

Heppner Gazette

Issued Thursday of Each Week

HEPPNER OREGON

BRIEF NEWS OF THE PAST WEEK

Interesting Events from Outside the State Presented in a Manner to Catch the Eye of the Busy Reader—Matters of National, Historical and Commercial Importance.

It is said Pinchot has eye on presidency.

Los Angeles is said to be "aeronutty" over the aviation exhibition.

Both sides admit that the Liberals have won in the English election.

A Chicago man died under the influence of the new anesthetic, stovaine.

China has opened two towns in Chientao, complying with Japanese treaty.

Four were killed and three were injured in a freight wreck on the Illinois Central.

Curtiss, Paulhan and Hamilton, all execute daring aerial maneuvers in teeth of a gale.

Roosevelt witnesses a successful lion-spear in east Africa. Kermit is first white man to successfully stalk and kill a bongo deer.

A German prince who has carefully watched proceedings at Aviation park, says dirigibles are the only practical air craft yet invented.

E. H. Wemme, a Portland capitalist, who owned the first automobile in the northwest, has purchased a Curtiss aeroplane and will have it on exhibition in Portland Jan. 25 to 29.

Truce arranged between Republican regulars and insurgents in house.

The British house of lords is engaged in a vote which means life or death.

A gigantic graft plot involving millions has been uncovered in Pittsburg.

The political situation in Spain threatens the downfall of the present cabinet.

A diver at Long Beach, Cal., won a desperate battle with a devilfish on the sea bottom.

Mississippi ice gorges have filled the levees high with wreckage, and the river is rising.

President declines to permit Representative Mondell to introduce land bills tagged "by request."

C. K. Hamilton, an American aviator, failed in an attempt to beat Paulhan's altitude record of 4,155 feet.

Paulhan made a successful flight across the country at Los Angeles, but failed to beat Curtiss' speed record.

Both East and West are suffering from heavy snow and floods. Trains are snowbound throughout the Mississippi states.

President's message urges reform of land laws, conservation of timber, preservation of forests and improvement of waterways.

A Utah mail carrier was frozen to death sitting on his horse.

The National Livestock association has endorsed Pinchot's policies.

A Nicaraguan rebel army confronts the government forces and a battle is near.

Japanese Ambassador declares his government will stand by America's policy.

Taft is reported to be trying to restore harmony by making peace with the insurgents.

Henry S. Graves has been appointed chief forester. He is a friend of Pinchot, and served under him.

Paulhan broke the altitude records at Los Angeles, rising nearly a mile. Cutiss broke the speed record.

The New York academy of medicine is planning to eradicate the common house fly, claiming that it spreads all kinds of contagious diseases.

The steamer Carina was wrecked at the entrance to Coos Bay and 30 men are believed to be lost. One man drifted ashore and was picked up unconscious. The steamer struck in the same place as the old Arago, lost 13 years ago.

It is the present prediction of lumbermen that more timber will be cut in the lower Columbia river district this year than ever before and at higher prices.

Russian explorers have found in Turkestan the ruins of a subterranean city built by a highly civilized people before the Christian era, entrance to which was effected by caves.

An amphibious automobile, shaped like a boat and driven by a propeller when in the water, has been purchased by the French war department and assigned to an engineer regiment.

The proclaimed boundaries of the national forests now include nearly 195,000,000 acres of land within which, however, about 15,000,000 acres have been alienated by congressional grants and the patenting of claims.

The agreement between the Boston Sheet Metal Workers union and the employers, which went into effect January 1, calls for an increase of wage from a minimum of \$3.60 to \$3.75 a day. Under the agreement there will be a further increase to \$4.00 a day on June 1.

VENTURA'S CREW SAVED.

Steamer Fairhaven Rescues All on Board in Nick of Time.

San Francisco, Jan. 18.—Captain Paul Rappemundt, his wife and 3-month-old child, his 16-year-old son, Paul Rappemundt, Jr., and the entire crew of seven of the wrecked schooner San Buena Ventura, have been saved from the sea. They arrived in San Francisco harbor tonight on the steamer Fairhaven, and the first news of them received since their vessel drifted ashore Friday at the mouth of Rogue river came from the Fairhaven's signal flags as the steamer steered in through the Golden Gate.

The party was taken from the sinking, water-logged lumber schooner after three days of hardship and suffering. They had about despaired of their chances of escaping death in the ocean, when the Fairhaven hove in sight just before dusk Friday afternoon, and the rescue was accomplished despite the heavy sea that was running.

First Mate Erickson, of the San Buena Ventura, was seriously injured on Wednesday afternoon, when the cargo of lumber shifted. Three of his ribs were fractured, and it is probable that he is internally injured. J. Coslovsky, one of the seamen, sustained an injury of the right hand. These were the only casualties.

When the Fairhaven sighted the disabled schooner Captain Paulsen sent Second Mate Johann Silversten and four men to the rescue in a lifeboat. After an exciting battle with the heavy seas the small boat reached the side of the doomed vessel.

Mrs. Rappemundt and her son were taken into the lifeboat. Then Mate Erickson was lifted over the side. One by one the members of the crew, nearly exhausted after their many hours at the pumps, deserted the wrecked craft; but Captain Rappemundt refused to leave the ship.

"She'll stay afloat for a week yet, and I'll stay with her," he shouted to his men. They pleaded with him in vain, and it was not until Mrs. Rappemundt threatened to leap into the sea with her three-month-old baby in her arms that the ship's master finally yielded.

CHINA LIVES UP TO TREATY.

Throws Open Two Cities, Regardless of Japan's Protests.

Peking, Jan. 18.—China has opened Hun Chun and Lungchin-sun, in Chientao, Manchuria, to international trade, notwithstanding the fact that an agreement has not been reached with Japan regarding the matter of tariffs to be collected on the Korean-Manchurian border.

The question of tariffs will come up for settlement soon.

By the terms of an agreement between China and Japan, signed September 4, 1909, among other things the Tumen river was designated the boundary line between China and Korea, and several towns in Chientao, which were given to China, were to be opened to the residence and trade of foreigners. Among these towns are Hun Chun and Lungchin-sun.

Various dissensions in carrying out the terms of the agreement have arisen, such as the immigration of Koreans into Chientao. By the terms of the agreement, China was to have suzerainty over the Koreans there, of whom there are about 70,000. Japan felt her control of Korea was in a measure threatened by this. Another hitch was caused by the question of tariffs. So the opening of the designated towns, promised by January 1, was delayed. Both nations recognize, however, that sooner or later in the course of progress these towns must be opened, and China's present declaration is not thought to portend any serious clash with Japan.

The importance of the opening of Hun Chun to foreign commerce is apparent when it is understood that the town is nine miles northeast of the Korean boundary, 35 miles above the mouth of the Tumen river, and less than 100 miles from Vladivostok.

STOVAINE BRINGS DEATH.

Doctor Says New Anesthetic Kills Chicago Patient.

Chicago, Jan. 18.—Stovaine, according to a coroner's physician, Dr. Warren M. Hunter, caused the death of John Rohrty at the county hospital last Thursday.

Rohrty was operated on for a fractured knee cap, and died an hour after he was taken off the operating table. Dr. Hunter has made a post-mortem examination of the body, and an inquest probably will be held tomorrow. "Death was caused by stovaine and external violence," said Dr. Hunter. "The fractured knee cap forms all the external violence marks that the body showed, and that in itself would not cause death, of course."

Dr. Hunter referred to the new anesthetic recently demonstrated in Chicago by Dr. Thomas Jonnesco, as "a medical gold brick."

Man Dies by Blast Route.

New London, Conn., Jan. 18.—Placing three sticks of dynamite in the front of his shirt, William A. Bennett lighted the fuse and was blown to death today. Bennett, on returning from work Friday, handed his wife a bouquet of flowers, with the remark: "You will know what to do with them between now and Monday." Then he demanded money. On being refused, he drew a revolver and fired at her, the bullet striking a corset steel, glancing off. He was arrested.

Cable Breaks; No News.

North Sydney, N. S., Jan. 18.—As a result of the breaking of the cable that connects the Magdalen islands with the mainland at Bay St. Lawrence, the islands are completely cut off from all communication, either by cable or otherwise, until the opening of navigation in the spring.

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF OREGON

WORK GOES MERRILY ON.

Despite Severe Weather Railroad Crews Are Busy.

Madras—Blasting is heard at frequent intervals down Willow creek canyon where the Oregon Trunk line is boring two tunnels through the rock. Porter & Clarkson, who have the contract for constructing the Oregon Trunk up Willow creek, have three camps fully established between Madras and Deschutes, although they are not yet carrying very large crews, as it is difficult to get laborers to come in during the cold and somewhat uncertain weather. [At the present time there is a force of about 150 men.]

Porter Bros. are receiving daily large consignments of supplies. Judging from present indications they will be prepared by the time the weather breaks to have the Willow creek and Deschutes canyons overflowing with workmen between Madras and the mouth of Trout creek.

The roads are in fine shape for freighting, being almost like pavement, although icy, and horses are required to be sharp shod in order to retain their footing.

New Water Company Formed.

Hermiston—With a view to cooperating with the Western Land and Irrigation company promoting the government reclamation of the land west of the Umatilla river, an association has been organized under the name of the Western Umatilla River Water Users' association and incorporated with a capital stock of \$10,000. The new company represents settlers with holdings under the Western Land and Irrigation company and also those having land that will come under the government ditch if the proposed extension of the Umatilla project is completed. The board of directors and officers of the organization are C. D. Teel, president; R. C. Onfield, vice-president; J. W. Campbell, secretary, and Thomas Hurlbert, treasurer.

The lands that the new association will water cover about 10,000 acres and in case the government takes over the lands for reclamation the tract will embrace more than 10,000 acres, most of which is now a barren waste.

Umatilla-Morrow Poultry Show.

Pendleton—Local fanciers of feathered stock are making active preparations for the first annual Umatilla-Morrow poultry show, to be held in this city January 25, 26 and 27. From notices of intended entries received, it is now assured that there will be on exhibition birds of the very highest quality, among them birds that have won the highest honors in the state and also at the great world's show at Seattle last summer. Five handsome cups, four of which are valued at \$25 each, have already been put up by local merchants, and others will be hung up before the show takes place. All birds entered will be scored.

Laidlaw Farmers Nurture Land.

Laidlaw—At a meeting of farmers and ranchers to consider the purchase of a carload of land plaster to fertilize the soil nearly 70,000 pounds was contracted for and the plaster will be ordered shipped at once. The farmers and ranchers in the Laidlaw district are going into the fertilization of the land quite extensively the coming season. It is claimed that an increase of nearly 100 per cent in crop has resulted by the use of the plaster.

Timber Cruisers to Lane County.

Eugene—A large crew of timber cruisers in the employ of the Lacey Timber company, of Portland, left Eugene in heavy vehicles recently for the Siuslaw country. They intend to cruise several large tracts of timber land in the western end of Lane county for the Lacey people, who, it is said, are intending to purchase 20,000 acres or more. Another large crew of cruisers is expected up from Portland soon.

Hermiston Postoffice Receipts Grow.

Hermiston—Hermiston took another leap upward when the postoffice went into the third class. Beginning January 1, Postmaster W. H. Williams received an advance in salary, and the office was put into the third class, and hereafter international money orders can be secured here. For the year just ended the gross receipts were \$2,440.33, as against \$2,244.55 for 1908.

Brick Block at Corvallis.

Corvallis—Gus Harding is erecting a two-story cement and brick structure on the ground until recently occupied by the old Danneman house. The lower floor will be occupied by a department store. Present plans contemplate utilizing the upper floor for apartments, or a first class rooming house.

Mill City Progresses.

Mill City—This city has made a good growth the past year. Over 20 new residences have been built here and many more are being planned. The new public school building recently completed is among the handsomest school buildings in the county.

Concrete Store Planned.

Corvallis—Albert J. Metzger will soon begin the erection of a one-story concrete building on the ground now occupied by Jack Milne's store and the Spencer barber shop. The building will be 25x100 feet, with full basement.

Land Deal Creates New Town.

Laidlaw—H. H. Humphrey, of Kennewick, Wash., and Mrs. Carra Kirkham-Swafford of this place have bought the two Aubrey falls and the B. F. Nichols falls on the Deschutes river, close to Laidlaw, and contracted for the purchase of nearly 1,000 acres of land adjoining the present town site of Laidlaw. The consideration for the water power sites was \$50,000. The land has a frontage of three miles on the Deschutes river.

Work on the power project at the falls will begin immediately, it is said, and be rushed forward as rapidly as possible. There is possible development an estimated horsepower of between 40,000 and 50,000. It is the purpose to generate power for trolley lines, heating and other domestic uses. The land will be laid out into town-site orchard tracts. It is the intention to plat the new townsite and orchard tracts on the boulevard system.

No name has been decided on for the new townsite. The owners have decided to give a prize of \$25 to the person submitting the name that will be accepted by the board of judges, who will canvas the names the first of March. Each person is entitled to submit one name. The name must be mailed to the Chronicle, at Laidlaw.

One Load of Alfalfa Brings \$50.

Hermiston—Peter Sheridan this week brought in one load of alfalfa hay from his ranch on Butter creek and sold it for \$50. The Interstate Telephone company this week took over the system of the Eastern Telephone company. The consideration, \$50,000, and two hundred miles of line changed hands. Hermiston school district shows an enrollment of 210 pupils. There were 100 a year ago and the number is steadily increasing.

Hill Survey Nears Klamath.

Klamath Falls—Hill surveyors are now camped on the Klamath Indian reservation. They are working less than 60 miles from this city and the route being followed will bring them direct to this city. The crew left Odell with three months' provisions. It is expected that by the end of that time they will be close enough to Klamath Falls to get provisions from this end of the line.

Rains in Linn Save Wheat.

Albany—County Fruit inspector Cooper, who has returned from a trip over Linn county, states that the rains following the cold weather and heavy frosts beat down the earth and put the growing wheat into shape and that it will probably come out all right with the exception of a few places. Vetch is not in so good a condition and there is some damage.

Will Operate Fruit Dryer.

Cottage Grove—J. I. Jones, to whom reverted the property of the Cottage Grove Fruit company, because of its inability to liquidate its indebtedness to him, proposes to reincorporate the concern and operate the dryer on an enlarged scale.

Klamath Station Near Completion.

Klamath Falls—The new depot will soon be completed. It will cost approximately \$20,000. The Southern Pacific company has plans for beautifying the grounds surrounding the station.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.20@1.21; club, \$1.10; red Russian, \$1.08; valley, \$1.08; 40-fold, \$1.12@1.13.

Barley—Feed and brewing, \$30@30.50 ton.

Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$32.50@33 ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$18@20 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$19@22; alfalfa, \$17@18; clover, \$16@17; cheat, \$16@17; grain hay, \$16@17.

Fresh Fruits—Apples, \$1@3 box; pears, \$1@1.50; cranberries, \$9 per barrel.

Potatoes—Oregon, 65@85¢ per sack; sweet potatoes, 2¢ per pound.

Vegetables—Artichokes, \$1@1.25 per dozen; cabbage, \$2 per hundred; garlic, 10¢ per pound; horseradish, 12½¢; pumpkins, 1¼@1½¢; sprouts, 6@7¢; squash, 1@1¼¢; tomatoes, \$1.50@2.25 per box; turnips, \$1.50 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.50 per sack.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 39¢ per pound; fancy outside creamery, 34¢@39¢; store, 22½¢@24¢. Butter fat prices average 1½¢ per pound under regular butter prices.

Poultry—Hens, 16@16½¢ per pound; springs, 17@18¢; ducks, 20¢; geese, 18¢; turkeys, live, 19@20¢; dressed, 22@23¢.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 35@36¢ per dozen; Eastern, 25@29¢.

Pork—Fancy, 10@10½¢ per pound. Veal—Extras, 11@12¢ per pound.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.75@5.25; fair to good, \$4.25@4.50; medium and feeders, \$3.50@4; cows, top, \$3.50@4.25; fair to good, \$3@3.50; common to medium, \$2.50@3.75; bulls, \$3.25@5.50; heavy, \$4@4.75; calves, best, \$5.50@6.

Hogs—Best, \$9@9.20; medium, \$8@8.50; stockers, \$6.50@7.25.

Sheep—Best wethers, \$5.50@6; fair to good, \$4.50@5; ewes, ½¢ less; yearlings, best, \$5@5.25; fair to good, \$4.50@4.75; lambs, \$6@6.50.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23¢ per pound; mohair, choice, 25¢.

Cascara bark, 4½¢ per pound.

Hides—Dry, 18@19¢ per pound; dry kip, 17@18¢; dry calfskin, 19@21¢; salted hides, 10½¢@11¢; salted calfskin, 15@16¢; green, 1¢ less.

COUNTERFEITERS' MINT FOUND.

Secret Service Officials Capture Three Men and Outfit.

San Francisco, Jan. 17.—The most complete coin counterfeiting outfit that has ever fallen into the hands of the federal authorities was captured here by secret service men this afternoon, and with it three men were arrested. The secret service men admit the seizure and arrests are of great importance and the result of concerted effort in following trails leading in many directions.

The plant was located in a lonely shack on the rocky summit of Bernal heights, the highest hill in the city, and was captured after a spectacular assault. Secret Service Operatives Harry Moffit and J. M. Nye were on the case, and after definitely locating their quarry, they called City Detectives Reagan and O'Connell to their aid.

Last night the detectives on watch in the shrub-covered rocks saw four of the men they had marked enter the shack, but the attack was deferred in the hope that other members of the gang might come to cover.

They were disappointed in this, and late this afternoon Chief Operative Moffit decided to act. Creeping on hands and knees the four officers approached the shack, and on signal made a rush, but the house was well barricaded, and they were compelled to batter an entrance with an ax. While they were breaking in the doors, one member of the gang escaped, making his way down a cliff on the brink of which the cabin stands.

The three men arrested gave their names as Michael Angelo, Samuel Di Cola and Samuel Arman. These are probably assumed names, and there is reason to believe that at least two of the prisoners are important captures. After securing their prisoners, the officers examined the plant, which filled the little hut, and were astounded at its completeness and the mechanical excellence of the machinery. It was a miniature mint. They found almost perfect dies for every coin, from 10 cents to \$10, and lathe, saws, stamps and other accessories of the finest workmanship.

The stamps are said to be of almost the same pattern as those used in the United States mints. The largest stamp was so massive it could not be carried into the Federal building. It is too powerful for hand operation, and probably fearing the noise of a motor or other power engine, the gang had devised and installed a complicated and ingenious system of lever and graduated weights, applied by a long steel beam. No coins or metal were found, for the raid was timed just before the plant was to have been placed in operation.

It is understood the crew followed by the secret service operatives began with the purchase of the big stamp, and has been followed for months. They refuse, however, to say where the stamp was bought. "Coins from dies identical with those we have here," said one of the officers, "are now in circulation in the east, and may have been made with this machine. This gang is probably part of a country-wide organization."

COOK DESERTED AGAIN.

Explorer Gives New Address, but Ignores All Telegrams Sent Him.

Copenhagen, Jan. 17.—Walter Lonsdale, Dr. Cook's secretary, and the last of the explorers' friends, has now lost confidence in the doctor. Lonsdale says the last letter from Cook was dated in a city in southern Spain, December 24. It gave another address to which Lonsdale could telegraph, and promised a long letter of detailed information. Lonsdale since has telegraphed several times to the address given, but received no reply, nor the promised letter. The solitary notebook sent the commission 21, from the same city in Spain. Lonsdale has no idea where Cook is now.

Lonsdale was private secretary to United States Minister Egan up to the time of the arrival here of Dr. Cook, with whom he then associated himself in a similar confidential capacity. He accompanied the explorer to the United States, made the typewritten duplicate of the polar records, and brought the data here for examination by the university committee. He has remained loyal to his employer until now, when, he says, he is beginning to doubt him. Lonsdale estimates that Cook cleared \$50,000 from the exploitation of his Arctic reputation.

Insane After Trip to North.

Cleveland, Jan. 17.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook's story of the discovery of the earth's apex was the result of polar insanity, according to Rev. B. E. Rowe, Episcopal bishop of Alaska. Bishop Rowe said that both Cook's remarkable story and Commander Peary's frame of mind upon hearing that story, readily can be attributed to the loneliness, the grayness and the silence of the north. "All men come from the polar circle with their nerves shattered," said the bishop, "and in Alaska we send home 50 men annually after the long winter, their minds completely wrecked."

New York Snowed Under.

New York, Jan. 17.—Nine lives were lost and six persons were injured in one of the worst storms that ever visited New York City. The total snowfall at 10 o'clock today, when the skies cleared, was 14½ inches, second only to the storm of 1899, when 15½ inches fell, and of 1888, in which year Roscoe Conkling lost his life, when 20.9 inches fell. Eighteen thousand men have been out to work clearing the streets, in order that traffic may be resumed.

Gallagher Seen in Rome.

San Francisco, Jan. 17.—According to a private letter received in this city, ex-Supervisor James L. Gallagher, the star witness in the Calhoun case, for whom a warrant has been issued, was recently seen in Rome.

GRAFTING PLOT STIRS PITTSBURG

Councilmen, Bankers, Politicians and Real Estate Men Involved.

Members of Council Were Bought—One Broker Gets \$22,500—President and Vice President Caught With Men Whom They Bribed to Make Deposits of Public Cash.

Pittsburg, Jan. 15.—President E. H. Jennings and Vice-President F. A. Griffin of the Columbia National bank; Max G. Leslie, county delinquent tax collector and ex-Republican city chairman; Charles Stewart, ex-councilman, and F. P. Nicola, a capitalist and real estate operator were arrested today on warrants issued by District Attorney Blakely, charging them with conspiracy to cause the selection of the Columbia National bank as a city depository.

In addition, Leslie is charged with perjury and another councilman alleges that for two years he made a business of soliciting the aid of councilmen for the influence of legislation. All gave bail.

The charges are the result of the graft scandals of 1908, when it was brought out that councilmen had been paid money to vote for six depositories. Officers of other banks who were found guilty had taken an appeal to the superior court and the present cases had been halted pending a decision on the other cases. As no decision seemed likely until March, when the statute of limitation would have exempted those arrested today, the district attorney took summary action.

It is charged in the writs that in May, 1908, Stewart, as a councilman, solicited from Griffin \$17,000 for his vote and influence in favor of the ordinance that authorized the Columbia National bank as a depository. It is also charged that Nicola instigated this move on the part of Stewart. Griffin is charged with conspiracy to defraud the city by corrupting members of the city council and it is further charged that he promised certain members \$25,000 for their votes and influence in favor of the ordinance.

Leslie is charged with receiving \$22,500 to influence councilman votes. It is also charged that before the grand jury investigated this charge Leslie perjured himself in denying that he had received any payments for any purpose whatever from any of the men named.

DIVER BEATS DEVILFISH.

Deep-Sea Artist Wins Desperate Fight on Ocean Bottom.

Long Beach, Cal., Jan. 15.—Cut off from assistance from above, A. D. Christy, a professional deep-sea diver, spent the worst 15 minutes of his life today in a desperate battle on the sea bottom with a large devilfish.

Christy had gone down to inspect the caissons and piers of the outer wharf for the city. In wandering around he tangled his lifeline up so that when he felt the octopus seize his leg he was unable to give the signal for ascending.

Perceiving that the line was fast he turned to the octopus, which by that time had four tentacles wrapped around his left leg. Five times he slashed at the monster with his big scraping knife and each time severed a tentacle.

At last, the octopus moved away and Christy hastened to straighten out the lifeline and gave the signal to be hauled up. He has been in a state bordering on nervous collapse ever since, but his condition is not serious.

Walsh Signs Agreement.

Chicago, Jan. 15.—John B. Walsh today attached his signature to the agreement of settlement of his financial troubles and sent it to the First Trust and Savings bank, to be held until the guarantors of the note sign their part of the agreement. The signature gives to the Associated Banks of Chicago, which backed the adjustment of Walsh's financial affairs after his banks were suspended in 1905, the \$1,039,000 in securities he put up to cover a note for \$7,121,857 in return for the canceled note. In addition, the banks will get \$600,000 from the guarantors signing the note, who are then to be given the \$949,000 in securities they put up as surety.

Port Arthur to Be Open.

Washington, Jan. 15.—Notice to the intention of the Japanese government to open Port Arthur to world-wide commerce is indicated in Tokio dispatches to the Japanese Embassy about two months ago, but it was said the issuing of the order would be withheld until the government was able to fix the exact date for the opening. The purpose is not to make Port Arthur a free port in the sense of Hamburg, where goods may enter free of duty and be placed in bond, but simply to put it on the footing of New York or any other commercial city.

Harvester Company Waxes Fat.

New York, Jan. 15.—Another "melting" of large proportions—the distribution of \$20,000,000 in common stock—is to be given to the stockholders of the International Harvester company. The new stock is to be distributed ratably as a stock dividend to the present \$60,000,000 of common stock. The directors of the company have recommended that the entire \$80,000,000 of stock be placed on a 4 per cent dividend basis, beginning next April.

Switchmen War Still On.

Washington, Jan. 15.—An agreement between the railroads operating out of Chicago and their switchmen is not yet in sight. Conferences between the parties involved and the mediators under the Erdman act have been in progress for three days.