

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.

Nevada state health officers report conditions improving at Tonopah, the new mining camp.

The senate committee on interstate commerce has commenced its hearings on railway legislation.

Commissioner Garfield is holding night sessions examining into Standard Oil methods in Kansas.

John A. Benson will have to stand trial in Washington on land fraud charges, the United States supreme court having denied his right to be tried in California.

Chicago teamsters' sympathizers have mobbed the negro drivers for Montgomery, Ward & Co., and other disturbances are daily occurring in connection with the strike.

The supreme court of the United States has decided the case involving the removal of George W. Beavers from Brooklyn to Washington against Beavers, holding him subject to removal.

The preliminary legal battle is on at Portland in connection with the land fraud cases. Hermann, Mitchell, Willamson and the smaller offenders are all in attendance at Judge Bellinger's court. The best legal talent of the state is arrayed against Prosecutor Heney and they will be augmented later by some of the best lawyers of the nation.

Chicago will own the city's car lines within three months.

Carnegie will soon distribute \$12,500,000 among 50 colleges in 17 states.

Minturn, a small Colorado mining town, has been practically wiped out by fire.

Bids have just been opened by the Navy department for the construction of three cruisers.

Indiana's anti-cigarette law is in force and a cigarette cannot be purchased in the state.

Further violence on the part of the strikers has ended peace conferences on the Chicago teamsters' strike.

The revivalists who have just left Portland and gone to Seattle say the latter city is the purer of the two.

Russia accuses British ships of spying on the movements of the Baltic fleet and reporting to the Japanese.

Omaha retailers have had the price of beef raised on them. They are now paying \$15 to \$20 more per carcass than they were two weeks ago.

A number of Chicago beef trust witnesses have fled to Canada and their wives have been summoned before the grand jury to tell what they know.

The Russian army is retreating to Kirin.

Another earthquake in India has wrecked two towns.

The Russian fleet has changed its course and gone eastward to coal.

Bloody disturbances are expected throughout Russia on May day.

Paul Jones' body has been found in Paris and will be brought home for burial.

The czar has announced his intention of revising the land laws in order to quiet the peasants.

The Winnebago Indians, in Nebraska, have protested to Washington, claiming to have been robbed of their lands by agents.

The Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone company will spend \$500,000 on new lines in Utah, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming in 1905.

A commission has been appointed to decide the dispute on international rivers. The waterways in question are the Rio Grande and Colorado on the south and the Milk river on the north.

Cader Powell has assumed office as marshal at Nome, Alaska, pending investigation.

An unknown malady is killing many people at Tonopah, the new mining camp of Nevada. Hundreds are fleeing from the district to escape the disease.

Japan has been called upon to punish Formosans who murdered eight American sailors.

Four beef trust officials have been indicted by the Federal grand jury at Chicago for spiriting a witness away.

Both parties in the Chicago strike refuse to confer and the employers have adopted a plan by which they hope to win.

President Roosevelt has left Oklahoma for Colorado. He may be induced to come on to Portland and attend the fair.

The two hostile fleets in Asiatic waters have not yet come together, but they are fast approaching each other and a battle is expected at any time.

It is said the interned Russian ships are preparing for a dash from Shanghai and China will be unable to prevent it, as she has no war vessels near.

SHORTS IS TO BE CHIEF.

Secretary Taft Says He Will Work With Panama Commission.

New York, April 18.—Secretary of War Taft, who is here to attend the annual meeting of the directors of the Panama railroad company in this city tomorrow, had this to say tonight on the affairs of the railroad company:

"The meeting will result in a complete reorganization of the company. The government is now in control of the stock. It is absolutely essential for the United States to control the affairs of the company in the work of constructing the canal. We desire the affairs of the road conducted in harmony with the commission which will have charge of the general construction work.

"With this end in view, the directors of the Panama railroad company at the meeting will elect Theodore P. Shonts, the new chairman of the Panama canal commission, president of the Panama railroad company.

"With Mr. Shonts at the head of the company it is certain that its affairs will be conducted most satisfactorily. His experience as a practical railroad man will enable him to operate the railroad just as the Panama canal commission may desire while the work of the construction is in progress. The entire official board of the company will be comprised of either members of the commission or men who are interested in the work of constructing the canal.

"By official board I mean the officers and directors of the company.

"We expect to have this road in readiness at the time the work of the canal construction begins and managed in a manner so as to facilitate this great work."

RUMORS WITHOUT REAL NEWS.

Correspondents Guess at Many Things Beyond Their Vision.

London, April 18.—There is as yet no news of a great naval battle in the Far East, or of the whereabouts of the rival fleets. The Hongkong correspondent of the Daily Mail sends a rumor of a small engagement, but there is no confirmation of this report.

Details regarding the Russian ships in Kanrah bay, Cochin China, are too meagre to be instructive. According to the Daily Mail's Singapore correspondent, the North German Lloyd steamer Prinz Heinrich saw several battleships and six cruisers in the bay, but the dispatches to other newspapers are not so precise. The Daily Telegraph's Singapore correspondent, like the Associated Press, merely reports "eighteen vessels," and adds that the captain of the Prinz Heinrich states that possibly more warships were inside the harbor, but that they were invisible from the offing.

The presence of the Russian squadron off the Annam coast is raising keen interest here, in view of the possibility of their infringing Chinese neutrality and of the likelihood of Rojstvenky having had to split his squadron. The Morning Post's correspondent at Shanghai telegraphs that China has instructed the governor of the southern provinces to maintain strict neutrality in view of the possibility of Russian ships sheltering there.

WHEELS BLOCKED IN ITALY.

Railway Strike May Extend to Other Forms of Industry.

Rome, April 18.—Every railway line throughout Italy is tied up this morning as a result of the strike among the employes, who are dissatisfied with wages and hours of labor. The strike is expected to spread to all of the large industries in the several cities, and before it is ended bloodshed is likely to result.

The strike started in Naples, and a few minutes afterward the heads of labor unions wired to every subordinate organization telling them to notify their members to stop work at midnight. The order was literally obeyed and not a wheel is turning this morning, although the officials of the roads allege they will have them in operation before the end of the day.

All the station clerks and office employes have been ordered to report to the station masters to aid in moving trains.

Opened by the President.

New York, April 18.—With President Roosevelt as the chief guest and leading educators from all sections of the United States among the speakers, the next general session of the National Educational association, which will be held in Asbury Park, and Ocean Grove, N. J., next July, promises to be the most notable in the association's history. The meetings will begin Monday, July 3, and continue five days. An elaborate program has been completed. President Roosevelt will deliver the principal address of the meeting.

Tunnel Secure from Strikers.

Chicago, April 18.—Labor leaders will hold a conference tomorrow with Mayor Edward F. Dunne, who said tonight that he had hopes of an early settlement of the teamsters' strike against Montgomery, Ward & Co. The coal teamsters today decided to refuse to haul coal to the Montgomery Ward building. It is learned tonight that the Chicago Tunnel company is rushing work on a connection with Montgomery Ward & Co.'s basement.

Grand Trunk Station Burned.

Durand, Mich., April 18.—Fire tonight destroyed the Grand Trunk union station here, in which are located the general offices of the road division west of Port Huron. The building was new and was valued at \$125,000.

CRUSHED TO DEATH

Four Boys Killed and Many Injured by Alarm of Fire.

AFTER FREE THEATER TICKETS

Hundreds Were Waiting at Indianapolis Masonic Temple When Panic Started.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 18.—Frenzied by a false alarm of fire, several hundred eager newboys, struggling to obtain their share of free tickets to a local theater, which were being distributed by a traveling representative of a patent medicine company, stampeded in a narrow stairway in the Masonic Temple tonight, crushing the life out of four boys and seriously injuring several others.

Long before the time approached for the distribution of the tickets, the stairs of the Masonic Temple, at the southwest corner of Washington street and Capitol avenue, were crowded with a pushing, yelling crowd of newboys, each anxious to be first to receive his pass. When the distribution began, the excitement became more intense, and the efforts of several policemen who had been detailed to prevent trouble were unavailing.

It is alleged that one of the boys, in the endeavor to hasten the exit of those who had received their passes, shouted "Fire!" Immediately those at the top faced about and almost with superhuman strength began to force their way to the bottom of the stairs.

Shrieks and physical encounters followed for a few seconds, when from some cause those near the top fell headlong on the struggling mass at the bottom. Immediately policemen from the central station, who responded to a riot call, began the work of rescue.

Four of the boys were dead when extricated from their position at the bottom of the stairs. Others, believed to have been fatally crushed, were taken out as fast as they could be disentangled from their frenzied companions, who fought and clung to each other in desperation.

CANNOT LIMIT HOURS.

Supreme Court Declares New York Bakers' Law Unconstitutional.

Washington, April 18.—In an opinion by Justice Peckham, the Supreme court of the United States held to be unconstitutional the New York state law making ten hours a day's work and 60 hours a week's work in bakeries in that state. Justices Harlan, White, Day and Holmes dissented and Justice Harlan declared that no more important decision had been rendered in the last century.

The opinion was handed down in the case of Lockner vs. the state of New York, and was based on the ground that the law interferes with the free exercise of the rights of contract between individuals. The court of Appeals of the state upheld the law and affirmed the judgment of the trial court, holding Lockner guilty.

Senator Thurston is Retained.

Sioux City, Ia., April 18.—John M. Thurston, ex-United States senator from Nebraska, has been retained to press claims for indemnity on account of the massacre of several Americans by Yaqui Indians in Sonora, Mex., January 19. The claims will aggregate \$450,000, \$100,000 each for the four men killed, J. K. McKenzie and Dr. Robert McCoy, of Chicago; Walter Stubinger, of Kewanee, Ill., and M. H. Call, of Sioux City, and \$25,000 each for the terrible experience of the two survivors.

Hoodoo Boat May Be Accepted.

Washington, April 18.—The report of the naval board which conducted the recent trial of the Goldsborough in Puget sound has been received at the Navy department. In substance it shows that although the speed is not altogether satisfactory, due probably to the natural deterioration of the machinery since its installation, about five years ago, the vessel is structurally sound and otherwise in good condition. The disposition of the naval authorities is to accept her.

Death Rate is Decreasing.

Chicago, April 18.—In closing his 10 years of service as commissioner of health for the city of Chicago, Dr. Arthur R. Reynolds presents in his annual report significant data showing the decrease of the death rate in the city. During the 10 years from 1885 to 1894, inclusive, the yearly average of death rate was 20.02 in every 1,000 of population. During the succeeding 10 years the rate decreased to 15.1 in every 1,000 of population.

American Missionary Slain.

Shanghai, April 18.—A native Christian who has arrived here reports that a band of Chuchesees have murdered an American missionary named Kennedy at Kuhnongsin, near Hangchau. He could give no particulars of the alleged crime.

TALKED TOO MUCH.

Severe Rebuke Given to Special Land Agent Leach.

Washington, April 17.—Arnold F. Leach, special agent of the general land office, who is quoted in dispatches from Tacoma as declaring he has unearthed tremendous land frauds in Washington, beside which the Oregon frauds pale into insignificance, has been called severely to account by Land Commissioner Richards.

According to Leach's interview, he has Sherlock Holmes done to a frazzle. He made it appear that he had gathered evidence which would send to the penitentiary many leading citizens and officials of Washington, who, he alleged, had been defrauding the government of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of timber.

In a letter addressed to Leach, Mr. Richards says he has examined his official reports to the department and finds nothing in them which substantiates his interview; Leach has omitted to notify the department of his sensational discoveries. If he has such evidence as he claims, Mr. Richards wants to see it. Furthermore, Leach is notified that special agents are sent out to gather information for the general land office, not for the newspapers; that their reports are regarded as confidential at all times, and if any part of them is to be made public that information will be given to the press in Washington, not by officers in the field.

Leach is a subordinate special agent in Washington. He is not working under the direction of Secretary Hitchcock, but of Mr. Richards, nor is he in charge of land investigations in Washington state. It is not believed any further steps will be taken in Leach's case unless it be to again reprimand him when his reply is received.

ROMANOFFS IN THEIR COFFINS.

Cartoon in Prominent Russian Paper Sends Price to Premium.

St. Petersburg, April 17.—Quite a sensation was caused this morning by the appearance in the Neva, the most widely circulated illustrated weekly in Russia, of a half-tone picture representing the imperial family, including the empress, holding the heir to the throne, the background of the picture showing in shadowy outlines, the emperor, Grand Duke Sergius, Grand Duke Alexis, the dowager empress, the heir to the throne and practically all the members of the Romanoff family lying dead in their coffins. The work is done so skillfully that the shadows in the drapery behind the imperial family are discernible with great difficulty. The publishers disclaim any previous knowledge of the shadowy figures. The culprits, who were students employed on the paper, have not yet been located. Copies of this edition of the Neva are selling at a big premium.

The Slova has received its first warning for the publication of articles entitled "The Bureaucracy," and "The War and Reform," in which the paper severely arraigned the bureaucracy, the general staff and the war office for incompetency.

SAVED FOR CELILO CANAL.

Sand and Gravel Pit at The Dalles Withdrawn from Entry.

Washington, April 17.—At the request of Major Langfitt, the secretary of the interior today withdrew from entry lots 1, 2 and 3, in section 2, township 21, range 13, adjoining the Seuffert property at The Dalles. This tract contains a large sand and gravel pit, and being all vacant government land, it was deemed advisable to secure it for the use of contractors on The Dalles-Celilo canal before it fell into the hands of speculators. Major Langfitt said it was not known definitely how much sand and gravel was on these lots, but evidently enough to help along with the canal work.

The fact that the government owns this land will tend to materially reduce the cost of the canal. It is likely the contractors will be allowed to use this sand and gravel without cost.

Convicts Who Broke Jail.

Sacramento, Cal., April 17.—Pale and emaciated from the effects of the severe wounds received in their break for liberty, and from confinement in the dungeons at Folsom, convicts J. W. Finley and Charles Carson appeared before Judge Hart's court today and were arraigned on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon with malice and aforethought. Both men are life-termers, and if convicted on this charge they will grace the gallows. These are the convicts who were concerned in the last break at Folsom prison.

New Destroyers for Japan.

Washington, April 17.—Information has reached Washington through Europe that the Japanese navy has within the last four days commissioned 10 new torpedo boat destroyers built in Japanese shipyards. It is believed that within six weeks 25 additional destroyers, building under rush orders, will be put in commission. Three hundred and eighty-one mines planted by the Japanese in front of Port Arthur have been taken up and placed elsewhere.

Cherries Ten Dollars a Pound.

Sacramento, Cal., April 17.—The first box of ripe cherries shipped out of the state by the Earl Fruit company on April 7 was sold in Philadelphia today for \$100, being \$10 a pound. Manager George B. Katzenstein says this is the highest price ever realized from the sale of the first box of California cherries, which is the result of the fierce rivalry among Philadelphia dealers.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

STRIKE IN THE MONUMENTAL.

New Discovery Made in a Well Known Old Mine.

Granite—A strike has just been made in the old Monumental mine, near here, that bids fair to cause no little excitement and prove of great value to the mining interests of Eastern Oregon. It was made in a winze being sunk from the lower level of the mine. The winze is now down 100 feet and for some time Manager Allen has had a crew drifting from the bottom. The new discovery shows a vein 20 feet wide. On the hanging-wall side of the ledge is two feet of solid quartz, heavily charged with antimonial ruby silver, characteristic of the deposits of silver ore formerly found in this old mine, while on the opposite side of the vein is a strong seam of gold ore carrying three ounces of gold per ton. The silver ore runs not less than 500 ounces per ton. Between these two rich shoots the entire vein is of a good milling grade. This discovery was made at a depth of about 600 feet below the apex of the Monumental ledge.

For the past four years the property has been owned by the Portland Mining & Reduction company, of which C. J. Allen, of Portland, is manager.

Logging Engine for Curtiss Road.

Albany—An immense logging engine for use on the new logging road of the Curtis Lumber company, in the Cascade mountains near Mill City, has arrived in Albany, and will be put in operation on the road this spring. The engine comes from the Lima Locomotive works, in Ohio, and is the first of its size and kind to be put into use in the lumber business in Oregon. It is of a type calculated to do very heavy, rather than speedy, work, and marks the beginning of a new epoch in the lumbering industry in Linn county.

Will Have Special Car.

Independence—The Independence Improvement league is making arrangements for a special car to take its members to Portland to attend the State League convention April 26. The Lewis and Clark club will be asked to decorate the car, and the "Blue Ribbon" county will be well represented by enthusiastic members of the league. The league is taking up the matter of beautifying the town, and a large committee of both ladies and gentlemen will be appointed to look after this work.

Rogue River Fruit Unharmed.

Medford—The recent light frosts in the Rogue river valley have done comparatively no harm; in fact, have been a benefit by thinning out the fruit somewhat on overloaded trees, and the best apple and pear crop ever raised in the valley is now practically assured. With the exception of some apple orchards which were allowed to overbear last year, and in consequence which could not set fruit buds for the present season, the fruit bloom was never better locally than now.

Heading Off the Standard Oil.

Astoria—The city attorney has been instructed by the public property committee to prepare an ordinance for introduction at the next meeting of the council forbidding the storage of crude oil or other explosives in larger quantities than 100 gallons at any one place inside the city limits. The reason for presenting this ordinance is the announced intention of the Standard Oil company to erect a large storage tank on its property near the foot of Sixth street.

New Opera House for Silverton.

Silverton—Work has begun on the foundation of the new opera house. The building will occupy a half block, and will be 216x140 feet and two stories high. The opera house will be on the lower floor, and will be 60x90 feet. On the second floor will be a dance hall 60 feet square and two lodge rooms. Besides the opera house there will be three stores on the lower floor. The building will be ready for use by July 1.

Fish Cannot Get Over Dam.

Pandleton—Complaints are coming from residents on the Walla Walla river that trout are unable to get over the Northwestern Gas & Electric company's dam across the river, and that above the dam there is very little fishing. The dam is seven feet high and is not fitted with fish ladders. Those who have visited that locality say that fish are constantly seen leaping in their endeavor to scale the obstruction.

Gives Roseburg a Chance.

Eugene—The local directors have decided that the Second Southern Oregon District fair shall not be held in Eugene this year and Roseburg has been given the privilege of giving it there. It was thought that the interest taken in the Lewis and Clark exposition by Eugene people would detract from the success of a district fair, so the matter of holding it here this year was given up.

Orange Boxes for California.

Marshfield—General Manager Valagin, of the Coos Bay Furniture factory at North Bend, announces that he has made a contract with Southern California shippers to manufacture 3,000,000 orange boxes, and that his factory will be kept running night and day for a year. He is installing this week his own sawmill, which will cut 50,000 feet of spruce lumber daily.

DEBTORS MUST GIVE UP HALF.

After May 18 One-Half Their Wages May Be Taken by Creditors.

Salem—Oregon merchants will have a good remedy against many of their bad debtors after May 18, when the act of the last legislature regarding the exemption of wages from execution will go into effect. This act amends the law by making one-half the earnings of the debtor subject to execution proceedings if the debt be for family expenses. Prior to 1903 all the earnings of a debtor for 30 days next preceding the service of an attachment, execution or garnishment were exempt if the earnings were needed for the support of a family. Under that law men with considerable monthly incomes would escape the payment of their debts. The legislature of 1903 amended the law by limiting the amount of earnings exempt to \$75, but leaving the law otherwise the same. As there are comparatively few men working for wages who receive over \$75 a month, this law still enabled men to avoid debts which they should be compelled to pay, and the legislature of 1905 amended the section still further by adding this clause: "Except when the debt is incurred for family expenses furnished within six months of the date of the service of such attachment, execution or garnishment, 50 per cent of such earnings shall be subject to such attachment, execution or garnishment."

As construed by the courts, the term "family expenses" includes such items as provisions, fuel, rent, furniture, wearing apparel, pianos, organs, jewelry, medical attendance, etc.

Oregon Days at the Fair.

Portland—Oregon days, as set apart by the Lewis and Clark fair management are as follows: June 5, Monday—Salem, Dallas; June 6, Tuesday—Baker City, Sumpter; June 7, Wednesday—Pendleton, Heppner; June 8, Thursday—The Dalles, Prineville, Moro; June 9, Friday—Oregon City, McMinnville; June 10, Saturday—Astoria, Hillsboro; June 12, Monday—Albany, Corvallis; June 13, Tuesday—LaGrande, Union; June 14, Wednesday—Ashland, Medford, Jacksonville; June 15, Thursday—Grants Pass; June 16, Friday—Roseburg; June 17, Saturday—Eugene, Cottage Grove.

Specialty of Fine Chickens.

Milton—W. C. Hopson, manager of the Milton Fruitgrowers' union, is raising chickens on a large scale on his farm four miles up on the Walla Walla river. He has four large incubators and four brooders. Mr. Hopson is making a specialty of raising fine chickens, keeping several varieties of pure bred fowls. At present he is hatching Rhode Island Reds and is marketing the tiny chickens at \$3 per dozen, with a ready market for all he hatches. A number of other residents of the vicinity of both Milton and Freewater are purchasing incubators and engaging in the poultry business.

Arranging Clackamas' School Display.

Oregon City—Having been assured by a member of the executive committee of the Clackamas county Lewis and Clark exhibit that the necessary funds for installing the educational exhibit will be forthcoming, the members of the educational committee in this county met at the courthouse to arrange and classify this department of the Clackamas county display. This feature of the exhibit will comprise all kinds of papers and drawings, together with some manual work, and will be to the credit of the schools.

Cancel Deeds if Fraudulent.

Salem—In reply to questions submitted by Governor Chamberlain, Attorney General Crawford has rendered an opinion holding in substance that the state land board has authority to cancel all deeds and certificates to school lands wherein fraud appears on record, but that it is not within the power of the board to take arbitrary action in the matter. In other words, fraud must be alleged and proven before the board has authority to cancel certificates of sales.

Wasco Land Brings \$45.

The Dalles—One of the best land sales ever made in Wasco county has just been closed. It was the sale of 725 acres of wheat land adjacent to the town of Dufur, which brought the owner, A. J. Dufur, \$33,625, or \$45 an acre. The purchasers were Johnston Bros., the well known merchants and land owners of Dufur. It is all fine wheat land, and last year 46 bushels of wheat to the acre were harvested off the entire tract.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 86@87c per bushel; bluestem, 92@94c; valley, 88c.
Oats—No. 1 white, 28@29 per ton; gray, 27@28.
Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18½c per dozen; Butter—Fancy creamery, 18@20c.
Potatoes—Oregon fancy, \$1@1.15; common, 80@90c.
Apples—Fancy, \$1.75@2.50 per box; choice, \$1@1.25.
Hops—Choice 1904, 23½@25c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 20@22c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 15@18c; mohair, choice, 31@32c per pound.