

CORVALLIS GAZETTE

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CORVALLIS..... OREGON

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting.

The house is considering the loan of \$4,500,000 asked by the St. Louis fair.

Senator Hanna is resting easier and his condition is considered a little more encouraging.

The United States will preserve strict neutrality and hold war orders until it can consult Japan and Russia.

A tornado almost entirely wrecked the town of Union, Fulton county, Arkansas. Three persons lost their lives.

If the two powers do not object, the American Asiatic squadron will proceed to Port Arthur to witness naval engagements.

Italy has ordered more war vessels to the Far Eastern waters to protect her interests there during the Russo-Japanese war.

French diplomats deem the final crushing of Japan certain. The French government stands ready to act as mediator between the two hostile nations.

President Roosevelt has telegraphed the mayor of Baltimore to call on him if there is anything the federal government can do to help the fire stricken community.

Japan has issued a "first call" for subjects in foreign lands.

A canvass of the senate shows almost a unanimous vote for the 1905 fair bill.

An organization has been formed in Chicago for the promotion of international arbitration.

Britain fears that out of the present Far Eastern trouble a war will follow involving all Europe over the Balkans.

Japan has issued orders that all secret language messages must first be shown to the authorities before being sent.

While at practice the muzzles of the eight-inch guns on the starboard forward turret of the battleship Iowa were blown off.

Russia and Japan are thought to have severed diplomatic relations and the ministers at Tokio and St. Petersburg are preparing to depart.

The belief is prevalent with many that war has been on for several days, but, owing to the strict censorship maintained, news has not been allowed to be sent out.

The Russian fleet has left Port Arthur.

Advices from all sections point to hostilities soon.

The house committee promises to be very liberal to the 1905 fair.

The senate has passed the bill to lend the St. Louis fair \$4,500,000.

Senator Hanna is gravely ill. His sickness is pronounced typhoid fever.

The Japanese minister at London says his nation wants no help to fight Russia.

An issue of 1905 stamps is proposed, similar to those of other national expositions.

Japanese residents of Vladivostok are terror stricken and leaving as hastily as possible.

The candidacy of Senator Elkins, of West Virginia, for vice president has been announced.

The house has passed the agricultural appropriation bill, thus insuring free seed distribution.

Dominican rebels fired on an American launch, killing the engineer and thus insulting the flag.

Senator Hanna's condition is practically unchanged.

Charles M. Schwab gives in and the ship trust will be reorganized.

The house has passed the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill.

The last of the American troops in Cuba have taken their departure.

The naval committee of the house has decided for heavy fighting ships.

A bill has been introduced in the Maryland senate to eliminate the negro vote.

Eastern manufacturers are evincing great interest in the 1905 fair and will make large exhibits.

The United States government has been drawn into the Iroquois fire affair by the burning of the scenery, which was the property of an English concern and in this country under bond.

Russia has dispatched her reply to Japan's last note. It gives slight hope for peace. The entire Russian fleet is cruising off the peninsula and an attempt will be made to send troops to Korea. Japanese troops are already moving toward Seoul.

The house has given the Porto Rican commissioner all the rights of a delegate.

French cotton mills are short on material and the factories are unable to operate steadily.

The Russian fleet at Vladivostok has been made ready for sea. All wood fittings have been removed.

A bill has been introduced in the house to declare the citizens of Porto Rico citizens of the United States.

FIRE IN CHECK.

After Thirty-Two Hours' Fighting Baltimore Believes Worst is Over.

Baltimore, Feb. 8.—When darkness fell tonight, the people of this stricken city knew the worst was over. The flames which for 32 hours had swept resistlessly through the heart of the city were checked. An army of firemen from many cities, working unwearyingly, and aided by a muddy little stream, finally conquered.

Worn by a night and day of terror, the great crowds that watched the ruin of their city turned homeward, and at midnight the streets were deserted, save for the police and military, who guarded the burned area.

To the south, a red glow rises and falls, marking 140 acres of devastation, 75 squares of property that yesterday represented values to the extent of \$75,000,000 to \$125,000,000. Not even a close approximation can be made of the loss. No guess can be made of the insurance. An expert, the city building inspector, estimates the loss in buildings alone at 15,000,000. This, with the goods carried will carry the total to not less than \$20,000,000. On the other hand it is said that insurance estimates do not place the total loss at a greater figure than \$15,000,000. So far there has been no systematic attempt to fix the values that were represented in the district in that which is tonight a devastated waste.

Not a single life has been lost, and not a human being has even been dangerously injured. The hospital lists consist of minor burns, with the exception of Jacob Ilgitz, a fireman from York, Pa. He has a fractured leg and is badly burned.

There has been little or no excitement, and there has been no hysteria. There has been no disorder, and there has been no looting or attempt at looting. Baltimore tonight is as orderly as a village, and only the throb of the laboring fire engines and the boom of dynamite, as it brings dangerous walls to the ground, disturbs the quiet.

So far there has been no call for aid. Proffers of assistance have come from many quarters, from sister cities, from corporations and from private citizens, but Baltimore tonight cannot say whether it will be needed or accepted. That will be decided tomorrow.

WHEN FRANCE WILL BE CALLED.

Russia Must Be Attacked, and By Two Powers.

Paris, Feb. 10.—Officials have carefully considered just how far France is likely to become involved under the terms of the Franco-Russian alliance, which they say contains two distinct safeguards limiting French participation. The first of these is that Russia must be attacked, and the second that the attack must be by two powers.

The requirement that Russia be attacked has been one of the chief causes for Russia's temporizing, as she has not wished to sacrifice the chances of French support. Officials here, however, have believed and hoped that Russia would strike the first decisive blow, as such action would in a measure relieve France from participating in a profitless war.

Concerning the condition in the alliance providing that two powers must attack Russia before France becomes involved, M. Delcasse has distinctly stated to members of the diplomatic corps that Korea and China would not be considered such powers if either joined Japan against Russia.

SENATE MAY VOTE ON TREATY.

Some Fix the Day of Decision as Friday or Saturday.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The senate will proceed this week with the Panama canal treaty, both in open and executive sessions, and there are not a few senators who express the opinion that the week may see a vote on the treaty. Some senators fix the vote as for Friday or Saturday of this week, and none puts it beyond ten days hence.

Senators Hopkins and Clayton will speak in favor of the treaty. The diplomatic and consular appropriation bill will be reported from the committee and taken up at the first convenient opportunity, when interference with the canal treaty will not result therefrom. Some attention also may be given to the general calendar.

Great Sum for Irrigation.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The secretary of the interior has approved the setting aside of \$2,250,000 of the reclamation fund for the irrigation project on the north side of the Shoshone river, in the Big Horn basin, of Wyoming, provided that satisfactory rights to land and water can be secured. This project provides for the construction of a dam and storage reservoir in Shoshone river, and a canal heading in the canyon above Cody. It will provide water for approximately 90,000 acres on the north side of the river.

New Custom-House Must Be Rebuilt.

Baltimore, Feb. 10.—As a result of an examination of the new custom house building, it is almost certain that the entire structure must be torn down and rebuilt. Nearly \$350,000 worth of work has been done on the building. The vaults have been found in good condition in several banks, where examinations were made. This includes the vault of the National Exchange bank, in which it is understood there is \$800,000 of government funds.

To Report Naval Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Mr. Foss, chairman of the naval affairs committee, will report the naval appropriation bill in the house this week, and probably call it up for action late in the week.

WAR HAS BEGUN

JAPAN ATTACKS RUSSIAN SQUADRON AT PORT ARTHUR.

Two Battleships and a Cruiser Badly Damaged—Mikado's Forces Escaped Unharmed—Several Russian Merchantmen Also Seized—Both Nations Sending Troops to Korea.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—A special telegram from St. Petersburg says three Russian ships at Port Arthur were severely damaged last night by torpedoes discharged from Japanese torpedo boats while the latter were passing the harbor. Subsequently a large fleet of Japanese battleships and cruisers appeared before the port.

Martial Law Proclaimed.

Port Arthur, Feb. 9.—In consequence of the attack by the Japanese torpedo boats, martial law has been proclaimed here.

Japan Seizes Russian Ships.

London, Feb. 9.—In a dispatch dated Nagasaki, February 6, and which was delayed by the censor, a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph asserts that Russia deliberately precipitated the crisis by secretly dispatching, a few days ago from Port Arthur, transports loaded with a full division of troops and escorted by a fleet and landing them near the Yalu river, thus occupying Northern Korea.

Japanese patience became exhausted, and today Japan moved her ships and took unresisted possession of certain merchant vessels, including the Shikha and Manchuria, the correspondent continues:

"Two other Russian vessels were seized and escorted to Sasebo, Japan." The Daily Telegraph says it supposes the foregoing seizures occurred at Masampo, but that the censor suppressed the location.

A special dispatch says a strong fleet of Japanese warships, reported to be on the way to Chemulpo, has seized several Russian trading vessels.

In a dispatch from Tokio, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says the Jiji Shimpō has received a telegram from Fusan, Korea, declaring that the firing of guns was heard to the east of Koje island.

FAIR BILL PASSES.

Senate Votes to Extend Aid to Lewis and Clark Exposition.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Without a dissenting vote the Lewis and Clark exposition bill passed the senate at 5:30 yesterday afternoon, carrying an aggregate appropriation of \$1,775,000. Section 16 of the bill, providing for the construction of a memorial building was stricken out; the number of national commissioners was reduced from seven to three; an amendment was attached absolutely closing the exposition and grounds on Sunday, and the franking privilege denied to the national and state commissions. Aside from these changes, the bill was passed in substantially the shape in which it recently came from the senate committee.

The Lewis and Clark bill came up unexpectedly at 3:15. The attendance at this time was slight, but as the debate proceeded, senators returned to the chamber, until, at the time the bill was passed, there was a fair average attendance. Twice during the afternoon it looked as if the bill would have to go over until some future time. Senator Platt, of Connecticut, made a rather vicious attack upon the large amount carried by the bill, and threatened to force a fight, which might have been temporarily disastrous. Later Senator Allison became critical of the phraseology of the bill, and but for the intervention of Senator Fulton would have forced the senate to adjourn without taking action on the bill. The committee amendments were mostly adopted without discussion, but the last committee amendment, relating to Sunday closing, provoked a protracted debate, and in the end resulted in the adoption of an amendment offered by Senator Platt, of Connecticut, closing both buildings and grounds on Sundays.

Japan Cuts Cable to Korea.

Paris, Feb. 9.—The French foreign office was advised this afternoon that the Japanese have cut the cable connecting Japan and Korea. The object of this action is believed to prevent news of the operations of the Japanese reaching the Russians, which was possible, no matter how closely censored the dispatches sent might be. Following the breaking off of relations between Russia and Japan and the cutting of the cable is regarded here as significant of the purpose of the Japanese to begin hostilities.

Japan Landing Men in Korea.

London, Feb. 9.—The Chee Fee correspondent of the Daily Mail cables that six Japanese transports are landing troops at various ports in Korea, from Masampo and Fusan, on the south of Kusan, and Mokpo and Chemulpo, on the west. Seoul is to be occupied and the landing is to be covered by torpedo divisions. The main body of the Japanese fleet, the correspondent concludes, will sail in the direction of Port Arthur.

Executive Ability Counted.

Washington, Feb. 10.—It is said at the war department that Cameron Forbes, of Boston, who has been tendered the position of Philippine commissioner, was selected principally because of his executive ability and technical knowledge of engineering matters.

STRICTLY WITHIN TREATY.

Records Show America Took No Part in Internal Affairs of Colombia.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The president sent to the senate today a mass of correspondence in response to Senator Gorman's resolution calling for the dates and circumstances under which the United States used military forces in the internal affairs of New Granada, or Colombia, and whether such uses of military forces were on the initiative of the United States or by the request of New Granada or Colombia, or in consequence of any official representation of either. The resolution also called for copies of the orders by the navy department relating to such use of military force.

The circumstances under which forces were landed are given by the president in detail, but orders by the war and navy departments concerning the workings of such departments, and which constitute a part of the offices of the military and naval intelligence, are withheld on the grounds that the disclosure of such confidential matters would be incompatible with the public interests.

As a preface to the correspondence Acting Secretary of State Loomis writes a letter in which he says all the correspondence on record in the department of state is given, and that from this it appears United States forces have been landed on the Isthmus of Panama 10 times from October 1856 to September, 1902, the last mentioned landing being the only one made without actual request from the government of the isthmus.

BITTER ATTACK ON AMERICA.

Russian General Says if War Comes, it Will Be Her Fault.

London, Feb. 6.—Special dispatches received from the Far East, and published this morning, add nothing to the knowledge of the actual situation.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph quotes from the Novo Vremya a bitter editorial attack upon the United States, which he supposes to be an outcome of the dispatch of American consuls to Mukden and Antung. The Novo Vremya accuses the United States of a desire to win the hegemony of the entire globe, and exclude Europe from the Far Eastern market, and declares "if, as it seems likely, war breaks out, it will have been instigated by the Yankees with their utilitarian views."

Baron Hayashi, Japanese minister to Great Britain, describes the situation in the Far East as "certainly very threatening," but said everything depended on Russia's reply.

1904 FAIR STAMPS ORDERED.

They Are to Be On Sale in All Post-offices the First Day of May.

Washington, Feb. 6.—An order for the first of the new Louisiana purchase exposition postage stamps, which are to be placed on sale at all postoffices in the United States May 1, has been sent to the bureau of engraving and printing by Third Assistant Postmaster General Madden. It calls for the printing of 90,000,000 of the one-cent stamps, bearing the portrait of Robert R. Livingston; 225,000,000 of the two-cent stamps, bearing the portrait of Thomas Jefferson; 7,500,000 of the three-cent stamps, with Monroe's portrait; 9,500,000 of the five-cent stamps, with McKinley's portrait; and 6,500,000 of the ten-cent stamps, with a miniature map of the United States, showing the territory acquired by the Louisiana purchase.

CHINA AGREES ON WAR ACTION.

Rolling-Stock of Railroad Will Be Brought Inside Great Wall.

Tien Tsin, Feb. 5.—In the event of an outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Japan, the railroad administration has arranged to bring the rolling stock of the extra mural line inside the great wall.

Russia has ordered another 20,000 tons of Kaiping coal for delivery at Port Arthur, making 70,000 tons in a week. It is pointed out here that if war breaks out soon the coal will hardly reach its destination, as the stocks here are low and the steamers scarce.

It is reported that the Russians are building a railroad to connect Mukden with Sin Min Tsin, 30 miles west of Mukden, on the railroad running to Shan Hai Kwan and Tien Tsin.

Panic General in Korea.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 6.—Advices received here from Korea say that the feeling of panic is general there and that depression prevails in all the seaports, where massacres of foreigners are feared. Europeans are preparing to send their families to Shanghai. Every steamer from Japan conveys to Korea many Japanese officers and soldiers in disguise, and their presence in such numbers is regarded by the Russians as being a secret occupation. Sixty doctors have left St. Petersburg during the last few days.

Lighthouse Service for Alaska.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Secretary Cortelyou today sent to congress a report from the lighthouse board recommending changes and improvements in the lighthouse administration in Alaska. The board primarily recommends that Alaska be made a separate lighthouse district, and a buoy station be established at Ward cove, Tungas Narrows. The board further recommends the construction of a lighthouse tender for service exclusively in Alaska.

Agricultural Appropriation Bill.

Washington, Feb. 6.—The agricultural appropriation bill reported to the house today carries a total of \$5,711,240, an increase of \$233,000 over the current law.

FLAMES LEAP HIGH

BUSINESS PORTION OF BALTIMORE THE SCENE OF DESTRUCTION.

Loss Will Amount to Over \$40,000,000—Help Summoned From Philadelphia, Washington and New York—Dynamite Used to Prevent Fire from Spreading—Troops Called Out.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 7.—The most destructive fire in the history of Baltimore occurred here today, raging practically unchecked during many hours, completely destroying scores of the largest business houses in the wholesale district, involving losses which cannot yet be estimated, as the fire was still burning fiercely when night fell. Owing to the wide extent of the calamity it will be tomorrow before an approximate estimate can be made, though it is certain that it has already exceeded \$40,000,000.

The fire broke out shortly before 11 o'clock this morning in the wholesale dry goods store of John E. Hurst & Co., on Hopkins Place, in the heart of the business district, with a series of loud explosions, which were heard in remote parts of the city, and spread with fearful rapidity.

In a half-hour a dozen big warehouses in the wholesale dry goods and notions district were burning fiercely. The entire city fire department was called out, but was utterly powerless to check the spread of the flames, which were aided by high winds, and by noon there was savage fires in at least 30 big warehouses, and the flames were steadily eating their way into successive blocks northwest and south.

Though every bit of the fighting apparatus in the city was called into requisition as the flames continued to spread, the firemen realized that they had a task before them which was too great for them to combat. Telegrams for fire engines were sent to Washington and Philadelphia, and about 1 o'clock six engines arrived from Washington and four from Philadelphia and joined in the battle with the flames.

Water plugs in every section within a radius of half a mile from the fire were in use, and it is roughly estimated that 350 hose were playing at one time upon different parts of the fire.

Fire Still Beyond Control.

Baltimore, Feb. 8, 4 A. M.—The fire continues to spread in an easterly direction, and continues beyond the control of the multitude of firemen.

Mobs of wagons are busy at this hour removing the household goods of the residents just east of Jones Falls, the hundreds of residences being threatened by the rapidly extending flames.

The Fourth and Fifth regiments of militia, together with a company of regular artillerymen from Fort McHenry, reinforce the police to keep the crowds in check.

WARSHIP IS SENT.

America Takes Hand in Santo Domingo Revolutionary Affairs.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Simultaneously at the state department and the navy department today the announcement was made that a serious state of affairs is prevalent in Santo Domingo. Complaint has been made to the state department by the owners of the San Isidro plantation that their property had been besieged, and an appeal is made for immediate relief. Other Americans having interests in Santo Domingo have made similar complaints. Mr. Moody, the secretary of the navy, and Mr. Loomis, the acting secretary of state, had long conferences with the president upon the subject. With his return to the navy department from the White House, Secretary Moody held a conference with Rear Admiral Taylor, and a cablegram was dispatched to Rear Admiral Wise, commanding the training squadron now at Guantanamo, instructing that officer to take immediate and effective steps for the adequate protection of American lives and property at the Dominican capital, limiting his action at all times to the recognized tenets of international law.

Mouth of the Amur Is Mined.

New York, Feb. 9.—A Russian officer, who has lately returned from the Far East, is quoted by the Moscow correspondent of the Times to the effect that the Russian Pacific squadron possesses at least two submarines. They were built on the Black sea, carried east in sections and fitted together at Port Arthur where they now are. The officer also states that the mouth of the Amur river is heavily mined and that the river is equipped with light craft, each patrolling about 66 miles and carrying light artillery.

Russia Would Still Parley.

London, Feb. 9.—A dispatch to Reuters' telegram company from St. Petersburg says: An authoritative statement from a Russian source regarding the contents of the Russian reply is as follows: "If the Japanese government is animated by the same pacific sentiments as the Russian government, there is reason to hope that it will give Russia's fresh proposals such favorable reception as to permit mutual accord being finally reached."

War Supplies for Rebels Seized.

Cape Haytien, Hayti, Feb. 9.—Munitions of war intended for General Jimenez, the Dominican revolutionary leader, were seized at Puerto Plata, on the north coast of the republic of Santo Domingo, yesterday, after having been landed there by the steamer New York, from New York, January 30.

ARE DRIVEN OUT.

Russia Making Thousands of Hebrews Leave Moscow.

London, Feb. 4.—Moscow is being depopulated of its Jewish residents by order of the Russian governor of the city. Investigation, begun at his order, into the domiciliary rights, under an old law, of 30,000 Jewish workmen and artisans has resulted in the expulsion of thousands.

The police are carrying out the instructions given them with the greatest zeal. Jewish houses throughout the city are entered and searched at all hours of the day and night for evidence that will permit the expulsion of the residents.

The law upon which the governor bases his right to make the crusade against the Jews is an old one under which any Jewish workmen and those who were members of the First Guild of Merchants, or were academically educated, were allowed to remain in Moscow after the expulsion of 1891. Recently the governor ordered a strict investigation into the rights of those residents. On finding the slightest flaw the order of expulsion is issued.

Many families whose fathers during the '50s paid for the freedom of the city to their heirs have been expelled suddenly. It was charged that the fathers who paid for this right paid taxes only as members of the First Guild of Merchants for eight years.

According to a recent law the freedom of the city cannot be secured by any one who has not paid his taxes as a member of the First Guild for ten years. This recent law has been applied in the cases of the dead Jews, and their ancestors have been expelled under its provisions.

Those of the expelled Jews who have means have been taken to the railway station and compelled to buy tickets. Those who have not the means to buy tickets are forwarded without expense.

SCORE FOR FAIR.

Oregon Senators Make Diplomatic Move by Giving Way to St. Louis.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Senators Mitchell and Fulton appeared before the full committee on appropriations today, in connection with the proposed amendment offered by Senator Mitchell yesterday, to the urgent deficiency appropriation bill in the interest of the Lewis and Clark exposition. The St. Louis fair people, whose appeal for a loan was under consideration at the time, felt that they would be embarrassed by the retention of the Oregon amendment, and on this showing and the assurance of the committee that the Oregon exposition should receive favorable consideration, it was decided to withdraw the amendment and bring it up later in connection with the sundry civil bill.

The senators believe that by their diplomatic course, taken at this time, they have greatly advanced the interests of their cause, and they feel more hopeful than ever of favorable action later on. They are now assured of the cordial and active support of the St. Louis people. The St. Louis proposition will undoubtedly be retained in the urgent deficiency bill, and this will be a good precedent for Oregon in the sundry civil bill.

FIGHTING IN PANAMA.

Colombian Troops Attack Indians on the San Blas Coast.

Panama, Feb. 4.—A report has reached the isthmus that Colombian troops are fighting with the Indians on the San Blas coast, which is in Panama territory. It is impossible, however, to obtain reliable confirmation of this. The United States gunboat Bancroft was to have sailed today from Colon to Bocas del Toro, but the orders were countermanded at the last moment, because of the report of fighting on the coast.

A letter was received here some time ago from Captain Torres, commanding the Panama troops at Chepo, on the south side of the isthmus and directly south of the San Blas country, saying he had decided to cross over to the Atlantic side. There is a possibility that the Indians are fighting with Captain Torres' command, mistaking them for Colombians.

Ex-Secretary Whitney Dead.

New York, Feb. 3.—William Collins Whitney, ex-secretary of the navy, died a few minutes after 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon at his home, 871 Fifth avenue, in his 64th year. He died while under the influence of ether, administered preparatory to a second operation for appendicitis. By his bedside were his son, Harry Payne Whitney, and his daughter, Dorothy Whitney, as well as Dr. William T. Bull, the chief surgeon in attendance. Mr. Whitney was taken ill Friday night at the performance of "Rigoletto."

Taft a Friend of Willamette.

Washington, Feb. 4.—One of the first communications to the house signed by Secretary Taft related to the improvement of the Willamette river between Portland and Oregon City. He approved the recommendation of the engineers that \$5,100 should be spent to remove Capeley's rocks and dredging a channel to four feet deep and remove the sandbars at Jennings, Waldron's and Magoon's and at the head of the Clackamas river.

Considering Successor to Wright.

Washington, Feb. 4.—It is learned that the president in selecting a successor to Governor Luke E. Wright, on the Philippine commission, will take a man of prominence from this country. Governor Wright wishes to have the benefit of the counsel of a man fresh from the states and in touch with events here, and desires, it is said, an associate rather than a subordinate.