

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

The sultan of Morocco has removed foreigners and will take charge of his own army.

There has been a great increase in the number of accidents on railroads during the past year.

The Federal grand jury is now in session at Portland behind closed doors, investigating various land frauds.

The Smoot investigation continues before the senate committee on privileges and elections, but nothing new is being developed.

Many hundred Chinese youths are in Japan taking instructions in the art of war. Many are also at the front where a practical view can be had.

It is probable that the North sea incident will be put down as an unfortunate blunder, whereby the Russian commander mistook two of his own vessels for an enemy.

The United States supreme court has granted the motion to advance the hearing of the Benson-Hyde-Diamond conspiracy cases and they were set down for February 20. The cases involve the question of removal from one jurisdiction to another.

Oregon expenses for 1905-1906 are estimated at \$2,000,000.

The complete election returns give Roosevelt a plurality of 2,526,470.

The members of the North sea commission are gathering in Paris to enter upon their work.

Russia is assembling a third Pacific squadron, and it is believed it will be sent to the Far East.

The Colorado supreme court has thrown out the entire vote in three Denver precincts on account of fraud.

While particulars are not obtainable, it is believed that General Soessel's latest report to the czar is couched in a despairing tone.

Senator Mitchell and Representative Hermann are on their way to Portland to appear before the grand jury in connection with the land fraud cases.

The first and second sections of the north bound Oregon express collided near Marysville, Cal. A brakeman lost his foot and five passengers were injured.

E. Morton White, chief of the department of admissions at the St. Louis fair, has declined to accept a similar position at Portland. Frank B. Davidson will be tendered the position.

The bandit Raisuli is again active.

A number of Alaskan bills will come up in the senate soon.

Carnegie has given Boston \$540,000 for an industrial school.

Both armies in Manchuria are seriously hampered by cold weather.

New York is inquiring into the matter of building a city light plant.

Kuropatkin, when he receives more troops, may try to relieve Port Arthur.

Traffic has been considerably delayed in South Dakota and Nebraska by snow.

Stoessel has again been wounded, this time by a rifle bullet, but not seriously.

Fire destroyed property at the Silver Lake mine, Silverton, Col., valued at \$100,000.

The remains of Kruger have been laid in the tomb at Pretoria with imposing ceremonies.

The crown prince of Denmark, who is very anxious to meet Miss Roosevelt, is looking for a wife.

An American captain just home from the Orient says he saw General Kuroki in November. The general was reported killed early in October.

A Japanese cruiser is reported ashore in Yungcheing bay.

The Oregon land fraud case has been postponed until April.

A Japanese wing of Oyama's army driven back recently is again advancing.

The Japanese are fearful lest the Russian government buys a number of warships from Chile.

Brigadier General S. M. Whiteside is dead. He had command of the department of Santiago during the Spanish war.

Four men were scalded to death and four others badly injured by an explosion on the battleship Massachusetts.

The suspension bridge at Charleston, W. Va., collapsed, drowning three school girls and injuring five people.

A number of prominent rural mail carriers who were too active politically during the recent campaign, have been removed. They were all in New York and New Hampshire.

Wireless telegraph messages have been sent from Kansas City to Cleveland, Ohio, 725 miles, without relay. This is said to be the longest distance overland messages ever covered.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Tuesday, December 13.

The house passed a resolution impeaching Judge Swayne, of the Northern district of Florida, for "high crimes and misdemeanors." A committee was appointed to notify the senate. The senate passed a bill to throw open for settlement 800,000 acres in the Yakima Indian reservation.

Nothing of any importance was developed in the Smoot case today. Five witnesses were examined.

The house resolution for an adjournment from December 21 to January 4 was adopted by the senate.

Senator Mitchell is sure of securing the chairmanship of the committee on canals.

Wednesday, December 14.

The senate has appointed a committee to arrange for the trial of Judge Swayne, of Florida.

A bill was passed in the senate appropriating \$25,000 for the improvement of Mount Rainier national park.

In the house the urgent deficiency bill and several other bills of a public nature were passed.

Thursday, December 15.

The senate spent practically the entire day discussing the Philippine administrative bill. A number of amendments were made. Under unanimous agreement the vote on the bill will be taken tomorrow and the disposal of all amendments will occur at the same time.

The urgent deficiency bill was passed without debate.

In the house an attempt was made to call up the bill to improve currency conditions. This matter occupied almost the entire day, only a few minor items coming before the house.

Friday, December 16.

The senate by a vote of 44 to 23 passed the Philippine government bill. As passed it exempts from taxation all bonds issued by the Philippine and Porto Rico governments; authorizes municipalities to incur a bonded indebtedness amounting to 5 per cent of the assessed valuation of their property; authorizes the Philippine government to incur a bonded indebtedness of \$5,000,000; establishes a system for the location and patenting of mineral, coal and saline lands, and gives the civil governor the title of governor general.

The greater part of the day was put in discussing and voting on amendments on the Philippine bill.

At 5:05 p. m. the senate adjourned until Monday.

Today's session of the house was given over almost exclusively to consideration of the bills on the private calendar, a dozen or more being passed. The senate amendments to the urgent deficiency bill were agreed to.

A resolution was adopted providing that the exercises appropriate to the reception and acceptance from the state of Kansas of the statue of the late John J. Ingalls, erected in Statuary hall, of the capitol, be made a special order for January 21.

The house adjourned until Monday.

Monday, December 19.

No business of importance was transacted in either house today, the entire time being in session being taken up by discussion of minor measures. Many senators and representatives were absent. Adjournment was taken until Wednesday.

OREGON WINS MANY PRIZES.

W. H. Wehrung Says State Made Fine Showing at St. Louis.

Portland, Dec. 17.—After several months in St. Louis, where he had charge of the Oregon exhibit at the Louisiana Purchase exhibition, W. H. Wehrung returned to Portland yesterday. He reported wide interest among Easterners in the Lewis and Clark exposition and predicted there will be heavy westward travel next year for the purpose of seeing the Western World's fair.

Mr. Wehrung speaks highly of the showing made by Oregon at the St. Louis fair, saying that the state held up well against states with much larger appropriations. He also says that he has been told that Washington's representatives bought a consignment of Oregon cherries from a dealer and exhibited them as Washington product. Thus Oregon competed in the cherry contest against her own product.

Men on Battleship Quarrel.

New York, Dec. 17.—George Washington, a negro seaman, shot and wounded two others of the Illinois crew, on the United States battleship Illinois, in the New York navy yard today. Henry More, an apprentice, received a bullet in the arm and Seaman Shap, another in the back. More and the colored man occupied adjoining hammocks and Washington was said to be inoffensive until More's tantalizing actions caused Washington to lose his temper today, and he shot More. Shap interfered and was shot.

To Favor Army Officers.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Senator Dietrich has introduced an amendment to the Philippine bill proposing that all officers of the United States army, naval and marine corps or constabulary officers of the Philippine government shall have the privilege of free entry of all articles, including used household goods, uniforms and articles of equipment and service, imported for their use and benefit and not for barter or sale.

Land Withdrawn in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The general land office has ordered the temporary withdrawal of 17,920 acres of public lands in the Vancouver, Wash., land district from all forms of disposal except under mineral laws.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

WILL ASK FOR NEW COUNTY

Antelope Anxious to Sever Connection with Wasco.

Hood River.—At the coming session of the legislature the people of Antelope will renew their efforts to have a new county created out of Southeastern Wasco, with Antelope as the county seat. This new division is to be known as Stockman county. Although in the two previous sessions The Dalles has stoutly opposed the move for Stockman county, it is understood that the city is pledged this time to support the demands of Antelope.

There has been some talk of Hood River asking for a new county at this session of the legislature. The people here have long had the ambition to govern themselves in county affairs, but the interested citizens realize that with stubborn opposition in the senate from The Dalles, the requests of this city would receive little attention at this time, especially since the formation of Stockman county is considered certain.

Representative Jayne, of this city, at the request of the Finance committee of the Hood River city council, will present a bill to the legislature next month asking for an amendment to the city charter, permitting the town to issue bonds in excess of the 5 per cent limit now in force. This city finds itself short for funds and must resort to borrowing money to defray expenses for the coming year.

MORE CASH FOR SCHOOL.

Regents of Western Institutions Talk With Representatives.

Weston.—The board of regents of the state normal school at this place met here last week with the representatives of the county. The meeting was held to investigate the conditions at school and to consider whether or not the appropriation should be raised from \$16,000 to \$20,000, which will be ample to maintain the school for a year. The representatives present are in favor of raising the appropriation, as the school is crowded and the cost of maintenance has been increased accordingly. The regents and representatives present were: G. W. Proebstel, Weston; J. W. Scriber, La Grande; R. Alexander, Pendleton; F. M. Saxton, Baker City; Representatives W. D. Chamberlain, Athena; William Blakely, Pendleton; State Senator N. Wheelton, Wasco county; P. A. Worthington, Portland, and President R. C. French of the school.

Prepares for School Exhibits.

Pendleton.—Superintendent Frank K. Welles of the Umatilla county schools has 5,000 sheets of practice paper on hand which will be distributed in the schools throughout the county, preparatory to making school exhibits to be placed in the educational department at the Lewis and Clark fair. The exhibit will consist of maps, penmanship, drawing and all other work that can be properly displayed on paper. Mr. Welles will commence an active campaign about the first of the year, in order to have the best specimens ready for the opening.

Report of State Biologist.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—The second biennial report of State Biologist A. R. Sweetser, of the University of Oregon, which has been prepared to submit to the 23d legislative assembly is out and gives valuable data concerning the water supply of all valley towns. The report first gives a knowledge of the most dangerous forms of bacteria, with references to typhoid and B. Coli bacteria. Generally the data gives evidence of the fact that all valley towns use wholesome water, unless the sewer system is poor.

Athena Buys a Water Supply.

Athena.—The city of Athena has decided to purchase the Gallagher springs, two and one half miles southeast of town, for its future water supply, \$150 being paid for the privilege of beginning work and \$1,100 to be paid Roy Gallagher, the minor owner, when he reaches his majority, November next, if the springs are adequate for the supply. When the final payment is made the city will receive a clear title, leaving Mr. Gallagher free use of water.

Few Oregon Soldiers will Go.

Salem.—Governor Chamberlain is in receipt of a letter from Chairman George H. Harris, of the committee on military organization of the president, inquiring as to how many of the Oregon troops will be sent to participate in the inaugural. Unless they should choose to attend at their own expense, it is not probable that any Oregon troops will take part.

To Work Camp Carson Placers.

La Grande.—A company of capitalists who have purchased the old Camp Carson placer mines in the Grand Ronde, have incorporated with a capital stock of \$1,000,000 for their operation and development. The articles of incorporation have been filed with Secretary of State Dunbar at Salem.

COMING EVENTS.

Inland Empire Sunday School institute, Pendleton, January 30.
Oregon State Horticultural society, Portland, January, 10-11.
National American Woman Suffrage association, Portland, June 22-28.
Lewis and Clark Centennial exposition, Portland, June 1-October 15.

CHANCE FOR SCHOLARSHIP.

Examination for English University Commences Next Month.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—A memorandum giving the conditions under which the second Cecil Rhodes scholarships examination is to be held has been received by President P. L. Campbell and notifications will be mailed to all the recognized degree granting colleges in Oregon. According to the circular the qualifying examinations will be held January 16 and 17, and the competitive quiz will be held before the end of March. Arithmetic, algebra, geometry, Latin and Greek are the subjects to be considered.

Aside from an examination in these subjects recognition will be given to the applicants' natural aptitude in athletics, power of leadership, strength of character and scholastic attainments. All scholars must be between 19 and 25 years of age and must be citizens of the United States.

Harvey B. Densmore, a university graduate, won the scholarship last year and he urges every student to make an effort to come in touch with English ideals and university life.

MAKES TIMBER AVAILABLE.

Logs Will Be Hauled Direct From Forests to Water Transportation.

Independence.—Survey has been made by Civil Engineer Hanson, in the employ of the Southern Pacific, preparatory to building a boom pond, by means of which timber loaded on the cars at Falls City can be dumped into the river here without a change of cars. There is a large section of desirable timber of different varieties, which has been ready for the market for years, but could not be gotten out. The building of the Falls City railroad to Dallas, connecting with Independence, and the gravel spur built from the main track of the Southern Pacific to the river, with the proposed boom pond, which can be put in at a very reasonable expense, will make this timber available. Once in the river at this place, transportation of the logs is a simple matter. This will also enable the new Douy & Simpson sawmill, at this place, to get logs by water and rail.

Buys Million Pounds of Wool.

Enterprise.—Wool in this county has begun to move. R. C. Mays, who is buying for S. Koshland & Co., of San Francisco, has closed contracts with the sheepmen of this place for 1,000,000 pounds of wool. As a result sheepmen and other business men are in a happy mood, rejoicing in the fact that they have a "cinch" on 16 cents per pound for their 1905 wool clip. On the sale just made Mr. Mays turned over to the sheepmen of this city \$53,000, this being one third of the contract price of the wool. This amount will relieve the sheepmen to a great extent, as money is always scarce with them at this time of year, and they are compelled to borrow at a high rate of interest. Mr. Mays expects to contract the entire clip of the county, which will amount to about 2,000,000 pounds.

Mayflower is Rich.

Baker City.—Word from Cornucopia states that the biggest strike of rich ore ever made in that camp has just been uncovered in the Mayflower mine, owned by G. W. Boggs and associates. It joins the celebrated Seales property, which is now in litigation, and on which H. H. Rogers, of the Standard Oil company, is attempting to foreclose a mortgage of \$100,000. The ore runs into the thousands and the body is a large opening in the main ledge on the lower workings. Three is much excitement in the camp.

Special Trains for Fair.

Grants Pass.—The lumber and timbermen of Josephine county, of whom there are several hundred, are planning a "lumbermen's excursion" to the Lewis and Clark fair. Those who have the matter in charge feel confident the excursion will be a "go." A similar excursion under the auspices of the miners is also being planned. The two excursions will take a very large part of the populace to the fair instead of going at different times.

More Alfalfa Acres.

Pendleton.—E. W. McComas, who has control of Switzer's island, near Cold Springs station, is increasing his alfalfa acreage on the island, until now he has nearly 200 acres. Mr. McComas will not raise beets next year nor will the Echo growers, as the sugar company of La Grande has purchased 2,000 acres of land near Union and will have all the acreage desired for cultivation.

Wade Creditors Get Little.

Pendleton.—The final report of the trustee in bankruptcy of C. B. Wade, former cashier of the First National bank, who failed for \$360,000, have been filed. The hearing is set for January 2. The creditors will realize about 10 cents on the dollar.

THE MARKETS.

Wheat.—Portland—Walla Walla, 85c; bluestem, 88c; valley, 87c. Tacoma—Bluestem, 88c; club, 85c. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 32c. Butter—Fancy creamery, 25c; 27c. Hops—Choice, 29c; 30c; prime, 27c; 28c. Wool—Valley, 19c; 20c; Eastern Oregon, 10c; 17c; mohair, 25c; 26c.

PLANS FOR CANAL.

Four Schemes Before Chief Engineer of Isthmian Canal Commission.

Washington, Dec. 21.—John F. Wallace, chief engineer of the Isthmian canal commission, has given the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce the benefit of his investigations so far as made regarding the engineering tasks to be performed in the construction of the Panama canal. The testimony was taken aboard the army transport Sumner in Colon harbor on the occasion of the recent visit of the committee to the canal zone. It is to be printed for the use of congress.

Asked by members of the commission for an estimate of the cost of the various plans, Mr. Wallace said the best estimate that could be made at present would be based on the estimate of the former commission of \$200,000,000 for a 90-foot level canal. Figuring with this as a basis, the 60-foot level canal would cost \$225,000,000, could be open for traffic in 10 years, and fully completed in 12 years; the 30-foot level canal would cost \$250,000,000 and be open for traffic in 12 years and completed in 15 years; the sea-level canal would cost \$300,000,000, could be open for traffic in 15 years and completed in 20 years.

Chairman Hepburn's questions developed that the estimate of time to build a canal was based on a 10-hour day, and that with the construction of the Gamboa dam and the operation of the power plant, electric light sufficient to illuminate the whole of the Culebra cut might be had, thus making practical the working of two or more shifts and shortening the time of construction.

Mr. Wallace stated that the excavation of this cut was the feature of the construction of the canal that took the time. He said:

"Upon the economical and efficient handling of material from Culebra depends the cost and time it would take to complete the canal. Every other question and every other problem connected with the entire work is subordinate and inferior to the problem of excavation and disposal of the material from the Culebra cut; that is the principal problem of this work."

Work is now going on in the cut, one American steam shovel and some of the French machinery being on the operation. Fourteen American steam shovels have been purchased, one of which is being set up. The others are to be delivered at the rate of one a month. During October 3,185 men were on the payrolls of the commission. Of those 2,165 were laborers. More laborers are to be employed in the immediate future.

Answering a question about the operation of a sea-level canal, Mr. Wallace said:

"A sea-level canal would be less expensive to maintain and less expensive to operate, save time in passage through it, and could be widened and deepened when required without interfering with traffic."

RIOT IN MOSCOW.

Students and Police Battle for Hours in City's Streets.

Moscow, Dec. 21.—This city was the scene of a revolutionary demonstration today from noon until nearly evening. Probably 5,000 persons actually participated. Fortunately the agitators did not succeed in drawing the workmen from the factories into the disturbances, and after many collisions the police firing blank volleys and charging with their sabers, the crowds finally were dispersed.

Many were wounded, and more were arrested. As far as known none of the rioters were killed. One policeman is reported fatally injured. Many on both sides were roughly handled.

The authorities knew in advance that trouble was impending, and many houses along the Tverskaia street were specially guarded. Several squadrons of mounted gendarmes were concealed in the courtyards of houses, ready for an emergency.

Snow Is Two Feet Deep.

Newport, R. I., Dec. 21.—As a result of the worst blizzard that has visited Newport in many years, all local traffic is practically at a standstill. The storm began at midnight last night and abated at noon today. On a level the snow is more than two feet in depth, while a strong wind has piled up drifts that block the streets. The first train from Boston was five hours late. The Fall river line steamer from New York was caught in the storm and reached here five hours late.

Blizzard Off New England Coast.

Boston, Dec. 18.—A blizzard of severity prevailed today along the Southern New England coast. All wires on Cape Cod were prostrated and there has been no communication south of Wareham by land lines since early this morning. The captain of the Watch Hill life saving station reported this afternoon three barges were seen ashore on the south side of Fisher's island. It is believed that the crews were taken off.

Dummy Ships on Guard.

London, Dec. 21.—A report from Chefoo that a portion of the Japanese fleet has left for Singapore and that a number of Japanese merchantmen have been lightly armed to maintain the blockade of Port Arthur is published today in a Chefoo dispatch to the Daily Telegraph.

FORT IS BLOWN UP

Japanese Troops Swarm in Over the Ruins.

MEET WITH FIERCE RESISTANCE

Russians Leave About Fifty Dead on the Field and the Assaults' Casualties Are Light.

Tokio, Dec. 21.—The Japanese fired an immense mine under the north of Fort Kekwan mountain at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The Japanese immediately charged and occupied the fort with a heavy force.

The following report of the capture was telegraphed from General Nogai's headquarters today:

"At 2:15 o'clock on the afternoon of December 18, part of our army blew up the parapets of the North fort of East Kekwan mountain, and then charged.

"A fierce battle with hand grenades then ensued.

"Owing to the stubborn resistance of the enemy with his machine guns, our operations were temporarily suspended.

"Subsequently at 7 o'clock in the evening, General Samejima, commanding the supports, advanced into the casemats and, encouraging his men, threw his supports into the fighting line in a last brave charge.

"At 11:50 o'clock at night we completely occupied the fort and immediately engaged in the construction of defensive works. Our occupation became firmly assured today.

"Before retiring the enemy exploded four mines in the neighborhood of the neck of the fort.

"We captured five nine-centimeter field and two machine guns as well as plenty of ammunition.

"The enemy left 40 or 50 dead. Our casualties have not been investigated, but they are not heavy."

CARE OF FOREST RESERVE.

Bill to Put Pinchot in Complete Control Strikes a Snag.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The bill passed by the house, authorizing the transfer of the administration of forest reserves from the Interior department to the department of Agriculture, has run upon a snag in the senate committee on public lands, the same snag that held up a similar bill in the last session. This bill, if it becomes a law, means that Gifford Pinchot, chief of the Forestry bureau, will have practically absolute control over forest reserves, and absolute say in the creation of new reserves. While it is proposed to place the control nominally in the secretary of Agriculture, everyone knows that Secretary Wilson will take no active hand in the forest management, but will approve everything Mr. Pinchot recommends.

That is the principal reason the senate committee is in no hurry to approve the pending bill, notwithstanding the fact that its passage is urged by the president, Secretary Hitchcock, Secretary Wilson, Land Commissioner Richards and Chief Forester Pinchot.

CRUSHED IN BEDS.

Wall Falls on Crocker Hotel at Minneapolis and Ruins Burn.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 21.—Four or five, and possibly 10 or 11, people lost their lives early today in the Crocker hotel, on Fifth street, through the falling of the highest wall of the O. H. Peck building, which was damaged by fire last week.

The high wind of last night loosened the bricks in the wall, and tons of brick and stones crashed down upon the roof of the three story hotel next door. The roof was carried through to the basement, carrying death and injury before it.

The crash came when almost every one in the hotel was asleep. Within one moment the entire building was a wreck, with injured and dying people calling for help.

Shanghai Natives Much Aroused.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—The Chinaman murdered by a sailor from the Russian cruiser Asokid, December 15, as the result of a dispute over payment for the hire of a jinrikisha, was a native of Ningpo, (an important treaty port 500 miles south of Shanghai) and the affair has caused indignation among the Ningpo community here, which is 50,000 strong. The lower classes are urging an attack on all Russians in Shanghai, but they are restrained by the Ningpo guild, which is counseling patience.

Nebraska Wins Boundary Suit.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The Supreme court of the United States decided the boundary case between the states of Missouri and Nebraska in favor of Nebraska. The case involved the question as to whether a change of the course of the Missouri river had the effect of changing land which had thereby been on the west side of the river to the east side of the river, from the jurisdiction of Nebraska to that of Missouri, but the court held that it did not.

Ready for Baltic Fleet.

Shanghai, Dec. 21.—Reliable reports from the south state that the Japanese are forwarding men, guns, torpedo boats and submarines to Fromosa and the Pescadores, in order to be ready to attack the Baltic fleet at its rendezvous.