

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

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

Japan accuses Russia of violating Chinese neutrality.

Menominee, Michigan, has been shaken by an earthquake.

The Porto Rican legislature has adjourned after passing 40 bills out of 198 introduced.

Mexican rural police have run down the band of Yaquis which robbed the Mazatlan stage of \$15,000.

Some of the war party of Russia favors the raising of a new army to fight Japan, to be personally commanded by the czar.

The Russians are fortifying Tie pass while the Japanese are preparing another turning movement similar to that of Mukden.

From latest reports of losses it is believed that Kuropatkin cannot have more than 100,000 effective fighting men with him at Tie pass.

A caucus of the Republican members of the Missouri legislature has resulted in an agreement to vote for A. P. Spencer, of St. Louis, for United States senator.

The Colorado supreme court has ruled that the legislature must seat either Adams or Peabody, and cannot adopt the report declaring that neither was elected. Twenty-two members have signed a pledge not to seat Peabody, which means a final victory for Adams.

Many arms are being smuggled into Russia for use by strikers.

Mrs. Chadwick has been found guilty of swindling the Oberlin, Ohio, bank.

A theory has been advanced that Mrs. Stanford's death was accidental.

An extradition treaty has been signed between the United States and Uruguay.

The senatorial deadlock in the Missouri and Delaware legislatures continues unbroken.

Twenty lives were lost as the result of an explosion which occurred in a Cardiff, Wales, coal mine.

St. Petersburg advises say that as soon as the Baltic squadron receives reinforcements it will again start for the Far East.

The sale of very young girls as wives is common in Chicago. The largest per cent of them are Italians, but many are Americans.

Two men found guilty of stealing ballots in Denver at the November election have been sent to the penitentiary for five years.

In a final conference with Heney in regard to the Oregon land frauds the president instructed him to go to the very bottom and spare no man who is guilty.

Rumors of peace proposals by Russia are again current.

But little is known in Russia of the turn of affairs in the Far East.

It is reported that a national uprising against the czar will start May 7.

A bomb accidentally exploded by anarchists in St. Petersburg killed eight persons.

Fire in a seven-story building at Philadelphia destroyed property to the value of \$100,000.

Kuropatkin, in a message to the czar, admits that he is surrounded and his entire army in grave danger of being annihilated.

The policy adopted by the president and his cabinet as to federal appointments is to keep all good men in their places and make as few changes as possible.

The government has a clear case against Hermann for destroying letters of the general land office just before he relinquished the position as commissioner.

War against the Standard Oil is being continued in Kansas.

The special commission appointed by the president to consider the subject of nationalization will be ready to report to the next congress and it is expected some startling exposures will be made as to the extent of fraudulent papers issued.

Armed peasants in Russia are burning and looting their landlords' estates.

The deadlock in the Missouri legislature continues. At present Cockrell leads with 76 votes.

The balloting for United States senator, by the Delaware legislature, continues without result.

Charges of graft are being made against the St. Louis exposition company in having the buildings removed.

A vain effort is being made throughout Russia to suppress news of the defeat in the Far East. At Warsaw the Poles were almost jubilant over the reverse.

The marguise of Anglesey is dying of consumption. Six years ago he had an income of \$500,000 a year, and is now a bankrupt, with liabilities of nearly \$3,000,000.

DOINGS IN CONGRESS.

Tuesday, March 7.

Without determining any question of policy in regard to the Santo Domingo treaty, the senate decided today that the treaty should be reported as soon as possible from the committee on foreign relations and the entire question fought out in executive session. A number of senators are confident the treaty will be ratified within a reasonable time. The president today sent a long list of nominations to the senate for its approval.

Wednesday, March 8.

The Santo Domingo treaty was practically perfected today by the senate committee on foreign relations, so far as phraseology is concerned and without regard to the principle involved in the procedure proposed by the treaty. A number of amendments have been presented and some of them already adopted.

The president today sent a message to the senate giving his reasons for wanting the treaty ratified.

A large batch of consular and diplomatic appointments were confirmed and an additional lot received.

Thursday, March 9.

The senate committee on foreign relations today agreed to report favorably the Santo Domingo treaty as amended.

The senate was in session but seven minutes today and adjournment was taken out of respect to the memory of the late Senator Bate, of Tennessee. A committee of 12 senators was appointed to make preparations for the deceased senator's funeral in the chamber at 2 p. m. tomorrow.

Friday, March 10.

The Santo Domingo treaty was today reported favorably to the senate.

The only legislative business transacted was in relation to the death of Senator Bate, of Tennessee. Gorman introduced a resolution providing for the payment of the funeral expenses of Senator Bate, which was immediately adopted. At 12:50 the senate took a recess until 1:50, when the funeral services of the late senator took place.

At the conclusion of the Bate funeral ceremony the senate adjourned until Monday, when discussion of the Santo Domingo treaty will commence.

Monday, March 13.

The senate will do its utmost to complete the Santo Domingo treaty and adjourn this week. This was manifested when the treaty was taken up in executive session today. For more than an hour the senators discussed ways and means and finally agreed to meet at 11 a. m. daily in order to give time for a full discussion of the measure and still adjourn by Saturday. It is conceded that, if the vote were delayed beyond that time, a quorum of the senate could not be maintained. One amendment was presented today, providing that such expenses as may be incurred by the army and navy shall be paid from the revenues of Santo Domingo. No decision was reached.

Vote on Treaty Soon.

Washington, March 13.—Many senators are indulging in speculation as to the length of the session required to take action on the Santo Domingo treaty, and whether party lines will be drawn taut when the treaty comes to a vote. Thus far it has not developed that either party will caucus, and, in fact, so much difference as to the fate of the treaty has been manifested that it is not believed there will be any attempt to line up the forces.

Few senators were at the capitol yesterday, but nearly all of those who were in their committee rooms expressed the opinion that, if there should not be a line-up, and they are agreed that one is not likely, the treaty will be brought to a vote by the end of the week, and that the special session may be adjourned sine die on Saturday.

Four of His Ships Unleashed.

London, March 10.—According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, a telegram from Vice Admiral Rojestvensky, not yet published, states that four of his warships are incapacitated for firing because they are too heavily armed, and that the problem of coaling has become so difficult that he feared he would be unable to proceed to the Far East. Reports are current at Dover that all the ships of the Baltic fleet have been ordered to return to the English channel pending further instructions.

Need Not Decide Question Yet.

Washington, March 10.—There is authority for the statement that the question as to whether the Isthmian canal shall be made a sea-level waterway or constructed on the lock system need not be determined at the outset of the work. In fact, it is stated that work could progress for five years or more before this matter would necessarily be decided and without in any way retarding the progress of construction or causing any delay.

Alaskan Telegraphs Work Well.

Washington, March 10.—General Greely has received a report of the operations of the Alaska telegraph systems during January. The wireless work runs uninterruptedly 107 miles across Norton sound, and the land lines are 1,500 miles in length. Various interruptions from snow and severe storms averaged, however, less than three hours per station, which is only one-sixth of the interruptions in January, 1904.

Russia Pays North Sea Claims.

London, March 10.—Count Benckendorff, the Russian ambassador to Great Britain, today paid \$325,000 to Foreign Secretary Lansdowne in settlement of the North sea claims, and the incident was thus closed.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

TO SPEND \$50,000.

Fast Development on New Quartz Property on Applegate River.

Grants Pass—The Michigan Mining and Milling company, composed largely of Michigan mining men, of which W. T. Perry, of Portland, is manager, is preparing to spend some \$50,000 or more within the next few months in the development and equipment of its quartz mines on Applegate river, eight miles south of this city. A large crew is employed at present building a mill, shops, quarters and in development of the mine. A large boiler, engine and other machinery will arrive this week and will be hauled out at once and placed in position. The mill, which will be one of the Pratt type, will be of a capacity equal to ten ordinary stamps, and will also be supplied with rifles, separators and vanners, by which at least 90 per cent of the assay values of the quartz will be saved.

There are three large ledges on the Michigan company's grounds, of which there is 500 acres, all highly mineralized and well timbered. The Applegate flows just below, from which water can be derived for all purposes. The quartz carries an average of \$25 a ton in free gold and sulphurets, and occurs in a constant vein between porphyry and slate.

A broad avenue is being cleared from the camp down to the road, leaving the big oaks, laurels and firs standing, and by this avenue the camp dwellings and cabins will be built. A number of the Michigan people interested in the mine will make their homes at "Michigan City," the name that has been given the new and fast growing camp.

OUT OF THEIR OWN POCKETS.

Regents of Weston Normal School Will Pay Its Expenses.

Pendleton—The regents of the Eastern Oregon normal school held a meeting here for the purpose of devising ways and means for the maintenance of the institution. The board was unanimous against the idea of closing the school, and will hold themselves personally responsible for its needs, believing that in any event no future legislature will refuse to reimburse any indebtedness that economical management may incur. The action of the board seems to meet the approval of the people of Eastern Oregon, who are greatly interested in the institution, and say that it should not be closed in any event.

Jackson Citizens at Work.

Ashland—The county court of Jackson county has appointed a long list of citizens as a committee to have charge of arrangements in securing an exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair. A meeting of this committee has been called to take place at Medford Saturday, March 18, for the purpose of taking definite methods of collecting a representative display of the county's resources for exhibition. While the county court has appropriated no definite amount for a county exhibit, it will have charge of the same.

Umatilla Irrigation Project.

Pendleton—John J. Whistler, engineer in charge of the Oregon reclamation work, says that Thomas H. Mean, the government soil expert, will arrive in the city soon to make an investigation as to the feasibility of winter irrigation in the lands of the Umatilla irrigation project. Mr. Means will be in the district only a short time, but the samples of the soil will be forwarded to the government station at Berkeley, Cal., for complete analysis, and the results returned to this city.

Log Scarcity is Felt.

Eugene—The "big sawmill" of the Booth-Kelley Lumber company at Coburg has been closed down for several weeks. This is partly on account of the scarcity of logs and partly to give an opportunity to overhaul the plant. The indications are at present that there is going to be great difficulty in getting logs to the mills this summer, as the streams are now very low and as there is no snow in the mountains, they will be very much lower later on.

May Build Logging Road.

La Grande—Owing to the light fall of snow in the Blue mountains the past winter and the uncertainty of the volume of water in the Grande Ronde river and its tributaries, the Grande Ronde Lumber company at Perry is contemplating building a narrow gauge logging road some 30 miles up the river, where the company has a large amount of logs cut, and which it will be unable to float to their mill. The road will be built solely for the use of the mill.

Shear Sheep by Machinery.

Pendleton—The J. E. Livestock company has received a five horse power gasoline engine with which to propel a 12 machine sheep shearing plant. The company has 25,000 head to shear at the ranch near Pilot Rock. As these machines make a saving of from one to one and a half pounds on a fleece over the old style hand shearing, at the current price of 16 and 17 cents a pound for wool the company will make a saving of over \$5,000.

Trees in Bloom at Dallas.

Dallas—Warm weather has brought forward the fruit blooms remarkably early this season. Some varieties of prunes and plums are blooming. Pears and cherries are coming on very fast. Considerable fear is felt that late cold rains or frost may do damage.

LIVESTOCK FAIR AT WOODBURN

Marion and Clackamas County Raisers Organize for Business.

Woodburn—The Livestock association of North Marion and South Clackamas counties has been permanently organized in this city. The following officers were chosen: Fred Dose, president; W. P. Pennebaker, secretary; Harry Cole, treasurer.

It was decided to hold a livestock fair in Woodburn on Saturday, April 1. The stock on which premiums will be awarded will be stallions, brood mares, colts, roadsters, teams and saddle horses. Other stock, it is expected, will also be exhibited. The stallions will be divided into classes—draught and roadsters—with \$5 entrance fee and an additional entrance fee of \$2.50 for sweepstake prize.

G. L. Shryder, M. S. Shrock, Dr. W. A. Leonard, F. J. Miller and J. F. Plank were chosen an executive committee to fix prizes, solicit funds and make all other necessary arrangements. The judges will be selected on the day of the fair. The horsemen and farmers are enthusiastic over the proposed fair and an immense crowd is expected here on that day.

INSURANCE RATES HIGH.

Hood River Men Hear Proposition for Decrease of 15 Per Cent.

Hood River—Hood River business men held a conference in the rooms of the Commercial club with Mr. Stone, of Portland, representing the board of insurance underwriters, to find out just what would be required of the water company in order to secure a reduction of insurance rates if a system of fire protection were installed. Stone stated that he would recommend a reduction averaging 15 per cent from the present almost exorbitant rates, provided the water company would maintain a reserve supply of water in a reservoir with a capacity of 750,000 gallons, and lay certain size pipe for the mains. Brick buildings were promised a further reduction of five per cent.

As the water company recently secured \$50,000 on the sale of bonds, it is expected that the city of Hood River will soon be given an adequate system of hydrants for fire protection. A volunteer fire department has already been organized, and a \$1,200 chemical engine purchased by the city.

Newell to Meet Water Users.

Vale—F. H. Newell, chief of the government reclamation engineers, accompanied by several consulting engineers, will arrive here in April. Mr. Newell is making this trip for the purpose of meeting with the Malheur Waterusers' association and to arrange matters so that active operation can commence on the Harper basin project during the approaching summer. It seems to be now generally understood that little difficulty will be encountered in getting the various owners of the water ditches to "sign up" their land under the agreement recently arrived at, leaving the appraisal of values to arbitration.

Old Stampmill Found.

Medford—What is believed to be the first stampmill that did service in the Oregon gold fields has been brought into Medford. It is a crude machine, being hand made throughout, but the principle on which it operated is identical to that of the orthodox and modern stamp and battery, the stamp, the mortar, mesh and feeder all being present. The old machine, bramble-covered and going to decay, was found on a deserted prospect in the Willow Springs district, Jackson county. It will be sent to the Portland fair.

Water is Scarce.

Sumpter—The outlook for placer mining in this section is not so favorable this season as in former years. Snow is rapidly disappearing from the mountain ranges under the influence of warm sunshine during the past three weeks, but cold and freezing nights have a tendency to check the flow of water that should result. Placer miners as a rule along small waterways are uneasy for fear that all the snow will be gone before they will be able to take advantage of its benefits as formerly.

Cinnabar Mines Show Up Well.

Medford—The flattering showing made by recent reports of ores from the cinnabar mines of the Meadows quicksilver district, of Jackson county, near Trail, has caused a revival of interest in the mining of mercury in this section. Eighty pounds of mercury to the ton is produced by the properties of the Rogue River Quicksilver Mining company, the shareholders of which are Medford men. The ore reduces easily and is uniform in value.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 85c; bluestem 92c; valley, 87c per bushel.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.35@1.40; gray, \$1.40@1.45 per cental.
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18c per dozen.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27½@32½c.
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, 90c@91c; common, 70@85c.
Apples—4-tier Baldwins, \$1.25@1.50; Spitzenbergs, \$1.75@2.
Hops—Choice 1904, 24@25c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 19@20c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12@17c per pound; mohair, choice, 25@26c per pound.

UTAH LAND FRAUDS DISCLOSED

Great Tracts of Coal Land Filed on as Farm Land by Syndicate.

Salt Lake City, Utah, March 14.—Special agents of the Federal government are reported to have been engaged for some time past in investigating public land frauds in Utah. The Salt Lake Herald today states that hundreds of thousands of acres of valuable coal lands have been acquired by corporations by questionable methods.

Vast tracts of coal lands are said to have been filed on and patented as agricultural and grazing land, and then transferred to the coal companies. In many instances, it is said, lands have been filed on as coal lands, under the law which permits every adult citizen to acquire 160 acres of coal lands by purchase, upon payment of \$10 an acre for such lands when situated more than 15 miles from any railroad, and \$20 an acre when situated within 15 miles of a railroad. Later these filings have been allowed to lapse, and the same lands have been acquired as agricultural or grazing land at \$1.50 an acre.

More than 2,000 of these coal entries have been made in the Salt Lake land office, but not more than one in 50 of the persons who made the filings has completed the purchase, the filings lapsing and title being secured as agricultural or grazing land from the state land office through state land selections.

Forty filings made in 1901 within a period of 60 days have recently been investigated, and 30 of the 40 claimants are found to have been represented by an employee of a big coal corporation, exercising power of attorney. The land was filed on and held for 14 months, as is permitted under the law, without being paid for, but in none of these cases was the purchase completed, title being acquired through the state land office at a nominal figure under proceedings instituted while the land was covered by the coal land filings.

DEAD IN HEAPS.

Oyama Reports Results of the Battle of Mukden.

Tokio, March 14.—The following report has been received from Field Marshal Oyama:

"The number of prisoners, spoils and the enemy's estimated casualties against all our forces in the direction of the Shakhé follow, but the number of prisoners, guns and spoils are increasing momentarily:

"Prisoners, over 40,000, including General Nakhimoff.

"Killed and wounded, estimated at 90,000.

"Enemy left dead on the field, 26,500.

"Flags, 2.

"Guns, about 60.

"Rifles, 60,000.

"Ammunition wagons, 150.

"Shells, 200,000.

"Small arms ammunition, 25,000,000 rounds.

"Cereals, 15,000 koku (about 75,000 bushels).

"Fodder, 55,000 koku.

"Light railway outfit, 45 miles.

"Horses, 2,000.

"Maps, 23 cartloads.

"Clothing and accoutrements, 1,000 cartloads.

"Bread, 1,000,000 rations.

"Fuel, 70,000 tons.

"Hay, 60 tons, besides tools, tents, bullocks, telegraph wire and poles, timber, beds, stoves, and numerous other property.

"No reports have been received from our forces in the direction of Singking."

BRIEF LULL IN THE PURSUIT

Resumption of Japanese Advance is Expected Any Time.

Tie Pass, March 14.—The Japanese, it is reported, have ceased their pursuit, at least temporarily. Some of the Japanese are 25 miles below Tie pass. A resumption of their advance is expected. Rumors are in circulation that the Japanese are already attempting another wide turning movement to drive the Russians from Tie pass.

The Russian troops here have been arriving with hopelessly mixed units, in consequence of the change in the front. The troops are being sorted out and organizations reformed and assigned to places to defend the new positions, but whether Tie pass will be held or abandoned probably will not be decided for several days.

Kuropatkin Needs a Rest.

London, March 14.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says: "General Kuropatkin has asked the emperor's gracious permission to hand over his command, alleging that he is in urgent need of physical and mental rest. I learn on the best authority that the Japanese twice have approached Russia on the subject of peace negotiations, but that in each case the proposal failed because Japan demanded an indemnity and a pledge that Russia would not keep warships in the Pacific for 25 years."

Spotted Fever in the East.

New York, March 14.—That cerebrospinal meningitis, or "spotted fever," is killing about 40 persons a week in this city was asserted tonight by Commissioner Darlington, of the health department, and reports received from cities and towns in Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania show that the disease is not alone in fighting against the ravages of this dread disease, which kills about 50 per cent of those attacked by it.

Iroquois Theater Trial March 15.

Chicago, March 13.—March 15 was fixed by Judge McEwen today for the opening of the trial of Manager Will J. Davis on the charge of manslaughter, growing out of the Iroquois fire.

ONE MUST LEAVE

Secretary Hay and His Assistant Don't Agree.

DOMINICAN TREATY THE CAUSE

Looms Its Chief Promoter—Action on Ratification Will Decide Which Must Go.

Washington, March 14.—Unless some conciliatory bird of peace shall perch itself in the State department soon, either Secretary Hay or his first assistant, Francis B. Loomis, will resign within a month. That there has been a ruction in the department has been known for some time, but that it had reached a serious point is just manifest.

The whole trouble is said to be due principally to the fact that Secretary Hay is not in thorough accord with President Roosevelt in his policy toward Santo Domingo, as emphasized by the much criticised treaty now under consideration in the senate, while Secretary Loomis is the power behind it in the State department. It is well known that Secretary Hay has a large following in the senate and much of the opposition to the treaty, as sent to the senate, is due not only to the objections of the senators to the treaty as it stood, but because of their desire to uphold the hands of Mr. Hay.

By those closest to the parties concerned about three weeks is the time given within which one or 'the other will resign. Much will depend upon the action of the senate on the pending treaty and still more on the success of the president and his friends in healing the breach between Hay and Loomis. Among the leaders of congress here the loss of Secretary Hay to the cabinet is regarded as impossible.

Mr. Adey is acting secretary of state today. Secretary Hay being in attendance at a meeting of the Carnegie institute and Mr. Loomis having left for a trip to California.

HUGE BOOTY AT SINGKING.

Japanese Capture Outfit of an Army and Annihilate a Division.

Tokio, March 14.—The following report was received today from the headquarters of the Japanese armies in the field:

"It is estimated that the spoils which fell into our hands in the direction of Singking (Yenden), since the occupation by us of Tsinkentschen on February 24 has been as follows:

"Rifles, 22,000; machine guns, 6; small ammunition, 320,000 rounds; shells, 11,500; entrenching tools, 6,000; wire, 1,200 bundles; materials for a light railway of 33 miles; wagons for the latter, 450; garments, 10 cartloads; coal mining machinery for eight pits; timber, 4,000 pieces.

"Besides these we took large quantities of cereals, fodder, tents, beds, stoves, maps and telephones, as well as a great number of bullocks and horses. "The enemy left about 1,200 dead on the field. We took 80 prisoners.

"It is estimated that the enemy's casualties were about 20,000.

"Prisoners say that the Seventy-first division was almost annihilated."

NOT YELLOW FEVER, MALARIA.

Secretary Taft Says That is Health Problem of Isthmus.

Washington March 14.—Secretary Taft, after a brief talk with the president today, said it was a mistaken report that yellow fever was on the increase in the American zone of the Isthmus of Panama. "In fact," said the secretary, "it is not yellow fever that will give us the most trouble on the isthmus, but malaria, which is very prevalent. Eventually, while there are some cases of yellow fever in the American zone, we shall be able to stamp out that disease. It will be a hard fight, however, to reduce trouble arising from malaria."

New Anti-Trust Bill in Illinois.

Springfield, Ill., March 14.—In the lower house of the state legislature tonight there was introduced an anti-trust bill. The definition of a trust is enlarged to include both life insurance companies and underwriters. The bill provides a system of graduated fines for corporations violating the act, a similar system for the officers of the corporations and it is especially provided that any person or corporation injured by the operation of a trust shall be entitled to sue and recover twofold all damages sustained.

Storm Brings Joy and Sorrow.

San Francisco, March 14.—California, from its northern boundary to San Diego, has been visited by a drenching rain storm, which in many quarters proved a blessing to agriculturists, but in others did damage not yet estimated. Along the coast and in the extreme south the storm was accompanied by a gale which left in its trail levelled buildings, uprooted trees and prostrated telegraph poles. A number of vessels are overdue.

Mankato Loses Large Building.

Mankato, Minn., March 14.—The Glass block, one of the largest buildings in the city, was entirely destroyed by fire tonight and a number of adjacent buildings were damaged. Loss, \$150,000.