed by an explosion in a paper mill at Erie, Pa.

President McKinley has again refused to interfere in the Kentucky squabble.

Relations between Russia and Turkey are badly strained and war preparations are in progress.

Several men were seriously hurt at Laramie, Wyo., by an explosion at the Union Pacific oil house.

W. H. Colton, charged with complicity in the murder of Goebel, is said to have turned state's evidence.

Boers are blowing up the coal mines in Natal. The Dundee colliery, with its machinery, has been destroyed.

Harvey L. Goodall, for 30 years the publisher and proprietor of the Drovers' Journal, died in Chicago of heart failure.

The navy department will investigate the value of Crab island, southeast of Puerto Rico, as a coaling station.

General Joubert, the intrepid leader of the Transvaal forces, is dead. He had been suffering from stomach complaint.

The coasting steamer Glenelge foundered during a gale off the Gippsland coast, Australia. Out of a ship's company of 33, only three were saved.

Rear-Admiral Benjamin F. Day has been retired. Captain Terry, commanding the Washington navy yard, will be promoted to the vacancy.

Prof. Mau, the profound student of Pompeian antiquities, proves conclusively that Pompeii was a well-paved city 44 years before the birth of Christ.

In Chicago, Albert Stedje, 17 years old, avenged the insults cast upon his mother by William Hobson, a boarder, by dealing Hobson a fatal blow over the head with a barrel stave.

A story of suffering and death from starvation comes from San Nicholas island, off the California coast. A party of three Chinamen had been on the island for six months gathering and curing abalones. Three months ago an unknown sloop from San Pedro, Cal., called at the island. During the absence of the Chinamen, the visitors stole everything eatable from the camp and put to sea. One of the Chinese died about a month ago, and the other two, when rescued, were too weak to move.

LATER NEWS.

W. J. Bryan addressed 10,000 people at Tacoma, Wash.

War tax will not be reduced at this session of congress.

The Puerto Rican bill passed the senate by a vote of 40 to 31.

The public debt decreased \$6,000,000 during the month of March.

A bill was passed to throw open Idaho and Oklahoma Indian lands.

The journeymen plumbers of Indianapolis have struck, demanding an increase in pay.

The legislative council of Trinidad has ratified the reciprocity treaty with the United States.

Aguinaldo is in Singapore. Singapore papers mention the fact and publish short interviews with him.

The plasterers of Minneapolis have been locked out, pending the settlement of their dispute as to hours.

Pearl harbor, in the Hawaiian islands, will be improved and fortified and made available for naval purposes.

Mexico's army convicts will be abolished by the new secretary of war. Volunteer service is to be encouraged.

The marine hospital service has sent an urgent request to congress for an appropriation of \$500,000 to fight plague in various seaport towns.

The casualties in the Philippine war since January 1, have been: Americans, 88 killed, 163 wounded; insurgents, 1,426 killed; 1,453 captured.

Great preparations for war are going on in Russia. All messages in regard to movements of troops are censored and all officers are denied leaves of absence.

The Illinois Brick Company, of Chicago, the brick combine of that city, has filed with the secretary of state a certificate of increase of capital stock from \$10,000 to \$9,000,000.

The party of scientists under Professor A. Agassiz, who left San Francisco several months ago on an expedition to the South Seas, has returned. This scientific expedition went first to the Pomotos, exploring the northern part of those islands, a region never before examined by scientists. After refitting the vessel at Tahiti, the remainder of the Society islands, as well as the Cook, Savage and the islands of the Tonga group were explored. After refitting at Suva, the Ellice, Gilbert and Marshall islands were explored and the island of Guam was visited.

Boers are surrounding Methuen.

Republicans elected their entire ticket at Cincinnati.

Democrats made several striking gains in Michigan.

Fumblers of Cleveland are on a strike for higher wages.

William J. Bryan spoke to a crowd of 18,000 people at Seattle.

Fire at Newport, Ark., destroyed property to the amount of \$500,000.

Roberts' communication with Kimberley has been cut off by the Boers.

No Puerto Rican franchises will be granted until government is established.

Two small boys of Astoria, Or., were drowned in the Columbia while out in a small boat.

Boers captured seven guns and 350 men in an engagement 17 miles from Bloemfontein.

Painters and carpenters of St. Louis are on a strike, pending adjustment of their demand for higher wages.

Beri-beri, small-pox and bubonic plague are prevalent at Manila, establishing a death rate of over 40 per 1,000.

Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the interior, has resigned to go on the lecture platform in the interest of the Boers.

Governor Roosevelt, of New York has signed the bill repealing the Horton boxing law. It will go into effect September 1.

There is a general desire among all classes in the Philippines for a speedy establishment of some form of permanent government.

Joe Pete, an Indian, under sentence of death for murder at Carson, Nev., has escaped from custody. He was to have been hanged May 4.

Diamonds, jewelry and money to the value of \$16,000 was stolen from a Philadelphia residence, and suspicion rests on the coachman, who is missing.

A British steam launch was captured by pirates near the Check Heung Shan district, the pilot of the boat murdered and the launch and lighter, which it had in tow, looted.

In a severe engagement near Bolivar, Venezuela, General Hernandez was defeated by General Penalosa, commanding the government troops. The revolutionists lost 223 killed.

Because he was suspected of being a spy of a rival company, Choy Fook, a Chinese fisherman at Point San Pedro, Cal., was tied by five members of the various companies to a beacon stake on a barren rock in Richardson's bay, and there left for two days without food or water. When discovered he was almost in a dying condition. His would-be murderers have not yet been captured.

FREIGHT TRAIN WRECKED

Trestle on Spokane & Northern Gave Way.

CARS AND CONTENTS BURNED

A Rotten Bridge the Cause of the Accident—The Head Brakeman Was Severely Injured.

Springdale, Wash., April 4.—At an early hour this morning, the north bound freight train on the Spokane & Northern, consisting of an engine and 31 cars, loaded with general freight, went through the trestle at Sheep creek, half a mile north of Springdale. Charles Dunlap, head brakeman, was severely injured, two ribs being broken. The rest of the train crew escaped with a few bruises. Four tramps were stealing a ride, but none was severely hurt. The rotten condition of the trestle is said to have been the cause of the accident. The trestle is 350 feet long and 40 feet high.

The engine and one car had reached the northern approach, when, without warning, the big trestle gave way, carrying 20 cars to the gulch below. The caboose and eight cars remained on the southern approach. Not a timber of the trestle was left in place. Brakeman Dunlap jumped on the lower side, and rolled down the bank. The rest of the train crew jumped on the upper side, and were not hurt. The four tramps went down with the cars, but miraculously escaped with a general shaking up. As soon as the cars reached the bottom they caught fire. All the cars were burned with their contents.

DISASTER TO CONVOY.

British Guns and Prisoners Not Yet Retaken.

London, April 4.—The latest news from the front adds little to the public knowledge of the convoy disaster. No credence is given to reports that the Boers numbered between 8,000 and 10,000 men. The general belief is that there could not have been more than half that number, but the mere fact that even so many as half could have been collected so near headquarters without the knowledge of the British commanders provokes much uneasy criticism.

The disaster is regarded as a direct result of the inability of General French to cut off the commandos of General Olivier and the other commandos when escaping from the Orange river. Lord Roberts' own dispatch, dated two hours later than the Daily Chronicle's, says nothing about the guns being recaptured. The story, therefore, looks doubtful.

Little news has arrived from other points. Kenhardt was formally recaptured Saturday. The report that the Boers are massing in the vicinity of Taungs and Klipdam is confirmed. Lord Methuen's difficulties are apparently increasing. He has Boer laagers or guerrilla bands on three sides of him, and he will be obliged to watch carefully his communication with Orange river.

PUERTO RICAN FRANCHISES.

None Will Be Granted Until Government Is Established.

New York, April 4.—A special to the Herald from Washington says:

Secretary Root has issued an order revoking the license granted to Ramon Valdes for the use of the water of the river La Plata, of Puerto Rico, to create electric power for a railroad. He has also announced the department will grant no franchises or licenses in the island until the establishment of civil government there. Tracey, Boardman & Platt, of New York, represented by A. L. Arpin and William D. Noble who applied for the revocation of the concession and who, it is said, are endeavoring to acquire it for persons for whom they are acting as agents. The Drexels and other business interests of Philadelphia have vigorously fought the attempts of the New York firms.

Secretary Root's decision, however, not only deprives Mr. Valdes of his license, but prevents Tracey, Boardman & Platt's clients or any other person from obtaining its issuance in their favor. It is learned that this action was taken in accordance with a recommendation of Brigadier-General Davis, governor-general of the island, who has made an extensive investigation. The issuance of the license to Valdes last summer was made when Secretary Root received an opinion from Charles E. Magoon, solicitor of the division of customs and insular affairs, whose wonderful reversal of ideas on the statutes of the new American dependencies has surprised congress.

The files of the insular division contain numerous applications for concessions or licenses, some from prominent people in the United States and others from natives of Puerto Rico.

Chicago Machinists at Work.

Chicago, April 4.—About half of the 5,500 striking machinists resumed work this morning. Manufacturers said the differences had been settled or put on a basis to be arbitrated, and that the remainder of the strikers would undoubtedly return to work in the next day or two.

PLAGUES AT MANILA.

Beri-Beri, Smallpox and Bubonic Plague Are Epidemic.

Manila, April 5.—The census of Manila, just completed by the health department, gives the city an unpleasantly high rank among the unhealthy cities of the world. It establishes a death rate of something over 40 per 1,000 at a conservative estimate. Former estimates and census have always given Manila 300,000 population. This census was a careful count of natives and Chinese living in buildings and boats in the police districts of Manila, and it gave a total of 190,719, of whom 30,000 were Chinamen. There are to be added the inhabitants of several villages within the city limits, Americans and Europeans and 1,400 priests in the monasteries. From reliable information the officials estimate their number at between 50,000 and 60,000.

The deaths in Manila officially reported during six months, from July 1 to December 21 last year, were 6,203. Of these 2,941 were children. Some of the principal causes were beri-beri, 570; tuberculosis, 385; bronchitis, 314; dysentery, 229; fevers, 287; while stomach troubles ranged high. Manila now has three diseases epidemic which would throw the average community into a panic—bubonic plague, beri-beri and smallpox. Beri-beri results from a diet of fish and rice, so that whites do not fear it. Smallpox and leprosy, the Philippines always have, and the people look upon them as a matter of course, avoid direct contact, but hardly give second thought to their presence in the neighborhood.

Smallpox flourishes in some parts of Luzon constantly. Half of the natives in the country districts are pitted with it and mothers try to get their children infected with it, under the belief that it is less dangerous to the young. The towns along the northern coast and on the railroad between Manila and Dagupan are full of smallpox now. General Bell's famous volunteer regiment, the Thirty-sixth, is suffering from the epidemic. Lieutenant Toncay and Lieutenant Wing, both of whom were Tennesseans, the former holding a commission as captain in the Tennessee volunteers, and several soldiers have died, and there are other cases in the regiment.

THE LABOR WORLD.

Building Trades' Strike in New York and Vicinity.

New York, April 5.—The strike of the building trades and a few other trades went into effect in New York and vicinity today. It has not as yet assumed great proportions, and the men out are perfectly orderly. About 1,600 men went on a strike in the borough of Bronx and issued a circular to the bosses. The circular recites the demands of the men as follows: "\$3.50 shall be paid for eight hours' work in the Bronx and \$3.25 for the same length of time in Mount Vernon." The men also demand that Saturday afternoon shall be considered a half-holiday, and that no work shall be done then. Fifty-one bosses signed an agreement, agreeing to pay the men what they demanded and also give them the half-holiday. About 600 strikers returned to work.

At Orange, N. J., 1,000 mechanics, about equally divided among the painters, masons and carpenters, struck today. The masons and painters already have an eight-hour day, but they demand an increase in wages. The painters now receive \$2.50 a day. They ask \$2.85. The masons demand 45 cents an hour. They are now getting 40 cents. The carpenters demand \$2.75 for an eight-hour day. Their present rates are \$1.50 to \$2.50 for a working day of nine hours.

TO FIGHT THE PLAGUE.

Secretary of the Treasury Asks for an Appropriation.

New York, April 5.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says:

The secretary of the treasury has sent an urgent request to congress to make \$500,000 immediately available to enable the marine hospital service to fight the plague and other diseases that may appear at any moment. In the annual estimates, submitted last December, \$300,000 was asked for this purpose, but it is already seen that this amount will be insufficient.

Surgeon-General Wyman, in his requisition on the secretary for the money, reports that on account of the continued and increasing danger from plague, it has become necessary to detail medical officers of that service for duty in the offices of the United States consuls at the various ports of Europe from which emigrants depart, and to prevent the introduction of yellow fever from the fruit ports of Central and South America. Medical officers have been detailed to serve in the consular offices to enforce the quarantine regulations to be observed at foreign ports. Medical officers are also attached to the American consulates in Yokohama, Kobe and Hong Kong.

Dr. Wyman further says that the plague has recently been reported at San Francisco. This state of affairs has rendered necessary the expenditure of greater sums from the appropriation to fight epidemics than were contemplated when the estimates were submitted, and it is believed that \$300,000 may prove insufficient to meet all the emergencies likely to arise in the coming fiscal year.

BY A MAJORITY OF NINE

Puerto Rican Tariff Bill Passed by the Senate.

OREGON MEMBERS DIVIDED

Final Vote on the Bill Was Forty to Thirty-One—Notable Speech Delivered by Mason, of Illinois.

Washington, April 5.—This was a notable day in the senate. It brought to a close the sharpest and most prolonged debate upon any measure since those discussed during the memorial "war congress" two years ago. At 4 o'clock this afternoon the votes were begun upon the Puerto Rican tariff and civil government bill and pending amendments, and, less than an hour later the measure, about which there has been so much contention in and out of congress, was passed by a majority of nine, the final vote being 40 to 31. Only committee amendments were adopted. It has been evident for some time that the bill would command a majority in the senate, but, notwithstanding the fact, the interest in the measure, both of senators and the public, has not flagged an instant.

Today the galleries were crowded, and hundreds of people filled the corridors, unable even to secure standing room in the galleries. From 11 o'clock, when the senate convened, until the hour when the voting began, the advocates and opponents of the bill brilliantly and eloquently maintained their convictions, and the auditors were kept in a state of constant excitement.

The particularly notable speeches of the day were delivered by Mason (Rep. Ill.), in opposition to the measure, and by Foraker (Rep. O.), who replied to a brief speech of Wellington (Rep. Md.). It was the Ohio senator's desire to clear up any misunderstanding or misinformation concerning the bill. Mason's speech was argumentative, eloquent and amusing by turns, and, as it covered the entire range of the country's duties and responsibilities to what the Illinois senator sarcastically termed "our in-suh-lar possessions," it was very interesting to his hearers.

BATES IN MINDANAO.

Peaceful Occupation of Five Northern Cities.

Manila, April 5.—General John C. Bates has peacefully occupied Surigao, Cagayan, Iligan and Misamis, in the islands of Mindanao.

A number of rifles and cannon were captured. The presence of the gunboats Yorktown, Manila and Panay prevented resistance at Cagayan.

Insurgent atrocities in Cagayan and Camarines provinces continue. Spaniards, Chinamen and natives have been murdered.

Losses in the Philippines.

Washington, April 5.—General Otis has cabled to the war department, probably with a view of correcting erroneous impressions that exists in this country as to the state of the insurrection in the Philippines, a summary of the rise of development of the campaign since the first of the calendar year. His figures go far toward offsetting the belief that exists in some quarters that since the addition of guerrilla methods of warfare, the insurgents have inflicted more substantial losses upon the American armies in comparison with the punishment which they have themselves received.

A significant sentence in the report differentiates insurgents and ladrones, showing that Otis has taken cognizance of the fact that a considerable number of hostiles are not soldiers under the rules of war and may not expect the same treatment. The report, which is dated Manila, April 5, is as follows: "Since January 1, 124 skirmishes in the Philippines have been reported, mostly light affairs. Our casualties were 10 officers and 78 enlisted men killed, 13 officers and 151 men wounded. Insurgents and ladrones loss in killed and left on the field, 1,426; captured (mostly wounded), 1,453; small arms secured, 3,051; pieces of artillery, 165; large captures of other insurgent property.

"A number of important insurgent officers are surrendering and the situation is gradually becoming more pacific. OTIS."

Riots in Puerto Rico.

San Juan de Puerto Rico, April 5.—A crowd of about 500 persons gathered yesterday at a pier under construction by the E. B. Jenks Company, of New York, intimidated the native carpenters and forced 35 of them to quit work. The present rate of wages is \$1.50 for 10 hours labor. The leaders of the movement demanded an eight-hour day. At noon today a mob of over 10,000 people assembled and attacked the St. Thomas laborers. There were 150 policemen on duty but they made no attempt to disperse the crowd and a company of infantry was called out to preserve order. The pier is now protected by soldiers.

A Plumbers' Strike.

Cleveland, April 4.—Three hundred journeymen plumbers and 125 laborers struck in this city today for higher wages.