

would rather advertise in newspaper reaching the than in forty sold on the Marshall Field.



Eastern Oregon Weather

Tonight and Thursday rain or snow; warmer tonight; high southwest winds.

RUSSIAN TRANSPORTS, WITH 2,000 TROOPS

Formal Declaration of War By the Czar Who Claims Justification on the Grounds That Japan Ignored the International Law And Violated Their Agreement

GOVERNMENTAL AND OTHER NEWS

Commission to Commemorate the Anniversary of the Settlement of Jamestown.

ON THE WITNESS STAND IN OWN DEFENSE.

Shipbuilding Trust Case is and No One is in the Penitentiary—United States Circuit Court Renders a Decision Adverse to Augustus Heinze—Another Bank Failure—Senate in Executive Session.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The senate passed the diplomatic appropriation bill without delay.

Senator of North Carolina made a speech on the Panama canal treaty.

Senator introduced a bill appropriating \$500,000 for an exposition to be held in Jamestown, Virginia.

Senator on the Stand. Senator today in his own defense vigorously defended his subordinate affixing his initials to vouchers.

Senator Against Heinze. Senator today denied P. Augustus Heinze's rehearing suit against the Boston Consolidated Mining company.

Senator in Executive Session. The house considered the currency bill.

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Chicago Wheat. Feb. 10.—Wheat opened 96 1/2. Corn opened 54 1/2.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The department sent a circular to the powers asking that they act in a similar manner with the United States in efforts to persuade Russia to preserve neutrality as to China.

RAMOS VS. FIRST NATIONAL.

Bank Contends it Was Not a Party to the Transaction.

The case of Joseph Ramos vs. the First National Bank of this city, was heard before Judge Ellis, of the circuit court yesterday.

The argument brought out the main point of the defense which the bank will make in all of the cases which have been filed against it of late.

The bank contends that it has never received the money on deposit and is therefore not liable.

This will be the main contention of the bank in all of the suits, though in some there will be other points raised.

COUNTY COURT.

In Adjourned Session—Will Meet March 9.

The county court met this morning in adjourned session for revision of the list of judges and clerks of election.

Commissioner T. P. Gilliland, of Ukiah, was unable to be present.

Most of the business was done at the morning sitting, though the court convened this afternoon to wind up business.

NEWSPAPER WAR IS STRENUOUS

OFFICE OF RANGER DYNAMITED AT LONG CREEK.

Bad Blood Has Existed Between Factions in Interior Town—Charge of Dynamite Throws Contents of Newspaper Office into the Street—'Gun Talk' Has Been in the Air For Some Time.

Long Creek, Feb. 10.—Dynamite, supposed to have been placed by enemies of the Long Creek Ranger, the oldest paper here, completely wrecked the office of that paper on Monday night.

The explosion was heard all over the little burg, and when people rushed down to the scene, type cases, machinery, chairs, tables, desks and all the movables in the office were lying in the street.

The press was not blown out of the building, but was badly damaged and will probably be replaced by a new one.

Bad blood has existed between the editor of the Ranger and a certain faction in Long Creek for some time and something desperate has been expected.

While there is no clue to the dynamiters, the editor of the Ranger will swear out warrants for several prominent citizens, he alleges, whom he suspects of complicity in the destruction of his office.

BATTLE OFF PORT ARTHUR BEGUN BY THE RUSSIANS

Land Fighting Begun and First Engagement Results in Russian Victory and Capture of Chemulpo.

FORMAL DECLARATION OF WAR.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 10.—Czar Nicholas this morning issued an official declaration of war as follows: 'To all dear subjects:—I declare we are anxious to preserve the peace so dear to our hearts, and did all in our power to maintain tranquility in the Far East. With these peaceful aims we declared our readiness to revise the existing treaty between the two empires regarding Korean affairs. Negotiations were not carried to a conclusion. Japan, without awaiting our reply, broke off diplomatic relations, without apparently considering what such rupture meant, and commenced warlike actions. Japan ordered torpedo boats to attack our squadron at Port Arthur. After receipt of the report we ordered the governor to reply with arms. We hereby make known our decision in a firm trust and help from Almighty God and assurance in the unanimous readiness of our true subjects to stand with us in defense of our fatherland. We call the blessing of the Lord upon our brave army and fleets.'

London, Feb. 10.—An official account of the Chemulpo battle has been received by the Japanese embassy here.

It says the Japanese squadron, escorting transports to Korea, was met on the way to Chemulpo by the Russian gunboat Korietz, as the latter was leaving Port Arthur. The Korietz assumed the offensive and fired on the Japanese torpedo boat. The latter replied, firing two torpedoes without effect.

The Korietz then returned to her anchorage in Port Arthur harbor. Early next morning Admiral Irim, commanding the Japanese, formally demanded that the Russian vessels leave the port, adding if they did not comply by noon he would be compelled to attack them within the harbor.

The Russian men-of-war left port at 11:30 and battle was immediately given outside of Polynesian Island. After an hour's engagement the Russians took refuge among the islands and towards evening the cruiser Varang sank.

About 4 o'clock February 10, the Korietz was sunk by her own crew, who, finding her disabled, blew her up. The officers and men of the two vessels then took refuge on the French cruiser Pascal.

There were no casualties on the Japanese side. Japanese Victory Confirmed. London, Feb. 10.—The Japanese legation confirms the report of a naval battle at Chemulpo and capture of two Russian cruisers.

More Fighting Imminent. Chefoo, Feb. 10.—A Russian torpedo flotilla is reported to be at Thornton, Haven Island, 50 miles seaward from Port Arthur, and a battle is momentarily expected.

A Russian land force is concentrating on the banks of the Yalu, where a big assignment of field guns and ammunition recently arrived. It is predicted the hostile armies will first meet at Ping Yeng in Northern Korea, as was the case in the China-Japanese war.

Japan Captures Russian Troops. London, Feb. 10.—A dispatch from the Tokio correspondent of the Central News, says three transports in the Russian volunteer fleet, conveying about 2,000 troops, have been captured off Asan, Korea, by the Japanese.

Quite Inconsequential. Paris, Feb. 10.—The official version of the battle of Port Arthur yesterday received here declares the fight was inconsequential. Merely a few shells were exchanged and two Russian officers and 80 soldiers were killed. The cruiser Pallada will be available for service within a week.

Just What Japan Expected. London, Feb. 10.—Minister Hayashi this morning said: 'Engagements at Port Arthur and Chemulpo are merely in accordance with plans of long standing. As soon as our forces landed in Korea we looked for an important fleet action at Port Arthur. The Russians vessels will probably lie close beneath the land batteries, but by going to the Chinese side our ships by high angle fire can shell them out. The Russian admiral may possibly, like Cervera, anticipate his fate and come into the open of his own accord.'

CLEARING THE STREETS.

All Standing Walls in Baltimore Must Come Down.

Baltimore, Feb. 10.—An army of men is clearing the streets. Several are now open to wagon traffic. The mayor and business men will meet this afternoon.

The engineers say all standing walls will have to come down, as reconstruction would be unsafe.

Assistant United States Treasurer Dryden, after communicating with Secretary Shaw today opened a sub-treasury, making \$12,000,000 available for the local banks if wanted.

TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.

Twenty-Nine Applicants for State and County Certificates.

County Superintendent J. F. Nowlin, assisted by Professor J. E. Cherry, principal of the Adams schools, and Professor Frank K. Wells, principal of the Ferndale schools, is certifying the school teachers of the county today with the regular examinations for state and county certificates.

A large number of applicants are on hand and will be the guests of the examiners for another day before the list of subjects is exhausted.

The following teachers are taking the examination for county certificates: Nettie Cannon, Athens; T. L. Childers, Milton; Myrtle Hudson, Milton; Gertrude Galaher, Weston; Francis Caldwell, Cold Springs; Nellie F. Prouty, Pendleton; Minnie Lee, Milton; Aaron Hefley and Iona Marsh, Weston; D. L. Gubser, Pilot Rock; A. F. Hughes, Walla Walla; Eudora E. Cartwright, Milton; Beda Carlstrom, Adams; Nellie Darr, Adams; Lillie Purcell, Milton; Ada Percefull, Milton; Daisy Lee, Milton; Anna Lingenfelter, Pendleton; Thomas C. Salt, Milton; Susie Knowlton, Pendleton; Retta Andrews, Dale.

Those applying for state papers are: Belle Reed, Weston; W. E. Woods, Waterman; Ella Wall, DeLa Wall; Mabel Crowfoot, Jennie Beterley, Annet Barnes and Agnes Bulfinch, all of Weston.

PARKER ASKS FOR LONG TERM

FORGER TELLS THE COURT HE IS MORE THAN GUILTY.

Judge Frazer Surprised to Hear Forger Ask for Maximum Sentence, Instead of Begging for Mercy—Given Five Years With the Admonition That He Reform on His Release From Prison.

Portland, Feb. 10.—Thurlow W. Parker, the forger, who was chased all over the Northwest, was finally captured at his home in Deer Lodge, Mont., and later escaped from Detective Joe Day, on an O. R. & N. train near Arlington, was yesterday sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for his crimes.

Before sentence was passed, Parker made a speech to the court, and instead of begging for mercy, asked Judge Frazer to impose the maximum sentence on him as he realized that he was guilty of more than an ordinary crime, in view of his average intelligence and family relations.

He lamented that he had caused the court and his relatives such a great amount of trouble, and said that by receiving a long sentence he would have sufficient time in which to think over the error of his way.

The maximum sentence for his crime is 20 years, but Judge Frazer said this was too long a time for a man to serve for forgery, as it would deaden and remove all his capabilities and would leave him a helpless machine on his release, and that he would give Parker but five years in hopes that he would become a better and more useful man.

TAFT SAYS ANNUL SULTAN'S TREATY

Secretary of War Says Graft of Sultan of Sulu Should Stop.

SAYS CONSTITUTION PROHIBITS SLAVERY IN ISLANDS.

Favors Abrogating the Treaty by Which the Sultan of Sulu Draws a Regular Stipend From the United States—Senate Public Land Committee Recommends a Bill Donating Five Per Cent of Land Sales to the State in Which Land is Sold.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Taft was before the house committee on insular affairs today. He expressed an opinion on the Patterson bill to abolish slavery in the Philippines and to abrogate the treaty made with the Sultan of Sulu by General Bates.

Taft said: 'By the constitution, as well as the law, slavery is abolished and a congressional act would offer no solution.'

The question is of enforcing instead of making law. He favored an expression of congress, however, toward the abrogation of the Sulu treaty, so the payment of the regular stipend to the sultan might cease. Taft's suggestion was adopted and an amended bill was introduced by Patterson.

Donation to the States. The senate committee on public lands today made a favorable report on the bill proposing to give to each state 5 per cent of the net proceeds of the sales of public land in the states.

This, it is estimated, will involve the expenditure of \$8,000,000. A total of \$5,000,000 derived from this source is now held by the states affected, and the bill proposes to allow them to keep this money.

ATHENA HEARS OF MITCHELL.

Says He is Working Hard on Retention of Fort.

Word was received yesterday by the Commercial club from Athena, Ore., showing that town also has responded to the request of the local club to make representations to the Oregon senators in favor of retaining Fort Walla Walla, says the Walla Walla Union.

In a letter addressed to the president and the vice president of the First National bank of Athena, Senator Mitchell says he and Senator Foster have been unable so far to induce the secretary of war to conform to their wishes, and mentions Senator Ankeny's amendment to the appropriation bill. While promising to do all in his power to have the post retained, he says that the war department seems impressed with belief in its abandonment.

Traveling for Her Health.

Mrs. Mary Thompson, accompanied by her daughter, Miss Ethel Thompson, left yesterday for Portland and Eugene, where they will be the guests of relatives and friends during a month's visit for the benefit of Mrs. Thompson's health.

Ten mills make a cent unless they are steel mills; then they make a merger.

Asiatic Squadron.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Admiral Evans, commanding the Asiatic station, has been ordered to take the cruisers of the squadron to a point on the Chinese coast about 400 miles from the Philippines, and keep the battleships of the squadron in the Philippine waters. This means that the cruisers will go to Hong Kong or vicinity.