

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Less Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

Taft has been made an associate member of the G. A. R.

Insurance companies of Indiana are being prosecuted under the anti-trust laws.

Wisconsin proposes to forbid contributions by candidates to churches and secret societies.

A severe wind storm at Corry, Pa., blew over a circus tent, injuring a large number of people.

Reno, Nev., is infested with firebugs who are starting numerous fires in business and residence buildings.

Roosevelt has already started to write a series of articles describing his African adventures to date.

Governor Hadley has vetoed the insurance law which was passed by the Missouri legislature after a long fight.

The army transport Dix, which has been experimenting with Philippine coal, reports that it has excellent steaming qualities and has proven very satisfactory.

The Dry Farming congress, which meets at Billings, Mont., in October, will aim to teach the farmer how to conserve moisture by intelligent cultivation and thus increase the producing area in arid and semi-arid regions.

The French strike is on the verge of collapse, but is pledged aid of the labor unions.

Three men were killed and 12 badly injured by an explosion of dynamite near Key West, Fla.

Farmers of Grand Valley, Colo., have protested against Ballinger's suspension of irrigation work.

A bridge on the Wabash railroad near Kansas City gave way as a train was crossing and several persons are missing.

A non-union baker at New York was set upon by women and after giving him a severe beating they threw him into a vat of dough.

Hill and Harriman officials are conferring with the Interstate Commerce commission with a view of forming rates to conform to the Spokane decision.

An extra session of the Washington legislature will probably be called to straighten out some of the matters arising from investigation of state officials.

Experts estimate that in 10 years every drop of water available for irrigation will be utilized. For every acre irrigated there will be 50 acres of dry farm land where irrigation possibilities are exhausted.

Roosevelt says Tolstol is a weak eader.

A saloon is to be opened in Des Moines where treating will be forbidden.

Secretary MacVeagh says prosperity only awaits completion of the tariff bill.

Fire at Long Island, Kan., destroyed five business buildings, causing a loss estimated at \$100,000.

The Farmers' union, at its national convention, has agreed on a plan to build warehouses and market wheat without the middleman.

Seventeen states and ten foreign countries will have delegates at the Dry Farming congress, which meets at Billings October 26 to 28.

Physicians attending the annual convention of the Illinois Homoeopathic Medical association advocated the removal of tonsils of everyone subject to tuberculosis.

The postal strike in France is not general and failure seems probable.

Office seekers and office holding by professional politicians is becoming a vocation in the Philippine islands, according to the report of Acting Director Harbord, of the constabulary.

The Pennsylvania railroad is setting out thousands of trees to provide for future requirements in timber and ties.

President Taft has agreed to attend the opening of the Gunnison, Colo., tunnel.

The Missouri senate has killed the measure which gave the state railroad commission power to fix passenger rates.

The Farmers' union is in national convention at Springfield, Mo., and plans are being made to keep the price of wheat up.

London art dealers are in trouble for selling spurious wares on unsuspecting customers.

Railroads have submitted to the Interstate Commerce commission new rates which will greatly injure Pacific coast cities if allowed to stand.

A Denver woman died rather than have her hair cut. Her tresses had attained a length of 90 inches and physicians declared they consumed the vitality which should have sustained life.

HOMES NOW RUINS.

Much Suffering and Death in Wake of Kansas Tornado.

Kansas City, May 17.—A recapitulation of the storm, general over Northwestern Missouri and Eastern and Central Kansas, and extending into Oklahoma, and which in places reached the proportion of a tornado, shows three known dead and 55 injured, at least half a dozen of the latter seriously hurt.

The principal damage was done at Hollis, a town of 150 inhabitants, near Concordia, Kansas, and at Mount Washington, Mo., a suburb eight miles east of Kansas City. In both of these places practically every house was either damaged or demolished, and dozens of persons injured.

Mount Washington, Mo., 22, three perhaps fatally.

Near Great Bend, Kansas, 20, mostly members of a crew on a Santa Fe work train, which was blown from the track. Four of these are in a serious condition.

Hollis, Kansas, three.

Rosedale View, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City, two. In the vicinity of Hoisington, Kansas, four.

Pond Creek, Oklahoma, four.

The storm followed a terrific down-pour of rain. The wind came up suddenly, swooped down with but little warning, and striking the small territory described, wiped it out almost completely. Frame houses were crushed, the sides apparently being forced inward, while others were toppled over and carried from their foundations. In some cases sides of buildings were carried away, leaving the roof and a few small articles to mark the site.

THE A.-Y.-P. FAIR.

Some Brief Notes of Interest on the Exposition Which Opens June 1.

The Oregon building was the first of the state buildings to be finished. California made a good second.

Mt. Rainier, the highest mountain in the United States, towers 15,000 feet above the grounds of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition.

Five million dollars' worth of gold dust, just as it came from Alaskan placers, will be part of the Alaska exhibit.

Live specimens of all game and game birds found from Point Barrow to Tia Juana, will be seen in the immense game paddock.

The provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan, Canada, will make splendid exhibits of their mineral and agricultural resources.

The University of Idaho cadet band of 40 pieces will play at the fair this summer. The Idaho legislature passed an appropriation allowing the battalion to go into encampment at the exposition immediately after the end of the university year.

The Michigan building will be the only state structure financed locally. The money to defray the expense of building and entertainment was raised by subscription in Seattle.

Guards on the grounds of the exposition will wear pearl gray uniforms and it is planned to make the force the best dressed police body ever seen in this country.

TRAIN HELD UP.

Robbers Hake Good Haul on Great Northern Road.

Spokane, Wash., May 17.—Great Northern passenger train No. 3 was held up by two masked robbers between Mead and Colbert shortly before midnight Saturday night. The mailcar and the engine were detached and taken by the robbers three miles east of Hilliard, where the mails were rifled. The engine was then reversed and sent back down the track, where it crashed into the standing train.

When the collision occurred a number of the passengers, it is reported, were injured. A hurry call was sent to Hilliard for doctors, who were rushed to the scene in a special train carrying the officers.

The train was left standing several miles from a telegraph station, where one of the trainmen was sent to notify the Spokane office of the hold-up.

According to the report at Hilliard, the robbers have obtained booty amounting to more than \$20,000 from the mailcar.

More Time is Given.

Washington, May 17.—As a result of several conferences, the Interstate Commerce commission today announced a postponement from June 1 to July 1 of the time for taking effect of its decision in the Spokane rate cases. The commission recently had postponed until June 1 the time when the new rates ordered by it should go into effect, but as a result of conferences within the last few days with the representatives of the Hill and Harriman lines it was decided today further to postpone the operation of the order until July 1.

Earthquake in Montana.

Glendive, Mont., May 17.—At 9:16 o'clock Saturday evening Glendive felt a very perceptible seismic disturbance. A number of men gathered in the Masonic temple rushed from the building, believing it was about to fall. In many places dishes rattled in the pantries. The first shock lasted probably two or three seconds, with unusually rapid vibrations. The shock was felt at Forsyth and Dickinson, N. D., where it is reported to have been very severe.

Bank Guarantee in Texas.

Dallas, Tex., May 17.—A general movement among state banks to take advantage of the new state guarantee law, signed last week, has begun. During the two days since the law was signed 25 banks have accepted the provisions of the deposit guarantee sections.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

HAS RECORD CLIP.

Over 3,000,000 Pounds of Wool Expected in Malheur County.

Ontario—The wool clip in Malheur county this year will be much larger than it was a year ago, or for several years, as the fleece is in much better condition, and there are also more sheep in the county than for several years. The clip last year totaled about 2,750,000 pounds and was considered very large, but this year it will be more than 3,000,000 pounds and it will be cleaner and much thicker per sheep than it was last year.

One and one half million pounds have already been sold here, for May and June delivery, and buying continues at a rapid rate, so rapid in fact that there will be very little public selling this year, as the sales days for Ontario have been set so late. They are June 7 and 21. There has been very little bad weather this year, which is the particular reason for the fine condition of the fleeces. The sheep have come through the winter with less loss than for several years previous.

Prices this spring range from 20 to 21 cents. Last year they were about 12 to 16 1/2 cents. Very little of the wool in this vicinity is going to the Chicago warehouse. Most of it will be sent to Boston, as in former years. A number of wool growers throughout the vicinity joined the warehouse plan, but the majority continued in the old way, as the prices in this part of the country have always been good.

Much of the shearing this year will be done by machine. Some complaint of the machines have been heard, the complaint being that they shear too close for the best health of the sheep, but this does not seem to be credited by many of the growers.

The annual meeting of the Malheur and Harney Wool Growers' association will meet in Ontario on June 22. At that time all the wool growers of the two counties will be here.

STATE'S FINANCIAL CONDITION

Treasurer's Statement Shows Over Million Dollars in Strong Box.

Salem—The treasurer's statement just out shows that the amount of first mortgage loans outstanding is the greatest in the history of the state, having reached the sum total of \$4,390,822.82. As a result the common school fund interest is growing rapidly and there will thereby be a large amount to apportion among the counties August 1.

The common school fund interest is now \$232,007.94.

The state tax paid into the state treasury during April was large, almost \$500,000 being received. On account of this healthy condition of the state's finances, the total amount on hand is the largest that has ever been held at any time by the state for a great many years, the sum being \$1,173,533.98.

Farmers' First Annual Picnic.

Weston—The annual meeting of the Umatilla county Pioneers' association will be held in this city May 28 and 29, when it is expected that practically every old settler will be on hand to recall the "good old days" when Eastern Oregon was the home of coyotes and the land was covered with sagebrush. The first pioneer society to be organized in Eastern Oregon was founded here, and annually the meetings have been held for over 20 years. Over 25 of the early settlers of the county have passed away during the past 24 months.

Sheep Moving to Feeding Grounds.

Condon—Rae Bros, of Montana, shipped a big trainload of sheep from Condon last week, the train consisting of 23 cars, making in all about 5,300 head. These sheep were going to Forsyth, Mont., where Rae Bros. have large bands of sheep. Several large trains of sheep will be leaving different parts of Eastern Oregon for the above firm and they will have about 250,000 head of sheep feeding in Montana when these arrive.

Sells 23 Acres for \$2,133.

Weston—George Nesbitt, who has been employed three years on the farm of J. N. York, was surprised recently by the receipt of a "windfall" amounting to \$2,133. Several years ago Mr. Nesbitt acquired for a small sum 23 acres six miles from Boise. He had since regarded it of no value. When a Boise real estate man, Dean Perkins, came to see him and offered him \$2,133 for the tract he closed the deal immediately.

Dr. Steiner Returns.

Salem—Dr. R. E. L. Steiner, superintendent of the asylum, has returned from an extended trip East. He was accompanied as far as Chicago by H. E. Bickers, superintendent of the feeble minded institute. Bickers returned several weeks ago. Both made the trip for the purpose of making a study of the care of the insane of other states. Dr. Steiner visited Washington and Senator Chamberlain while there.

Klamath Changes Date.

Klamath Falls—The celebration of the completion of the railroad to Klamath Falls has been set for June 2 instead of June 7, so as not to conflict with the Rose festival in Portland. This is now authoritative. The event will be a great one in this section of the inland empire, and will be made memorable by the gathering of the greatest crowd ever known in Klamath county.

HIGH SCHOOL FOR WESTON.

Citizens Propose to Make Good Use of Normal School Building.

Weston—The district school board has given notice of a special meeting May 31 to vote on the proposition of establishing a high school. This action is taken in view of the state normal board's refusal to permit the use of the state's property at Weston for a normal school supported with private funds.

The Eastern Oregon state normal school will therefore cease to be, with the commencement exercises May 23-25, after being conducted more than 20 years as a state institution. The state board will be petitioned for the use of the state's plant for public and high school purposes, the district agreeing to take care of the property for which no provision was made by the legislature.

In view of the fact that the community gave all the ground and one of the buildings to the state, it is thought that the request will be granted.

Ontario Lands Bring \$80,000.

Ontario—Eighty thousand dollars' worth of property changed hands in the vicinity of Ontario during the past week. The prices ranged from \$125 to \$200 an acre. Among the sales were 100 acres owned by A. M. Moody, which sold for \$20,000; 75 acres owned by Judge J. T. Clement, \$15,200; 160 acres owned by Dave Dunbar, \$20,000. This land was purchased by Portland parties, and the entire acreage will be planted to fruit trees. A. A. Brown also sold 2,000 acres for \$20,000.

Work on Fair Buildings Begun.

Eugene—The work of building the grandstand and pavilion for the Lane county fair, which will be held in September, is under way. The fair grounds will be a busy place during the summer, as little building has yet been done. The track, which is being used for training, is in good condition. The capacity of the grandstand will be 1,000. The pavilion will be large, well arranged and modern.

Five Miles of Ditch Dug.

Grants Pass—The farmers and ranchers of this community are jubilant over the advancement made on the irrigating ditches. The gravity ditch on the north side of town has been completed almost to the city limits, while on the north side of Rogue river the high land ditch to Fruitdale has been completed to the opening of the valley. Altogether five miles of waterways are ready for use. Water will be turned into the ditches within 30 days.

Benton Growers Meet.

Corvallis—A grand rally of fruit growers and farmers was held here last week under the auspices of the Corvallis Commercial club for the purpose of organizing a Benton County Fruitgrowers' association and discussing plans for a co-operative scheme similar to that in existence at Hood River.

Mist's Mills in Operation.

Mist—The Holmes & Lindgren shingle mill resumed operations the first of the week, after a shut down of several months. This is the last of the three shingle mills here to start. All are now running.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem milling, \$1.30@1.35; club, \$1.20; Turkey red, \$1.26; valley, \$1.17; forty-fold, \$1.26; red Russian, \$1.17@1.20.

Corn—Whole, \$35 per ton; cracked, \$36.

Barley—Feed, \$34@35 per ton. Oats—No. 1 white, \$40 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$14@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18@20; clover, \$11@12; alfalfa, \$13@14; grain hay, \$13@14; cheat, \$14@14.50; vetch, \$14@14.50.

Fruits—Apples, 65c@2.50 per box; strawberries, Oregon, 12 1/2c per pound.

Potatoes—\$20 per hundred. Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.25 per sack; carrots, \$1.25; parsnips, \$1.50; beets, \$1.75; horseradish, 10c per pound; asparagus, Oregon, 75c per dozen; lettuce, head, 20@50c per dozen; onions, 12 1/2@15c per dozen; radishes, 15@20c per dozen; rhubarb, 2 1/2@3 1/2c per pound.

Butter—City creamery, extra, 26c; fancy outside creamery, 22 1/2@24c; store, 18c. Butter fat prices average 1 1/2 cent per pound under regular butter prices.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 24@25c. Poultry—Hens, 14 1/2@15c; broilers, 28@30c; fryers, 22@25c; roosters, 10c; ducks, 14@15c; geese, 10@11c; turkeys, 20c; squabs, \$2.50@3 per dozen.

Veal—Extras, 9 1/2c; ordinary, 8 1/2@9c; heavy, 7@8c.

Pork—Fancy, 10c per pound. Hops—1909 contract, 9c; 1908 crop, 8@8 1/2c; 1907 crop, 3@4c; 1906 crop, 1 1/2c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@21c; valley, fine, 22 1/2c; medium, 21 1/2c; coarse, 20 1/2c; mohair, choice, 24@25c.

Cattle—Steers, top, \$5.50@5.75; fair to good, \$5@5.25; common to medium, \$4.50@4.75; cows, top, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good, \$3.75@4.25; common to medium, \$2.50@3.50; calves, top, \$5@5.50; heavy, \$3.50@4; bulls and stags, \$3@3.50; common, \$2@2.75.

Hogs—Best, \$7.50@7.75; fair to good, \$7.25@7.50; stockers, \$6@6.50; China fats, \$6.75@7.

Sheep—Top wethers, \$4@4.50; fair to good, \$3.50@4; ewes, 1/2c less on all grades; yearlings, best, \$4.50; fair to good, \$4@4.25; spring lambs, \$5.

GENERAL STRIKE BEGUN.

French Postal Employees Throw Down Gauntlet to Government.

Paris, May 12.—The chamber of deputies, after a stormy session of four hours yesterday, adjourned the debate on the interpellations on the postal situation until May 13. The response of the employees was quick and decisive. Within half an hour the federal committee had issued an order for a general strike and the railway mail clerks walked out in a body. An hour later a meeting of 6,000 postal employees took up the battle and unanimously voted to strike. No great enthusiasm was shown, but determination to force the hand of the government was apparent. "The government is playing for time; we must not be caught napping," was the spirit of the meeting as expressed by Pauron, a dismissed postman and one of the most active organizers of the movement.

Dispatches were received from many cities announcing the support not only of the postal employees but of the various trades unions. The miners' congress, now in session at Lens, also pledged aid.

The president of the committee declared that today not a letter must leave Paris.

The general opinion is that the government, with the aid of the soldiers and the co-operation of the commercial bodies, will be able to maintain crippled services. The main danger is that violence may occur and that passions may be aroused by the appearance of the general Federation of Labor.

VICTORY FOR LUMBERMEN.

Interstate Commerce Commission Orders Lower Rates.

Washington, May 12.—Two decisions of importance to the railways and lumber interests of the Northwest were handed down today by the Interstate Commerce commission, the complainants against the railroads being victorious in each instance. Many months ago the Kalispell Lumber company and others and the Big Blackfoot Milling company and others engaged in the lumber manufacturing business in Montana, instituted complaints against the Great Northern Railway and other lines asking that they be accorded differentials on the rates established in the Spokane case. The differentials requested were an average of about 2 1/2 a hundred pounds. In the opinions announced today, the committee sustains the contentions of the complainants and issued orders that the differentials are to be established by the railroads not later than August 1 next. The orders have the effect of large reductions in rates on all lumber products from the Montana mills both east and west, and will afford them an advantage of approximately 2 cents a hundred pounds over the mills in the Spokane group on Eastern shipments.

The rates established are required to be maintained by the railroads for at least two years.

NEW CABINET IS IN TROUBLE

Turkish Ministers and Military Men War Over \$8,000,000.

Constantinople, May 12.—A difference of opinion has arisen between Shekhet Pasha, commander of the Constitutional army that entered Constantinople April 24, and the present cabinet.

Shekhet Pasha is of the opinion that the cash found in the Yildiz Kiosk after the expulsion of Abdul Hamid should be used to pay the expenses of his army, while the ministers want the money turned into the national treasury. The funds is question now amount to almost \$8,000,000 in cash and immediately marketable securities. Shekhet Pasha has one advantage in the controversy inasmuch as the money is in the possession of the military and has been deposited in the war office.

Djeved Bey, former governor general of the Adana vilayet, arrived here with the object of explaining to the minister of the interior the origin and cause of the race conflicts in his territory. Djeved Bey has been dismissed from office.

Losses by Her High Heels.

Oakland, May 12.—Because she was wearing high-heel shoes when she was injured by a fall from a street car, Mrs. Anna Peterson lost her suit for damages against the Oakland Traction company. Counsel for the corporation advanced the plea that Mrs. Peterson was guilty of contributory negligence, as no woman wearing high-heels could expect to navigate a level street, let alone step hurriedly from a street car, without being overbalanced by such footwear. Superior Judge Fred V. Wood held the same view.

Hawaiians Going to Fair.

San Francisco, May 12.—The liner Alameda, which arrived from Honolulu today, brought part of the Hawaiian exhibit for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition at Seattle. The rest will go direct on the transport Dix. Lloyd Childs, special agent for Hawaii to the exposition was a passenger on the Alameda. On her next trip the liner will bring 10 pretty Hawaiian girls, who will serve canned pineapples on Koa tables for visitors to the fair.

Mexican Town Wiped Out.

Acapulco, Mexico, May 12.—News was received here today that the town of Mazatlan, 20 kilometers from Chilpancingo, was almost totally destroyed by fire Friday. Many citizens escaped from their homes with nothing and hundreds are reported to be starving. A high wind fanned the flames and few buildings were left standing. Mazatlan was a town of 5,000 inhabitants.

Hawaiians Refuse Japs.

Honolulu, May 3.—All the plantation owners have agreed to stand together in refusing the Japanese laborers who went on strike several days ago for increased wages. The demands of the Japanese, couched in excessively polite language, were again presented to the plantation owners today, but they firmly refused to grant them.

TWENTY ARE KILLED

Premature Explosion of Dynamite Causes Death in New York.

CITY OF ALBANY FEELS SHOCK

Preparations to Fire 8,000 Pounds of Explosive Had Been Made When Accident Occurred.

Albany, N. Y., May 13.—At least 20 men were killed today by a premature blast of dynamite in a stone quarry operated by the Callanan Road Improvement company near South Bethlehem, 11 miles southwest of Albany.

One thousand pounds of dynamite exploded and the bodies were hurled hundreds of feet. As darkness was falling a wagon drew up to the engine house loaded with bodies that had been picked up back on the quarry hill.

The preparations for today's blast had been going on for six weeks. Thirteen holes, 75 feet deep, had been drilled at points about 25 feet back of the big quarry and the explosion of the dynamite, with which they were to be loaded, was expected to displace 40,000 tons of rock.

More than 8,000 pounds of dynamite were to have been used. The workmen had placed 500 pounds in six of the holes and were working on the seventh, when a percussion cap was discharged prematurely.

A terrific explosion followed, throwing tons of rock into the air and scattering the bodies of the victims in all directions.

The explosion was distinctly felt in this city, and many people thought the shock was one of earthquake. As no second shock followed, the alarm soon subsided.

WIRELESS LIGHTING.

Transmits Power Through Air and Floods Hall With Rays.

Omaha, Neb., May 13.—Lighting by electricity without the use of wires was successfully accomplished by Dr. Frederick H. Milliner at the Electrical exposition now in progress at the Omaha auditorium. The doctor is with the Union Pacific as experimental electrician, and is working on a cab wireless signal for the control of trains. This is to be worked in connection with the block signal system.

One year ago, in the Union Pacific shops in Omaha, Dr. Milliner constructed an electric truck to travel about the yards by wireless. This truck is started by wireless and goes four speeds ahead and four speeds back without any power other than the wireless. By an apparatus similar to that used with the truck, the switch at the Omaha auditorium is opened and closed.

The lighting of the auditorium is something that is beyond the power of any person to explain. Through the courtesy of Colonel Glassford at Fort Omaha, the wireless apparatus there is put in operation, then at the auditorium, six miles away, by an instrument constructed by Dr. Milliner, the electric waves are gathered, brought into the auditorium, where, after the electric power from the lighting plant has been cut, they pass to the switchboard and out over the wires and through the hundreds of lamps. This wireless power can be thrown off or on by simply pushing a button in the little machine constructed by the doctor.

Plan Big Coal Merger.

Baltimore, May 13.—The Consolidated Coal company today announced that negotiations had been completed for merging the Piedmont Coal company, the Somerset Coal company, the Clarksburg Fuel company, the Pittsburgh & Fairmont Fuel company and their subsidiaries, thus making the Consolidated the largest mining corporation of its kind in the world. The companies have a capital stock of \$37,650,000 and own and control 200,000 acres of coal lands in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Abdul's Head Cost \$10,000,000.

Belgrade, May 13.—Ten million dollars is the price paid by Abdul Hamid, deposed sultan of Turkey, for the privilege of retaining his head, according to a statement in today's Stampa. The paper says Abdul has authorized Enver Bey, a Young Turk leader, to draw this fabulous sum of money from his deposits in foreign banks. The money, it is understood, will be turned into the depleted treasury of the new government.

More Frost in Fruit Belt.

Grand Junction, Colo., May 13.—The weather observation tonight predicts that before morning the temperature will probably go below the freezing point in some portions of the Grand Junction fruit region. The advanced condition of the buds makes cold weather at this time doubly dangerous. Preparations for smudging have been made.

Hawaiians Refuse Japs.

Honolulu, May 3.—All the plantation owners have agreed to stand together in refusing the Japanese laborers who went on strike several days ago for increased wages. The demands of the Japanese, couched in excessively polite language, were again presented to the plantation owners today, but they firmly refused to grant them.