

Bohemia Nugget

HOWARD & BROWN, Pubs.

COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week. Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting.

The blockade on Venezuelan ports has been raised.

A Moro stronghold in the Philippines has surrendered.

China is buying arms in violation of the treaty with the allies.

Mrs. Roosevelt is ill and has cancelled all social engagements.

That sugar men have again blocked the passage of the Philippine tariff bill.

An exceedingly rich gold strike has been made in Josephine county, Oregon.

The bill creating a department of commerce has been signed by the president.

A bill has been introduced in the House to prevent hating at the Annapolis naval academy.

Senator Hanna is again trying to revise the ship subsidy bill, but meets with opposition.

Committees from the Oregon and Washington legislatures met at Olympia and discussed fish laws.

George Cole, under arrest at Butte for the recent holdup of a Burlington train in Montana, has confessed. He implicates a man named George Howard, who is still at large.

A campaign against the "get-rich-quick" offices which do business under the name of turf investment companies is being conducted in New York, as well as in Chicago and St. Louis.

THE NEWSPAPER DEADEND.

Why should people ask for free newspapers, asks the Toronto Evening Telegram, any more than they look for free cigars, free umbrellas, free walking sticks, free collars, free cuffs or free beefsteaks? Every copy of a newspaper is a product which costs money. The tailor, the tobacconist, the gent's furnisher or the grocer is not called upon to supply free copies of the products which they handle. The people who are aggrieved if they cannot get a free copy of a newspaper would not think of struggling for a place on the free list of a grocery store, a dry goods store, or a butcher's shop.

It is the principle more than the cost of the free newspaper idea which is repugnant to all sound business notions.

Dr. Rocco Brindisi, for 11 years the Italian consular agent at Boston, has been appointed by the king of Italy vice consul for New England.

Father Edmund Goetz, a famous South African astronomer, after 14 months in America, has sailed for France, where he will secure astronomical instruments for the first observatory in South Africa.

Reciprocity with Italy and no restriction of immigration to this country were the keynote struck by the speakers at the third annual banquet of the Italian chamber of commerce in New York city.

The great prevalence of smallpox in the Connellsville, Pa., coke region has prompted the officials of the H. C. Frick coke company to issue an order calling for the free vaccination of all its employes and their families.

Andrew Carnegie has a trust company of his own in New York to aid him in making donations. When he wants to make a gift he merely notifies the head of his private trust company to credit so-and-so the required amount, and the whole matter is off his mind.

The collier Ajax, which arrived in New York from San Juan de Porto Rico, has on board the remains of the nine sailors of the battleship Massachusetts, who were killed in an explosion in the 12-inch gun turret on that vessel. Eight of the bodies will be forwarded to relatives. The other body, that of Rowswain Hendrickson, who had no relatives in the United States, will be buried at the naval cemetery at the navy yard at Brooklyn.

Professor H. W. Jenks, of Cornell university, has been invited by the Mexican government to go to Mexico to consult with the authorities there regarding the establishment of a new monetary system. The Cornell trustees have granted Professor Jenks leave of absence for one month, and he will leave for Mexico in March.

The senate has ratified the Alaskan boundary treaty.

Germany has repudiated her agreement in the Venezuelan negotiations.

East St. Louis will erect a separate building at the St. Louis fair.

The Park hotel at Coshocton, O., suffered a \$25,000 fire loss. Forty guests had narrow escapes, all getting out in their night clothes.

The British torpedo boat destroyer Quill went ashore a week ago near Point Barin, says a Herald dispatch from Port of Spain, Trinidad.

The resignation of midshipman Pearson from the Naval academy at Annapolis because he was hazed has been rejected by Superintendent Brownson.

The Washington legislature has indefinitely postponed action on McBride's railroad bill.

Many states have petitioned for popular election of senators, but the senate refuses to act.

The agreement for an increase of wages for trainmen and conductors on the Southwestern railroads has been signed at St. Louis.

In the private collection of George Frederick Kunz, now on exhibition in New York, is a pure diamond imbedded in the center of a 40-pound meteorite.

PRESIDENT APPROVES.

Last Obstacle in Way of Deschutes Irrigation Project Removed.

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Roosevelt this afternoon advised Representative Moody that he today approved the map and contract with the state of Oregon permanently segregating 84,707 acres of land in the Deschutes valley, which it is proposed shall be reclaimed under the Carey act by the Pilot Butte development company, of which A. M. Drake is president.

This action ends the long controversy, and so far as the general government is concerned, gives this company the right to proceed with the immediate construction of its irrigation system, according to the approved plans. Government officials here regard this as the most important and most pressing Carey act proposition in the state, and see no reason why the project should not be carried through in the 10 years allowed by law to successful completion.

Under the terms of the contract with the state, the Pilot Butte company will be allowed to charge an annual water rental of \$1 per acre, the lien of the company amounting to \$342,857.

This case is the first one in Oregon under the Carey act to be approved by the president. It has been hung up in the land office since early last summer. Representative Moody throughout the session has been urging immediate action on all Carey act cases in Oregon, but it was not until Commissioner Richards told him that he was able to get this case "jarr'd loose."

COAL TO BE SCARCE.

Strike of British Columbia Miners is Becoming Serious.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 17.—The strike which has been declared in the coal mines of the Crow's Nest coal company, at Fernie, Michel, Morrissey and Coal creek will, it is feared, be almost as grave in its indirect as in its direct effects, which threaten to close every smelter in the Kootenai and Boundary countries. Recently the miners of Nanaimo affiliated with the Western Federation of miners, in direct antagonism to Ralph Smith, M. P., who warned them that in so doing they would be impeding the good relations which have existed between them and the Vancouver coal company. It is now considered likely that if the strike is not settled in Fernie, not only will there be great suffering there, but the miners of Nanaimo may be called out. This would paralyze the coal trade of San Francisco. The situation is viewed with the greatest apprehension and coal retailers are hurrying to Nanaimo to insure a good reserve supply in case of trouble.

A special dispatch from Fernie says the strike situation is not changed and there is likely to be a long struggle. The miners are determined that the union shall be recognized, and the manager of the coal company is absolutely opposed to meeting them. A deputation consisting of three miners from Morrissey, Michel and Coal creek tried to present their grievances before Manager Tomlin, but he refused to listen. He will meet them individually but not collectively. Manager Tomlin says the miners are making better wages than in any other place in Canada.

BILLS FOR THE NORTHWEST.

Report on Klamath Treaty—Lifesaving Station for Tillamook Bay.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Representative Moody this morning secured a favorable report on his bill introducing the Klamath Indian treaty. He will try to have it put in the Indian appropriation bill now in conference. The omnibus public building bill reported to the house today carries \$400,000 each for the buildings at Tacoma and Spokane, with which to begin construction when plans have been completed.

At the request of Senator Mitchell, a bill was introduced in the senate today authorizing the establishment of a lifesaving station at the entrance of Tillamook bay.

Representative Jones today secured an amendment to the sundry civil bill appropriating \$22,000 for a lighthouse at Muckletop point, near Everett.

By request of Representative Jones, a deputy United States marshal is hereafter to be stationed at North Yakima to prevent sales of liquor to Indians on the reservation.

Senator Mitchell continues to improve. Bad weather, however, prevents his going out.

Coaling Stations in Cuba.

Havana, Feb. 17.—President Palma is ready to sign the naval coaling stations agreement on receipt of President Roosevelt's approval of certain minor changes. If a reply is received in time, Minister Squiers will sail for New York this afternoon carrying with him the signed agreement for President Roosevelt's signature. The object of Mr. Squiers' visit to Washington is to confer with the authorities with reference to the permanent treaty between the two countries which will cover the sovereignty of the Isle of Pines.

Ladrones Driven Back.

Manila, Feb. 14.—A hundred ladrones attacked the town of Nanjan, island of Mindoro, yesterday. The constabulary repulsed them after a scattering fight, which lasted several hours, during which one ladrone was killed and one wounded. Twenty women and children living in the town were injured. Inspector Crockett, with a large force of mounted constabulary, has swept through Northern Rizal and Southern Balacan, where ladrones have been operating, but he failed to find a trace of them.

Meteor Falls in Utah.

Salt Lake, Feb. 17.—A special to the Tribune from Bingham, Utah, says: A mammoth meteor struck the earth in the vicinity of this place at 4:45 o'clock this morning. The falling body when it collided with the earth caused windows to rattle and houses to tremble, while a sound like a mighty clap of thunder awakened the inhabitants from their sleep. People thought there had been an earthquake and much alarm was felt for some time.

THE LEGISLATURE

WHAT THE LAWMAKERS OF OREGON ARE DOING AT SALEM.

Bills of Importance That are Being Introduced and Acted Upon in Both Houses—Measures Signed by the Governor—Progress of the Balloting for United States Senator.

Monday.

The vote—Fulton 32, Gear 15, Wood 14, Williams 17, scattering 3, absent 9.

The Senate—A joint resolution was adopted calling upon congress to order a constitutional convention for the purpose of framing an amendment for the election of United States senators by direct vote. To fix salary of superintendent of public instruction at \$3,000, passed. To regulate employment of females, passed.

The House—To pay Indian war veterans, indefinitely postponed. The greater part of the day was taken up in introducing new bills.

Appropriations already provided for amount to \$2,388,866.82.

Governor Chamberlain vetoed the bill classing bicycles with horses in the statute defining larceny; also the one to prohibit stock running at large in Marion county.

Friday.

The vote—Fulton 33, Gear 16, Wood 16, Williams 17, scattering 3, absent 5.

The Senate—To declare press associations common carriers, defeated. To provide a matron at the penitentiary, passed. To repeal law granting rebates to owners of wide tired wagons, passed.

The House—To use convict labor on public roads, passed. A measure was introduced to regulate railroad rates. To provide a great seal for the state, referred to a special committee.

Thursday.

The vote—Fulton 34, Gear 15, Wood 15, George 13, scattering 6, absent or paired 7.

The Senate—To require district attorneys to render legal services for school districts without additional compensation, passed. To create Baker county the Eighth judicial district, passed. To regulate sale of explosives to children, passed.

The House—To appropriate \$20,000 for experiment station at Union, passed. To regulate child labor, passed. A resolution that no bill be introduced after February 13, except by committees, adopted.

Wednesday.

The vote—Fulton 33, Gear 15, Wood 16, George 15, scattering 3, absent and paired 8.

The Senate—To authorize the construction of a portage railway between Celilo and The Dalles, passed. To increase term of office of assessor to four years, passed. To make eight hours' labor a day's work, indefinitely postponed.

The House—To create the office of commissioner of labor statistics, failed to pass. To extend Australian ballot to cities of 2,000 people or over, passed. To authorize Portland to construct an additional ferry, referred to Multnomah delegation.

A concurrent resolution was adopted by both houses asking the historical society to preserve the old blockhouse on the Grand Ronde reservation.

Tuesday.

The vote—Fulton 31, Gear 15, Wood 16, George 17, scattering 9, absent and paired 8.

The Senate—To require sheriffs to make monthly settlements with county treasurers, passed. To locate county seat of Walla Walla county, passed. To create county of Stockman, defeated.

The House—For a portage road above The Dalles, passed, 45 to 7. For a matron at the penitentiary, passed. To repeal scalp bounty, passed.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 76c; blue-stem, 88c; valley, 78 1/2c.

Barley—Feed, \$23.50 per ton; brewing, \$24.

Flour—Best grade, \$4.50@4.85; granular, \$3.45@3.85.

Middlings, \$23 @ 24; shorts, \$19@20, chop, \$18.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15 @ 1.20; gray, \$1.12 @ 1.15 per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$11@12; clover, \$8@9; cheat, \$9@10 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60@75c per sack; ordinary, 40@50c per cental; growers' prices; Merced sweets, 25@2.25 per sack.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 12 1/2c; young, 11@12c; hens, 12c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, live, 7.50 per dozen; geese, 47@50.

Cheese—Full cream, twin, 16 1/2c @ 17c; Young America, 17 1/2 @ 18 1/2c; factory prices, 16 1/2 @ 17c.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@32c per pound; extras, 30c; dairy, 20@22c; store, 15@18c.

Eggs—23@25 per dozen.

Hops—Choice, 22@27c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14 1/2c; mohair, 26@28c.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3@3 1/2c per pound; steers, 4@4 1/2c; dressed, 7 1/2c.

Pork—7 1/2 @ 8 1/2c.

Mutton—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7 1/2c.

Lamb—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7 1/2c.

Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2c per pound; dressed, 7@7 1/2c.

Going Out to Fight Rebels.

Caracas, Feb. 12.—A force of 2,000 men, with 50 horses and two guns, under command of the minister of war, General Ferrera, left Caracas this morning in the direction of the seaport of Higuerote 65 miles east of Caracas. The object of the expedition is to attack a body of 1,500 revolutionists under General Monagas, who is reported to be too feeble to attack the government forces, but strong enough to devastate the district around Rio Chico, province of Miranda 60 miles southeast of Caracas.

Finish Fight for Statehood.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The friends of statehood today reached a definite decision to have the omnibus statehood bill reported as a rider to the postoffice appropriation bill. It is expected that this action will be taken tomorrow. It is the purpose to make a fight in the senate to have the statehood bill tacked on to one of the appropriation bills, passage of which is absolutely necessary to the running of the government.

NORTHWEST IN CONGRESS.

Public Building for Oregon City—Lighthouses for Pacific Coast.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Senator Simon today reported to the senate his bill authorizing the purchase of a site and the erection of a public building at Oregon City, site and building to cost not over \$100,000.

The senate commerce committee today reported an amendment to the sundry civil bill several bills that have previously passed the senate, among them being bills appropriating \$4,000 for a new building at the Yaquina light station, \$400 for Cape Blanco light station, \$350,000 for a new light house in Alaska, and the bills establishing life-saving stations at Cape Flares, Wash., and Some, Alaska.

Senator Foster intends to offer an amendment to this same measure his bill, recently reported, appropriating \$75,000 for additional buildings, workshops, walls, etc., at McNeill's island penitentiary, Wash., to increase its capacity to 600. He may not succeed, as the department of justice does not approve the expenditures.

A contract was today awarded to Raymond A. Perry, of San Francisco, for dredging Tacoma harbor, the amount of the award being \$13,524.

IMPRISONED IN THE ICE.

Many American and Canadian Fishermen in Deadly Peril.

Channel, N. F., Feb. 14.—The revenue cutter Seminole, from Boston, has arrived safely at Port Basque, after a terrific battle lasting 18 hours with heavy Arctic ice. The Seminole is now 100 miles from the imprisoned fishermen in the Bay of Islands. Between this point and where a dozen or more schooners, some American, are held fast in the frozen sea, still heavier ice must be encountered before the Seminole can succeed in reaching her destination.

The Canadians, who for more than a month have endeavored in vain to penetrate the ice, have given up hope of reaching their countrymen in the Bay of Islands. They think it impossible for the Seminole to force her way through the pack of ice, but the Americans will make the effort after coal and more provisions are added to the revenue cutter's stores.

No word has been received from the fishermen since one of the fleet which escaped the ice stopped at this port and reported the plight of the others. It is believed the men on the ill-fated ships are in danger of starvation, and grave fears are entertained that many have succumbed to the cold. The Seminole carries an extra supply of clothing, blankets and medicines. She will attempt to break up the ice, about the feet, but if unable to do this will try to get near enough to the vessels to remove the crews.

BLIZZARD IN WYOMING.

Bitter Cold, Deep Drifting Snow and No Feed for Cattle or Sheep.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Feb. 14.—The storm that has been raging for several days has assumed the proportions of a blizzard throughout Southern and Western Wyoming, and stockmen who are ranging herds and flocks in regions where there is little or no feed are now greatly alarmed.

In the western portions of the state snow has fallen to a great depth, but from Evanston east to the Nebraska line the snowfall has gradually diminished. High winds have accompanied the storm, and the snow has been piled up in railroad cuts, greatly to the delay of traffic. The weather has been bitterly cold, and the indications are for even colder weather.

In the Red Desert country between Rawlins and Evanston, which is the most favored of all the winter ranges in the state, sheep are dying, the grass being covered up, and the supply of sagebrush short. Cattle are in poor condition, owing to the long string of severe storms, and in sections where there is no hay to feed the loss will be considerable.

Stuffed by Gas.

Chicago, Feb. 14.—Five men met death and 10 were overcome tonight by the fumes of gas escaping from the purifying box in the plant of the Northwest gas light and coke company at Blue Island. The men had been engaged in changing the purifying box. According to the statements of the men at the plant, when the men finished the work of changing the substance in the box, they did not close the covers of the box. When the gas was turned into the box for the purifying process it overwhelmed the men.

Rubbers' Carriage Found.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 16.—The officers believe that without doubt they have located the rubber-tired rig used by the robbers of the Burlington train. They are now diligently searching for the man who hired a carriage at Sloan & McGovern's livery stable the night of the robbery, and returned with it within an hour and a half after the robbery. The stable boy said that the horses were covered with foam and appeared to have been driven at breakneck speed for some time before they were brought to the stable.

Planned a Massacre.

Salt Lake, Feb. 14.—A special to the Herald from Ogden says that as the result of the general investigation brought about by the recent attempt of certain lawless men to burn the school at Ogden to burn the buildings, the officials have unearthed a conspiracy among one of the pri inmates to poison the teachers and others in authority at the school. The superintendent will not disclose the names of those involved.

Cattle Disease Again.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The foot and mouth disease has become serious again in Massachusetts, and Dr. Salmon, the chief of the bureau of animal industry, will return to Boston in a few days to investigate the situation. Disquieting reports have reached Secretary Wilson regarding fresh outbreaks of the disease near Boston, where most of the cases recently have become concentrated, and there is much anxiety over a possible spread of the disease.

PROTOCOLS SIGNED

BLOCKADE OF VENEZUELAN PORTS TO BE RAISED AT ONCE.

Allies Must Return All Vessels. War and Merchant, Seized by Them—Italy and Germany Secure Better Terms Than Great Britain—Other Nations May Protest Against Preference.

Washington, Feb. 14.—Herbert W. Bowen, Venezuelan representative in the peace negotiations at Washington today signed with each of the allies' representatives a protocol providing for the immediate raising of the blockade and for the reference of the question of preferential treatment of the claims of the allies against Venezuela to the Hague arbitration tribunal. The final formalities occurred at the British embassy. The British protocol was in English, the Italian in Italian, and the German in German and English. Mr. Bowen signed in duplicate for Venezuela, Sir Michael Herbert for Great Britain, Signor Mayer des Planches for Italy and Baron Speck von Sternberg for Germany.

Immediately on the signing of the last protocol cables were dispatched to London, Berlin and Rome announcing the fact. It is expected that the commanders of the blockading fleet within the next 24 hours will receive their orders to withdraw their vessels at once.

By the provisions of these preliminary protocols, which have required more than three weeks of constant negotiation, Venezuela makes two distinct gains, the immediate raising of a blockade from which she has been suffering for some weeks, and the return of all vessels, war and merchant, which have been captured by the allied fleet.

Great Britain, Germany and Italy each receive advance payments of 5,000 pounds. Great Britain receiving her payment on the signing of the protocol, and Germany and Italy within 30 and 60 days from date. Germany in addition will receive five monthly payments until the full amount paid her in advance aggregates \$340,000. As a guaranty for the satisfaction of their claims, Mr. Bowen pledges the allies a share with the other creditor nations in 30 per cent of the customs receipts of two ports of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. This percentage will be set aside beginning March 1 and retained in the Venezuelan treasury until the Hague tribunal shall decide whether it shall be distributed without precedence among the claimant nations, or whether the allied powers of Great Britain, Germany and Italy shall receive preferential payments.

Italy by her protocol gains immediate payment of her first class claims without further adjudication, as soon as the joint commission at Caracas shall have passed on the remainder of her claims. In round numbers the adjudicated Italian claims amount to \$600,000, from which will be subtracted the \$77,000 to be paid her in 60 days from the signing of her first protocol. The Italian ambassador also has secured for his government the insertion in the protocol of an agreement that Venezuela will insert in her treaty with Italy the "favored nation clause" possessed by other nations. Great Britain has left her protocol unchanged since it was approved by the London foreign office some days ago. It is stipulated by the protocols that the claims of the creditor nations shall be adjudicated by joint commissions to consist in each instance of a Venezuelan, a representative of the claimant power and, in case of a disagreement, an umpire to be named by the president of the United States.

Bitter Cold in Nevada.

Salt Lake City, Feb. 16.—Bitterly cold weather prevailed over Nevada, Northern Utah, Southern Idaho and Western Wyoming. Wells, Nevada, reports a temperature of 42 degrees below zero last night, while 33 below was reported at Winnemucca. A number of freight trains are reported stalled on sidings across the Nevada desert, the cold having been so extreme that it was impossible for the engine crews to keep up sufficient steam. Much loss to livestock is feared in Wyoming, where conditions before the cold wave were very favorable. It was 2 degrees above zero in Salt Lake last night, the coldest of the winter.

Rocketeer Always Guarded.

Lakewood, N. D., Feb. 16.—John D. Rockefeller has returned to Lakewood, and is staying with his son-in-law and daughter, Professor and Mrs. Charles A. Strong, at their cottage on the Lake Drive. Two watchmen guard the Strong cottage at night. A messenger was detained for half an hour before he succeeded in satisfying the guards that he was not a suspicious person. When Mr. Rockefeller came to visit them two months ago, the Strong hired a night watchman, who has been on duty regularly since then.

Carnegie Offered to Help.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Moved by the spirit in which Herbert W. Bowen has conducted the peace negotiations at Washington with the representatives of the allies, and anxious that his mission should succeed, Andrew Carnegie, upon hearing of Germany's action in demanding a cash payment of 1,718,000 bolivars, instead of the 5,500 pounds previously promised her, sent the following message to Mr. Bowen: "I shall be glad to hand over at once \$350,000 to meet the German demand if Venezuela desires it."

Cattle Disease Again.

Washington, Feb. 16.—The foot and mouth disease has become serious again in Massachusetts, and Dr. Salmon, the chief of the bureau of animal industry, will return to Boston in a few days to investigate the situation. Disquieting reports have reached Secretary Wilson regarding fresh outbreaks of the disease near Boston, where most of the cases recently have become concentrated, and there is much anxiety over a possible spread of the disease.

RUN-AWAY CARS.

Device to Catch Them and Bring Them Harmless Invented by Brighton Official.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 12.—W. J. C. Kenyon, general manager of the Union stock yards at Omaha, and formerly general passenger agent of the Chicago, Burlington & Northern railway, has patented a device for the blocking and derailing of cars to prevent accidents on the main line of railroads. This new device consists of a strong steel block that may be attached securely to the rails at the bottom of any steep grade. It has a channel in the upper surface, so that the flange of the car wheel will run into it and thereby derail a wild or run-away car. It sometimes happens that a heavy train of freight cars will break in two while going up a steep grade and that portion of the train not attached to the engine starts back down the grade at terrific speed, and usually crashes into other cars back down the road, doing immense damage to the run-away cars and to those standing still. The road bed is also badly damaged in such cases and both freight and passenger traffic delayed until the track is cleared at great expense and loss of time.

All this damage and loss of money, besides serious danger to life, can be avoided by the use of Mr. Kenyon's derailing block, because the run-away car is thrown from the track quickly and cleanly, before any damage can be done to the road bed or to other freight and passenger traffic.

Mr. Kenyon's device is destined to become of great benefit to railroad traffic all over the world, but more especially in the mountainous portions, where heavy grades cannot be avoided, on which trains frequently part under the great strain necessary to carry them on their way. Experienced railroad men recognize this derailing block as simple, strong and effective.

GREAT ARSENAL BURNED.

Storehouse of Arms and Ammunition at Rock Island Destroyed.

Rock Island, Ill., Feb. 13.—Shop A, the principal storehouse of the Rock Island arsenal, was destroyed by fire last night, together with its contents, which included cavalry and infantry equipments of every description, and 1,000,000 rounds of Krag-Jorgensen smokeless ammunition. The contents were worth \$1,000,000. The building was a massive structure, three stories in height, and was erected 20 years ago at a cost of \$400,000.

The flames in the great institution endangered property worth many times the amount lost. The fire was under control by 1 o'clock this morning, at which hour Major Blunt, the commandant, estimated the loss at \$1,000,000. There were no casualties so far as known.

Thousands of people stood on the sides of the river and watched the fire. When the flames got beyond the control of the arsenal fire brigade, the control of help was sent to Davenport, Rock Island, Moline and Des Moines. Two companies from each of these nearby cities responded, but by the time they arrived the storehouse was a mass of flames, and owing to the large amount of ammunition in the building it was considered dangerous to permit them to approach the building. Accordingly all their efforts were directed toward preventing the destruction of other buildings of the plant. In this they were successful.

COALING STATIONS IN CUBA.

Palma Agrees with His Congress on Conditions to the United States.

Havana, Feb. 12.—Although a fairly definite understanding has been reached with the United States representatives in regard to coaling stations on this island, President Palma is inclined to further feel the public pulse before committing his government to the agreement. Accordingly, he held a conference with the leading senators and representatives at the palace today and the matter was discussed with the result that no opposition to the agreement developed except in minor points.

It is understood that the naval station treaty is not dependent in any degree on the confirmation of the reciprocity treaty since the coaling station arrangement is explicitly provided for by the Platt amendment.

Smoot Will Demand Seat.

Salt Lake, Feb. 13.—Senator-elect Reed Smoot, of Utah, will, it is announced, go to Washington next week. His credentials as senator to succeed Senator Rawlins will then be presented.

"The protests against my being seated in the senate will make no difference in my plans," said Mr. Smoot. "I expect to take my seat, and do not anticipate any serious interference. I see no reason why there should