

GOLD HILL NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

GOLD HILL, OREGON.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

An Interesting Collection of Items From the Two Hemispheres Presented in a Condensed Form.

The condition of Empress Frederick continues unchanged.

Purchase of 500 cavalry horses in Oregon has been ordered by the war department.

A provincial government is in course of formation in Tarrac, a northern Luzon province.

General Chaffee is not to join in the German expedition in China under Von Waldersee.

Fire destroyed the Union Railway Company's barns at Elwood, R. I., and 30 trolley cars, causing a loss of \$162,000.

Governor Rogers has appointed G. Meade Emery, as an additional judge for King county, Wash., to serve until the next election.

Eight alleged Boxer leaders, after trial by officers of Chang Chi Tung, the viceroy of Hanko, have been decapitated at that place.

William P. Hill, for over 50 years a prominent New England newspaper editor, is dead of grip, at the home of his son-in-law in Denver, Col.

The schooner Alice, which was in the Nome trade last year, ran on the rocks near the West Point lighthouse, while en route to Seattle from San Pedro. The full extent of the damage is not known. She was towed to Port Townsend.

Fire destroyed the Pythian opera house, the Second National bank building and the building occupied by the Southern Express Company, at Jackson, Tenn., causing a loss of \$100,000. It is believed two lives were lost in the falling of the opera house walls.

The bank of Omaha, at Omaha, Tex., has been robbed of \$3,000 in cash and paper amounting to \$2,000. The robbers made their escape upon a handcar. The lone occupant of the bank was decoyed from town by bogus telegrams, and remained away from Omaha on the night of the robbery.

A verdict for \$1,500 for the plaintiff was rendered in the circuit court in the case of J. J. Hecker vs. the O. R. & N. Co., at The Dalles, Oregon. Hecker, in June last, while driving across the railroad track four miles west of town, was struck by an engine, and sustained severe injuries for which suit for \$2,500 was brought.

Money scarcity in England continues.

The president will call an extra session.

The end of the Boer war is not in sight.

Severe cold weather prevails throughout Europe.

A 13-inch gun exploded on the battleship Kearsarge.

An Englishman's letter created a sensation in Manila.

Five rebel officers and 20 men were captured near Manila.

Civil government was established in Pangasinan province.

All the volunteers will be home from the Philippines by June 30.

The czar is suspicious of Emperor William's doings in England.

Appropriation bills have the right of way in the house this week.

Russia has imposed an increased tariff on imports from America.

The senate will practically devote this week to appropriation bills.

Louisiana mob hanged a negro who killed a white man and his family.

Six persons were killed and as many seriously injured in a train wreck in Nevada.

Nine prisoners in the Spokane county jail overpowered the jailer and escaped.

Official list of the victims of the Union mine accident places the number at 64.

One regiment and a portion of two others will be mustered out at Vancouver, Wash.

Elaborate preparations are being made for the colonial tour of the Duke of Cornwall and York.

Two Bridal Veil, Or., factories and the O. R. & N. railroad bridge were damaged by the breaking of a drift jam.

Danish government has broken off negotiations with the United States regarding the sale of Danish West Indies.

Colonel W. T. Hart, a well-known Western promoter, committed suicide by jumping from a moving train into the Snake river.

To hasten peace negotiations, Von Waldersee has planned an 80-day expedition and asks American and French to co-operate with the Germans.

OUR LAWMAKERS.

Doings of Importance at the State Capital—Bills Passed.

To Prevent Hobnobbing.

A bill to prevent persons beating their way on railroad trains was passed by the house Monday. The bill was introduced by Poorman, at the request of railway employees and managers. It is a copy of the law now in force in Alabama, and is designed to put a stop to the tramp nuisance. The result of such laws in Alabama was shown by Mr. Poorman to be far reaching in its effect, putting a stop to car robbing. The bill was passed, there being no negative votes.

Passed by the Senate.

The senate passed the following bills Monday: House bill 11, to authorize clerks of school districts and county judges to bid in property sold for taxes and to direct the manner in which such property may be disposed of; senate bill 222, to regulate surety companies; by Senator Booth, fixing the salaries of the county treasurers of the state; senate bill 227, to authorize the capital building commissioners to construct a ditch in order to secure water for the state institutions.

To Pay State Taxes Twice a Year.

Senate bill 223 was passed by the senate Monday. It provides that state taxes shall be payable by the counties in two semi-annual installments. This change in the law is proposed in order to harmonize with the new law which makes taxes payable in the counties semi-annually.

The Senatorial Vote.

The vote for senate Monday stood: H. W. Corbett, 32; Binger Hermann, 28; R. D. Inman, 26; George H. Williams, 1; C. E. S. Wood, 1; absent, 2.

Two Railroad Bills Killed.

The house after spending nearly another half day in consideration of railroad bills, disposed of two more Wednesday. One of these measures was Poorman's fellow-servant bill. It was debated at length, and although even its opponents admitted it had good points, it was defeated by a vote of 31 to 22. The other railroad bill which was disposed of, and which met a similar fate, was the bill of Harris to fix the liability of railroad corporations for injuries. But 19 votes were cast in favor of this bill.

No Holiday at Salem.

Washington's birthday, February 22, is a legal holiday, but it is not a legislative holiday unless the legislature by specific act chooses to make it so. Inasmuch as Washington's birthday happens this year to fall on the 40th day of the session (the usual day of sine die adjournment) it is probable that business will be proceeded with much as usual. The constitution of the state does not limit the sessions to 40 days, but does limit the total compensation of each member to \$120 at \$3 per day; therefore, few legislators can be expected to be so self-sacrificing as to work long for nothing.

Bills Passed.

The senate Wednesday passed the following bills: Senate bill 79, to correct the description of the boundary of Wheeler county; senate bill 143, to protect hotel and boarding house keepers; by Hunt, regulating street railways in Portland; senate bill 73, to enact the Torrens system of registration of land titles; senate bill 172, to regulate insurance companies; senate bill 31, to provide for the election of road supervisors; senate bill 137, to create the office of county auditor of Multnomah county; senate bill 217, to amend the charter of Sherwood; senate bill 216, to fix the salary of prosecuting attorney in the Seventh judicial district.

The house Wednesday passed bills as follows: house bill 27, providing for a uniform system of mine bell signals; house bill 146, making it a crime to remove or interfere with mining location marks; house bill 127, regulating the supply of water for irrigation purposes.

The Senatorial Vote.

The joint vote for senator Wednesday was: H. W. Corbett, 32; Binger Hermann, 29; George H. Williams, 1; R. D. Inman, Democrat, 26; W. E. Robertson, Democrat, 1; absent, 1.

Oregon Notes.

The Robins saw mill, six miles east of Union, has been leased by a man from the East.

Eugene veterans of the Spanish and Philippine wars are planning to organize a local association.

A paper is being circulated at Newberg soliciting subscriptions to stock for the purpose of operating a cannery.

Tom Gilliam's log drive, consisting of 4,000,000 feet, is stranded in the Mohawk waiting for a freer. It is consigned to the Booth-Kelly mills at Coburg.

Barbed wire telephone lines are coming back into fashion in Morrow county. The latest is one between the ranch of C. E. Jones, near Eight-Mile postoffice and Heppner, via O. E. Farnsworth's ranch on Rhea creek and the public road to Hardman.

IN A DEATH TRAP

Sixty-Five Miners Are Entombed—No Hope for Them.

CAUSED BY AN EXPLOSION OF GAS

Only Exit Is the Mouth of the Shaft, Which Is Filled With a Huge Volume of Smoke—Relief Measures Have Begun.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 18.—Sixty-five miners are imprisoned in No. 6 shaft of the Cumberland coal mine on Vancouver island. The only exit is the mouth of the shaft which is filled with a huge volume of flame. There is considered to be no possibility for the unfortunates to escape.

Details of Disaster Meager.

Details of the disaster are meager. The Cumberland mine is near the village of Union, about 60 miles north of the town of Nanaimo. The only telegraphic communication from Union is by a single government wire, and little is known of the tragedy in the mine except that a terrible explosion occurred in No. 6 shaft of the Cumberland about 11 o'clock this morning. Following the explosion the shaft caught fire, and the 65 miners who were working half a mile from the entrance were caught in a death trap. A relief party from No. 5 shaft made a brave but futile attempt at a rescue. They were headed off by the fire and could not reach the imprisoned men. The attempt at rescue was made through No. 5 shaft, but the flames prevented any development of the perilous venture.

The Cumberland mine is one of the properties of the Union Colliery Company, situated near Comox and reached from Union bay by the private colliery railway crossing the Trent river on which the memorable bridge disaster occurred a year or two ago. It has been singularly fortunate heretofore in immunity from disaster and was counted an especially safe mine to work in by reason of the character of the formation in which the coal is found there, and the manner in which it had been opened up. No. 6 shaft, the scene of the disaster, was bottomed in October, 1898, at a depth of 814 feet. It is well constructed and timbered, with a mud wall, the pit bottom being timbered with 12x18 sawn bulks, built solidly together, 16 feet wide and 12 feet high. The shaft is located close to the railway, and the ventilation of the mine is effected by a 14x5-foot Guibal fan, which, when run to its full capacity, gives 85,000 cubic feet of air circulation per minute. The air enters by the haulage slopes and is divided into separate splits, the main split being at the point where No. 2 branches off the main slope, part of the air going down each slope. Further down each of these slopes the air is again split, and sent to the workings east and west of the respective slopes.

A second explosion occurred in No. 5 shaft tonight, but it had been expected, and all the men had left the workings. There were no casualties. This explosion prevents any further efforts being made to rescue the entombed miners through No. 5 shaft.

Killed by a Tiger.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 18.—Albert Neilson, aged 15, employed as an animal keeper at the Zoological garden, in this city, was killed by a Bengal tiger today. He entered the tiger's cage and was attacked by the beast. A terrible struggle followed in which Neilson was torn in a hundred places. Red hot irons were thrust into the blood thirsty animal, but not until seven bullets had been fired into its body did it release its hold on its victim. Neilson was dragged from the cage more dead than alive, and was hurried to the city hospital, where he died as he was being carried in. The tiger was not fatally wounded. Neilson had been employed by the Zoo company three years. He was in charge of the lion's cubs, and it is supposed opened the tiger's cage by mistake.

Generals to Retire Today.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Generals J. H. Wilson, Fitzhugh Lee and Theodore Schwan will be retired tomorrow, the last named on his own application. Colonel A. S. Daggett, Fourteenth infantry, will be promoted to a brigadier-generalship, succeeding Schwan, and will be retired immediately.

May Arrest Without a Warrant.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 18.—In the suit of John B. Bennett against Secret Service Agents Flynn and Berriman and Deputy United States Marshal W. S. Blair, who were charged with malicious trespass assault and battery in connection with the arrest of the plaintiff, Judge W. M. Achin, in the United States court, handed down an important opinion. He makes a precedent in deciding that United States marshals or their deputies can make arrests in emergency cases without a warrant.

MOSCOW PAPER SUPPRESSED.

For the Publication of University Bulletins—320 Students Have Been Arrested.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 20.—The minister of the interior, M. Sipiaguine, on Saturday ordered the suppression for three months of the Novosti Dnja, a Moscow newspaper, which has violated the prohibition against the publication of university bulletins. A secret circular has been issued reminding all the newspapers that the prohibition is now effective.

Information has been received here that 320 students have been arrested in Moscow, presumably the whole assembly which obstructed the lectures among the students. Eighteen students were arrested here, but were subsequently released. Pending a decision in their case, however, they were forbidden to re-enter the university. Sixteen additional arrests were subsequently made. The forestry institute, near by, held a meeting and declared the institute closed until the sentences against the students should be revoked and military law repealed.

The institute of railway engineers, by a vote of 230 to 100, declared for obstruction. The military and medical academy students met, with the permission of General Kouropkin, the minister of war, the latter merely warning them that he could not prevent the operation of military law if obstructionary tactics were adopted. Of the 800 who were present at the meeting only 150 favored obstruction.

LEFT \$70,000,000.

Huntington's Estate Has Since Increased \$10,000,000—Pays \$700,000 Inheritance Tax.

New York, Feb. 20.—Executors of the estate of Collis P. Huntington, have deposited with the controller a certified check for \$700,000, to cover the amount of the inheritance tax which will be collected by the state. The deposit indicates the worth of the estate at the time of the testator's death to have been approximately \$70,000,000, which has now been increased about one-seventh, making the present worth \$80,000,000.

The size of the check indicates that the Huntington estate in value will more than double the estimate placed upon it at the time of the death of the California pioneer. Owing to the rise in railroad securities during the last six months, the Huntington estate is now worth almost, if not quite, \$10,000,000 more than it was when the will was offered for probate. As the inheritance tax is based upon the value at the time of the death of the testator, the estate would now seem to be worth approximately \$80,000,000.

No accurate idea as to how the Huntington millions are invested has yet been made by the executors.

TRIED BY A MOB.

Tennessee Negro's Jurors Hanged Him—He Confessed, Implicating Others.

Dyersburg, Tenn., Feb. 20.—An unknown man broke into the residence of Dr. Arnold, a prominent physician here, yesterday, and struck Miss Eliza Arnold on the head and side with a hatchet. She fainted without seeing the assailant, who became frightened and fled. Bloodhounds followed the trail from the young lady's room to the house of a negro named Fred King, where a hatchet was found in a bureau drawer. King and two other negroes were arrested but the latter were released. A mob formed and would have lynched King but for the pleadings of Dr. Arnold, who insisted upon having better evidence of guilt. A mob formed today and took King from the jail and tried him before a jury selected from the mob. He confessed, implicating several other negroes, and was then hanged. Another negro named Beebe has been captured, charged with complicity in the assault, and probably will meet the same fate.

NEGOTIATIONS BROKEN OFF.

Danish Government Will Not Sell Us Danish West Indies.

London, Feb. 20.—"The Danish government," says the Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Mail, "has suddenly broken off all dealings with the United States regarding the sale of the Danish West Indies. This is due to a satisfactory offer made by the Danish East Asian Steamship Company to assist and in the future to administer the islands. The American government has been notified as to this decision."

The Copenhagen correspondent of the Times says:

"From a competent source, I learn that the Danish West Indies will not be sold during the present parliamentary session. The syndicate will form a new trans-Atlantic steamship company and under the other commercial enterprises in connection with the islands, whose excellent ports will be, it is presumed, invaluable when the Nicaragua canal is finished.

The negotiations are still uncompleted, but they will be settled before October, and the negotiations with the United States will then be dropped.

HE WILL NOT GO

Chaffee Is Not to Join the German Expedition.

THE GOVERNMENT FACES A CRISIS

State Department May Try to Dissuade Berlin Authorities From Undertaking This Campaign—Chinese Are to Blame.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The United States government is facing a serious crisis in China, owing to the announcement of the purpose of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee to begin another offensive campaign. General Chaffee has been invited to join in the expedition, which is to be mobilized on a larger scale than anything attempted in China since the allied army began the march to Peking. The general so informed the war department today, and the officials of the state department have been advised of the situation.

This German movement is viewed with absolute dismay here, for it is feared that it requires an immediate decision by the United States government of its whole line of policy toward the Chinese question. General Chaffee will be told that he is not to participate in this campaign. He has been keeping the American forces in Peking ever since the city was pacified, simply as a legation guard, and the German government is fully aware that the United States government purposely deprived the American contingent in China of its offensive military character and withdrew it from the control of General von Waldersee in order to hasten peace negotiations and prevent, so far as it could, the continuance of military movements against the Chinese, which were baneful in their effect upon the peace movement. So our government, not having changed its policy, cannot do otherwise than to cause General Chaffee to refrain from any participation in military movements so long as the present peaceful conditions continue.

But another very serious point under consideration is, not whether Chaffee shall join the German movement, but whether it is not the duty of our government to exercise all proper efforts to dissuade the German government from undertaking this campaign.

The Chinese government is unfortunately delaying the peace negotiations in an exasperating fashion, and is not responding in proper spirit to the effort of the United States government. Word has just come from Minister Conger which confirms the press advices relative to the Chinese declaration to accede to the demands of the ministers in the matter of capital punishment of the leaders implicated in the Boxer movement. Mr. Conger's message gave it to be understood that the Chinese government had agreed to exile Prince Tuan and Lan without capital sentences; to recommend suicide to Prince Chwang; death for Yu Hsien and Chao Chi Chao; imprisonment and degradation from office for Chi Haul and Hsu Cheng Yu. It is said an edict has already been issued to execute these sentences.

A visit from the Japanese minister to the state department served to give color to the story that our government is casting about to ascertain how far the other powers party to the Chinese question would indorse this proposed campaign. It is impossible to secure exact information on the subject. The whole subject, it is said, is to come before the cabinet meeting tomorrow, when the course to be pursued by the United States government will be determined.

It is said unequivocally by competent authority that the American military forces under no circumstances will participate with the Germans in the proposed expedition, and, although it cannot be learned that General Chaffee has yet received instructions to that effect, he undoubtedly will have them very shortly. The United States government stands steadfastly by the principles laid down in Secretary Hay's letter of July 3 last.

Collision at Sea.

London, Feb. 20.—The Russian bark Hoppet, Captain Lindblom, which sailed from Hull February 14 for Sapelo, has been towed to Grimsby with bows seriously damaged by collision on the night of February 15, with the steamer Homer, from Libau. The Homer disappeared after the collision, and is believed to have foundered, with the loss of 16 lives.

Mexican Mine Flooded.

Phoenix, Ariz., Feb. 20.—Particulars have been received here of the flooding of the Santa Rita mine, in the Bacata mountains, 200 miles south of Hermosillo. Four miners were drowned and their bodies have been recovered. The flood was caused by the opening of a vein by a blast. The main tunnel was flooded, and while miners in the upper end escaped, the workers in the lower end were caged like rats in a trap. Miners outside made desperate efforts to rescue their fellows, but without avail.