

# INDEPENDENCE ENTERPRISE

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INDEPENDENCE, OREGON

## DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### Secretary of Agriculture's Annual Showing.

#### INCREASE IN FARM EARNINGS

Superintendent Kimball Reviews the Work Done the Past Year by the Lifesaving Service.

Washington, Nov. 19.—The report of the secretary of agriculture begins with the report of work of the bureau of animal industry.

The total number of animals inspected at the slaughterhouses was considerably over 18,000,000, an increase of more than 5,000,000 over the previous year. During the year ante-mortem inspection was also made of 5,000,000 animals. The cost of inspection was also reduced to 1.1 cents per animal. In 1893, inspection cost 4.75 cents per animal, and in 1894 it cost 1.75 cents. Over 1,360,000 animals, cattle and sheep, were inspected for foreign markets, of which 675,000 were shipped abroad. Over 45,000,000 pounds of pork was inspected microscopically, exported, as against 35,000,000 in 1894, and 23,000,000 pounds in 1893. Of the amount exported last year nearly 23,000,000 pounds went to Germany and over 9,000,000 pounds to France. This inspection involved the placing of over 1,900,000 specimens under the microscope. The cost of each examination was less than 5 cents, or for each pound of meat 3 mills, considerably over any previous year. Losses of cattle in transit to Europe were greater than in 1894, being respectively, for 1895 and 1894, 0.82 and 0.37 per cent.

Over 30,000 cars, carrying over 820,000 animals, were inspected for Texas fever at quarantine pens during the quarantine season, nearly 9,000 carloads of cattle being inspected also in transit, and over 28,000 cars were cleaned and disinfected. Besides, over 156,000 cattle from non-infected districts of Mexico were inspected for shipment to Northern states.

The secretary says their importation free of duty is advantageous to feeders having a surplus of feed and to the consumers, who outnumber the producers.

Much space is devoted to discussing the opportunities for American meat products in foreign markets. Of \$41,000 tons of meat received at the London central market in 1894 71,000 tons were American, while nearly 50,000 tons came from Australia. The American proportion has been maintained during 1895.

He closes with a discussion of the future of farms and farming. The average value of farms by the census of 1890 was \$2,900. The value of implements, domestic animals and sundries will make a total farm plant of \$4,000 for a family averaging six persons. These farms fed the farmers and their families and 40,000 urban residents, besides supplying \$500,000,000 worth of products for foreign consumers. In the presence of these facts the secretary says:

"How can anyone dare to assert that farming is generally unremunerative and unsatisfactory to those who intelligently follow it?"

The mortgages on farm values do not exceed 16 per cent, a less incumbrance on the capital invested than in any other line of industry. He foretells confidently a steady increase in the value of farm lands as the population of the country increases.

#### Report of the Lifesaving Service.

Washington, Nov. 19.—Mr. Kimball, superintendent of the lifesaving service, in his annual report, states that at the close of the last fiscal year the establishment embraced 251 stations, 184 being on the Atlantic, 53 on the lakes, thirteen on the Pacific coast, and one at the falls of the Ohio at Louisville. The number of disasters to vessels within the field of operations of the service during the year was 453. There were on board these vessels 5,492 persons, of whom 5,382 were saved, and 20 lost. Eight hundred and three shipwrecked persons received succor at the stations, to whom 2,332 days' relief in the aggregate was afforded. The estimated value of vessels involved was \$8,001,275, and that of their cargoes \$2,645,960, making a total value of property imperiled \$10,647,235. Of this amount \$9,165,095 was lost. The number of vessels totally lost was 73.

In addition to the foregoing there were during the year 192 casualties to small craft, on board of which there were 421 persons, 415 of whom were saved, and six lost. Besides the number of persons saved from vessels of all kinds, there were 110 others rescued who had fallen from wharves, piers, etc., the most of whom would have perished without the aid of the lifesaving crews. The crews saved and assisted to save during the year 379 vessels, valued with their cargoes at \$4,561,665, and rendered assistance of minor importance to 181 vessels in distress, besides warning from danger by the signals of the patrolmen 249 vessels.

The investigations made into the details of every shipwreck involving loss of life, and into the conduct of the lifesaving crews at these wrecks, show that the unfortunate people who perished were beyond any possible aid from the service, and no life was lost through lack of prompt and faithful efforts on the part of the lifesaving men.

The number of disasters within the scope of the service exceeded that of any previous year by 79. This excess, it is said, is in a measure due to the extension of the service by the establishment of new stations, but principally to the conditions of the weather which prevailed during the year.

The record of the year shows a smaller proportion of loss in property than in any previous year since the general extension of the service. The cost of the maintenance of the service during the year was \$1,345,324.40.

#### STILL SEEKING ADMISSION.

Hawaii Wants to Be Annexed to This Country as a Territory.

Port Townsend, Wash., Nov. 19.—According to advices received from Honolulu today, on the bark C. D. Bryant, settlement is being cultivated in Hawaii to grant Princess Kaiulani, heir apparent to the late throne, a pension of \$8,000 a year. Many of the legislators have expressed themselves as favorable to the proposition.

The bitter contest which was waged against the confirmation of William Castle, late minister to the United States, who was barely confirmed by one majority, culminated in a compromise by the permanent appointment of J. C. Hatch, a member of Dole's cabinet. A few days previous to the minister's departure for Washington, the cabinet convened in lengthy session and discussed the possibility of Hawaii becoming a part of the United States. One cabinet officer stated that Hatch was instructed to proceed on lines tending to closely cement the two countries until the American administration changed, and then to insist upon speedy admission of Hawaii as a territory.

#### THE ALEXANDRETTA MASSACRE

Confirmatory Advices Have Been Received in Constantinople.

Constantinople, Nov. 19.—Late advices received here from Alexandretta, Northern Syria, confirm the accounts of a massacre of Christians in the town in the presence of 300 Turkish soldiers who did not render any assistance to suppress the disorders. Armenians and Mussulmans accuse each other of burning the village and of other outrages which have occurred in Northern Syria.

Reports received from numerous Armenian villages toward the end of September describe numerous and well-organized Kurdish raids, followed by stealing of flocks of the Armenians. In some cases murdering of the men and assaulting of the women have occurred. Any complaints made to the authorities were simply ignored.

The sultan has prohibited the entry into Turkey of all papers containing accounts of Lord Salisbury's speech at the lord mayor's dinner at London a week ago.

#### A West Virginia Desperado.

Wheeling, W. Va., Nov. 19.—A terrible tragedy occurred this morning at Wileville, Wetzel county, twelve miles from New Martinsville, the county seat. The result is the death of one man, an officer of the law, who was instantly killed; the fatal wounding of another, and a serious injury to a third, and the escape of the perpetrator.

The tragedy occurred on the outskirts of town, and was witnessed by several persons. Among others were James Baird and a citizen named Hibbs, who attempted to overpower the murderer. White opened fire on them, bringing down Hibbs with a wound in the stomach, from which he will likely die, and hitting Baird in the leg. This intimidated the others, and White escaped. It is now reported that a posse has been organized and is after the murderer, with prospects of a lynching.

#### Fell Threw a Draw.

Cleveland, O., Nov. 19.—A heavy electric motor car, containing about twenty passengers, went through the draw of the central viaduct at 7:45 o'clock this evening and dropped 101 feet to the river below. It is a horror the like of which never occurred here before. The central viaduct is a huge still bridge, 3,000 feet long, made of iron. It connects the heights and the prosperous residence sections on both sides with the business center of the city. Directly over the river is a drawbridge on the pivot-swinging pattern, and this is 101 feet above the water. The South Side street railway passes over the bridge, and on either side of the draw there is a safety switch, which, unless the conductor alights and holds up a handle, will send a car into a gully instead of allowing it to go on the draw.

#### Building Warships on the Lakes.

Duluth, Nov. 18.—Mayor Lewis, Congressman Towne and other prominent citizens held a meeting last evening at which it was decided to ask the Minnesota delegation in congress to work for the abrogation of the Great Lakes treaty of 1817 in order that lake cities may compete for government shipbuilding work.

#### Arthur D'Acre and Wife Dead.

London, Nov. 19.—A special from Sydney, N. S. W., says: Arthur D'Acre, an actor, and his wife, Amy Roselle, were found dead recently, the former with his throat cut, and the latter with a bullet in her body. It is alleged they became despondent as a result of the failure of their colonial tour.

#### Illinois Strikers Sentenced.

Princeton, Ill., Nov. 19.—The thirteen Spring Valley miners charged with driving out the colored population some months ago, whose trial closed last evening, were given penitentiary verdicts this morning by the jury. One other pleaded guilty.

## NORTH PACIFIC NEWS

### Happenings of Interest in the Progressive Northwest.

#### BRIEF REPORTS OF LATE EVENTS

A Budget of Items Gathered From All Parts of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Payallup, Wash., has 821 school children registered.

The city of Seattle was forty-four years old the 13th inst.

There are sixty-six K. of P. lodges in Oregon. The first was organized June 26, 1873, in Portland.

The county commissioners of Colfax county, Wash., are discussing the question of bonding the county debt and running on a cash basis.

The rails of Port Townsend's street car line have been taken up and will be shipped to some Eastern city. There are about 200 tons of them.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company has commenced work on a six-stall roundhouse for the accommodation of engines at Sprague, Wash.

It cost Douglas county, Wash., \$1,781.50 for four criminal cases, all of which were misdemeanors, and in one of which the culprit pleaded guilty.

Governor McGraw has pardoned one from the Walla Walla penitentiary Peter G. Burman, who was sentenced from Seattle to ten year's imprisonment.

It is unofficially announced that Oscar Huber, a civil engineer of Spokane, has been awarded the contracts for the surveys of the army post and grounds at Spokane.

An agreement has been reached by which I. Altman will take the entire stock of the firm of M. Cohn & Co., of Tacoma, that recently failed, and will pay off the chattel mortgages in full and pay 35 cents on the dollar to the general creditors.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company has settled with Mr. Fleet, the Douglas county stockman, for cattle killed in the wreck on the Central Washington several weeks ago. The amount of damages allowed him was something over \$10,500.

The semi-annual summary statement of the financial condition of Baker county, Or., shows that September 30, 1895, there were outstanding and unpaid warrants amounting to \$174,079.56, and that the estimated interest thereon was \$17,407.95.

The United States grand jury at Walla Walla completed its work in four days, notwithstanding there were a large number of cases to investigate, and was complimented by Judge Hanford from the bench for the capable and expeditious manner in which it performed its duties.

George F. Hensmer, who is superintending the construction of the telegraph line from Goble to Astoria, Or., says that the line will reach Astoria in about two weeks. A wagon road is being cut alongside of the line, so that when repairs are necessary they can be made with little difficulty.

Receiver Philip Anderson, of the Tacoma National bank, of Tacoma, has been ordered by the controller of the currency to pay depositors a dividend of 10 per cent. Receiver Stuart Rice, of the Washington National, of the same city, has been ordered to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. The city will be paid \$2,200 as its share.

Cashier W. G. Peters, of the Columbia National bank, of Tacoma, waived a preliminary hearing in United States Commissioner Worden's court in Tacoma, and was held for trial at the February term of the federal court. He was required to furnish a new bond in the sum of \$10,000. The charge against him is making a false entry in the books of the bank.

S. R. Flynn has partially made his explanation of the affairs of the Bennett National bank, of New Whatcom, Wash. From such examination, and with a view to a probable reopening, he has had himself appointed temporary receiver. This step accomplishes two things. It prevents the appointment of a permanent receiver, and enables him to make collections.

Cattlemen in Grant county, Or., are riding and collecting their herds for the winter. Hay is scarce in that county this winter, and the Long Creek Eagle predicts that many a hoof will be turned heavenward before spring. Several stockmen will take their bands to outside sections, where feed is cheaper and more plentiful. Some will drive to Morrow and some to Umatilla county.

The work of dredging the marsh lands around Snohomish, Wash., will soon be completed. These lands were settled on early this year by a colony of Hollanders. They put in their crops and were exceedingly successful.

Another colony is expected over from the old country in the near future, which will settle near the Snohomish colony. The colony forms a little commonwealth by itself. They elect different officers of their own, but also abide by the laws and make model citizens.

The Mint Scandal at Carson.

Carson, Nev., Nov. 16.—The trial of James Heney is dragging along slowly. Inspector Mason, of New York, was on the stand all day. He stated positively that the shortage occurred during a former administration, and that the counterfeit melt was palmed off by the men of this administration, but on cross-examination he said he himself would not have accepted it as genuine, and that he could have detected the imposition. He is a slow witness, and will be on the stand all day tomorrow.

#### HOKE SMITH'S REPORT.

Suggestions to Be Made by the Secretary of the Interior.

Washington, Nov. 18.—The report of Secretary Smith will be one of the most interesting which has been made by a secretary of the interior for several years. There are several features which will be an innovation in this department. More interest centers around the recommendation the secretary will make for the settlement of the Pacific railroads debts than ever, when it is known that Mr. Smith believes in a continuous line of road from Omaha to the Pacific, and that he thinks such a line can be operated to advantage. For some time the secretary has been looking up all patents lands to the Pacific railways which were bond-aided, amounting to 7,000,000 acres. Whether this is an indication that he intends to make some rather radical recommendations to congress is not known, but it is a fact that the secretary has been securing statistics relating to earnings of the roads and their capacity to earn enough to pay a moderate interest upon the present indebtedness. It is expected that congress will undertake to legislate upon this subject of Pacific railroad indebtedness during the coming session, and the secretary will no doubt recommend a plan of settlement.

#### NEW ISSUE OF BONDS.

Cleveland Will Not Wait for Action by Congress.

New York, Nov. 18.—The Journal this morning says President Cleveland has decided that he will not wait for action by congress before making another issue of bonds. The Washington authorities are already in correspondence with New York bankers relative to the issue, and it is probable that the bankers will accept their proposition. Here is the proposition:

When the gold reserve falls to \$75,000,000 the banks shall deposit \$25,000,000 worth of gold in the treasury and take in return 4 per cent bonds on a 3 per cent basis.

The decline of the gold reserve to a danger point last spring forced the government to pay 3 1/2 per cent for gold procured from the Belmont-Morgan syndicate. Credit has been re-established by that operation and the administration desires to take advantage of the better business confidence prevailing to secure the gold at the low rate of 3 per cent.

#### The Jackson Hole Inquiry.

Cheyenne, Nov. 18.—The United States grand jury, which has been in session here for the past five days, concluded its work today. The most important case was that of the settlers of the Jackson Hole district. It was in reference to the killing of one Indian and the wounding of another by a posse of settlers, in July last, while the Indians were under arrest for violating the game laws and were being taken to the settlement at Marysville. Five of the witnesses were said to have been members of the posse that did the killing. Three Indians who were with the band, were examined. The evidence has not been made public and no indictments were found.

#### The Shelby Confiscated.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 18.—Judgment was given today in the local admiralty court confiscating the schooner Shelby for violating the Behring sea act. The Shelby, it will be remembered, was seized by the cutter Corwin, May 11, and was held for being unlawfully in the sea during the prohibited period. Incidental to the trial today, Louis Wille, owner of the schooner, furnished a sensation by admitting the authorship of a letter recently received by Chief Justice Davis and inclosing \$25. He was sentenced to one week in jail for contempt, and fined the amount of the proffered bribe.

#### The Detroit Explosion.

Detroit, Nov. 16.—The inquest on the thirty-seven victims of last week's explosion in the Journal building ended abruptly this evening before any testimony had been taken. Prosecuting Attorney Fraser asked that the jury merely return a verdict that the deaths were caused by a boiler explosion, which was accordingly done. The prosecutor's object was to avoid producing testimony which would divulge the cause of the state against Engineer Thompson and to make a more searching investigation of the whole matter before the county judge.

#### This Looks Like Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Nov. 19.—The Dispatch tomorrow will say that Robert Lindsay, secretary of the National League of Republican Clubs, has received a letter from General J. S. Clarkson, in which he instructs Mr. Lindsay to engage a number of rooms at leading Pittsburg hotels for the national convention week. The letter does not provide for any alternative if the convention shall not be held in Pittsburg, but positively engages the rooms.

#### Great Northern's Annual Showing.

St. Paul, Nov. 15.—The annual report of the Great Northern railway and of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad was issued today. The sixth annual report of the Great Northern, for the year ended June 30, 1895, is gratifying to the last degree. The revenue account from the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba's leased lines show the gross earnings to be \$13,109,926, and net earnings \$5,594,263. The total operating expenses were \$7,146,462.

#### Elks to Meet in Cincinnati.

Philadelphia, Nov. 19.—The executive committee of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks met last night and selected Cincinnati as the place for holding the next national convention, beginning the second Tuesday in July, 1896.

## BEHRING SEA CLAIMS

### Senator Morgan in Reply to Lord Salisbury.

#### NO MISAPPREHENSION OF FACTS

The Paris Tribunal Made No Decision Regarding Any Controversy Leading to Questions of Damages.

Livingston, Ala., Nov. 16.—Senator John T. Morgan, in an interview to Lord Salisbury's claim that Senator Morgan's objection to the payment of the Behring sea claim is based on a misapprehension of the facts, said:

"I have not seen the dispatch to which attention is called, but it is impossible that I could be mistaken in facts which stand opposed to the demands of Great Britain for \$425,000 damages for seizure of fishing vessels arrested during Mr. Cleveland's first administration. The Behring sea tribunal, of which I was a member, had no authority to decide any controversy between the United States and Great Britain which led to questions of damages or the liability of either government to the other for damages for seizure of ships. It made no such decision, and expressly declined to do so."

"After a very rough examination of the facts presented in the case of the two governments, supported on either side by testimony of more than 1,000 witnesses, and the entire diplomatic corps of the two governments on this subject, and after listening to the great lawyers who appeared before the tribunal, four on each side, it is not likely that any member of that tribunal was less informed than Lord Salisbury as to the facts in the case. His lordship doubtless supposed that his information of the facts in this case is quite superior to mine, otherwise he would not attribute to me the grave error of a mistaken conception of the facts. Evidently he concedes that if I am right in my statement of the facts, he must be wrong in claiming that the United States owes Great Britain \$425,000 for depredations committed upon British ships found poaching on the seal herds, when the record shows more than half the sum claimed for damages, if this is due at all, is due to the citizens of the United States who violated the laws of their own country by marauding upon our own seal herds, under cover and shelter of the British flag."

"If I had been wrong in uniting with Mr. Bayard and Mr. Blaine in the opinion that these marauders on the British ships were contrary to the public morality and international comity, I think I could not be wrong in denouncing this conduct of American citizens, under cover of the British flag, as being close kin to piracy, and I cannot be wrong in denouncing the shelter the British flag gave these people as being an act of arrogance and presumption which scarcely conceals hostile intentions. I am unable to perceive why the United States government should reward the perpetrators of this base conduct or should compliment the government of Great Britain by conceding that it was just, friendly or honorable."

#### THE SUGAR TRUST.

It Has Declared a Boycott Against the Nebraska Product.

Chicago, Nov. 16.—A special from Omaha says:

The growth of the beet-sugar industry in this state has attracted the attention of the sugar trust, which has already taken steps to prevent the sale of Nebraska sugar. Jobbers and dealers have been notified that if they sell the refined product of the Nebraska factories the trust will decline to sell them the cheaper grades, which are not manufactured by the Oxnards.

The result of this inhibition is that \$100,000 worth of Nebraska-made sugar is stored in warehouses in Omaha. The matter has been laid before the Manufacturers' and Consumers' Association, and effort will be made to get Western jobbers to agree to handle the Nebraska product regardless of consequences. There is a strong home patronage sentiment in the state which will favor the Nebraska sugar-makers.

It is estimated that the year's output in the Grand Island and Norfolk sugar factories will reach, if not exceed, a value of \$800,000, or nearly one-third of the total amount consumed in the state.

#### Looking for a So-Called Messiah.

Denver, Nov. 16.—Francis Schlatter, the so-called healer and messiah, disappeared last night, and a warrant for his arrest has been issued from the United States court. He has been summoned to appear before the United States commissioner today as a witness against the persons arrested on a charge of using the mails to defraud by pretending to sell handkerchiefs blessed by Schlatter. The accused claim they could prove that Schlatter had really blessed a bale of handkerchiefs for them, and in that case it is said he was liable to indictment. He left a note simply saying:

"My mission to Denver is ended. Good-bye."

Over 3,000 people assembled this morning expecting to receive treatment from Schlatter.

#### The Oregon Short Line Interest.

New York, Nov. 15.—A bill of exceptions has been filed by the American Loan & Trust Company, of Boston, to the report of Judge Cornish, the master in chancery, which favored the payment of interest due February 1, 1895, on the Oregon Short Line first mortgage bonds and interest due January and July 1, 1895, on the Utah Northern first mortgage bonds.

#### THE REVIEW OF TRADE

Merchandise Imports Larger Than the Produce Exports.

New York, Nov. 18.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "The scare about gold exports has no real significance, and, although \$2,250,000 more will go out today, the stock market has been recovering. There was and is a substantial amount of difficulty in the fact that the export of products have been too small to meet the greatly increased imports of raw materials. The collapse of Kaffir speculation abroad has forced many foreign investors to realize on American stocks and the impression that our government may be forced to borrow again also appeals to our disadvantage. In there is no local disturbance of the markets."

"The output of pig-iron November was 217,306 tons weekly, about 10 per cent larger than ever before, and a continuation of the same production for a week more would make the half year output 5,350,000 tons, about 450,000 tons greater than in any other half year. The steel trade is also showing a recovery for products of iron and steel falls of notwithstanding the increase in the output of pig, and, although only a few concerns have closed or reduced work or wages on account of lack of orders, prices are sinking, having declined 1 per cent for the week, and 6.4 per cent from the highest point. Bessemer pig, billets, gray forge bar, tank-steel plate and structural and wire nails have all sold lower within the past week, though quotations are kept up as far as possible by associations. Minor metals are on the whole lower, though tin has advanced a little, but lake copper has sold 1 1/2 cents, and is weak. Lead is decidedly weak on account of reduced consumption, and is quoted at \$3.75."

"There were 279 business failures reported throughout the United States this week, compared with 260 last week, 280 in the week one year ago and 370 two years ago, and as compared with only 206 in the corresponding week of 1892."

#### A DECISIVE BATTLE.

Insurgent Forces Combining and Advancing Upon Santa Clara.

Madrid, Nov. 16.—Despatches received from Havana say that the insurgent force, led by Santa Clara, is at Santa Clara, awaiting Maximo Gomez at the head of a force of insurgents and with the intention of advancing upon the city of Santa Clara, the headquarters of Captain-General de Campos, who is known to be preparing to give battle to the combined insurgent forces. Campos is now on his way to Santa Clara, and a most important engagement is expected. Gomez recently changed his tactics of attempting to tire out the Spanish troops, owing to the decision of the Cuban revolutionary assembly in New York, which understood to consider it urgent that the insurgents bring about decisive engagements with the troops, in order that the revolutionists may obtain recognition as belligerents upon the part of the United States.

Four new gunboats have arrived Cuban waters to take part in the blockade of the coast of that island.

The constant of the Imperial at Havana cables that Antonio Maceo is marching to the west of the island of Cuba to reinforce Roloff and Gomez. The revolt, it is added, has assumed considerable proportions in the province of Santa Clara, and Jose Maceo said to have penetrated into the province of Puerto Principe at the head of 3,000 men.

El Liberal says the rebellion is costing Spain \$15,000 daily.

#### ADULTERATION OF WINES.

A Movement Started in California for National Law.

San Francisco, Nov. 16.—Congressman McGuire will make an effort to have a national law passed prohibiting the sale or manufacture of impure wines. The matter has been taken up by the Grape-growers and Winemakers Association, and work is going forward for the preparation of a bill which will cover the case. France, Spain and Italy have laws upon this matter of adulteration of wines. Ohio is the only state in the Union which places this safeguard on wines imported within its borders. The secretary of the association is securing copies of the laws of these countries, and when they arrive a bill will be prepared based upon the best features of the provisions of both countries.

Adrea Sbarbo, the representative of one of the large wine-growing districts, and a prominent member in the association, is the prime mover in the matter.

"I had a long talk with Congressman McGuire," said Mr. Sbarbo, "and he is fully in accord with the objects of the association. He has promised to introduce the bill, which probably will be made a part of the United States revenue laws. The matter has been agitated for some time."

#### The Ram Katabdin.

Washington, Nov. 16.—The bureau chiefs, to whom was referred the question of the failure of the Katabdin, have reported on the subject which is now before the judge advocate-general for his indorsement. It is understood that it points out the manner in which the vessel will be accepted, notwithstanding her failure to make the seven-day knots speed required by the contract. It is claimed that as there was no competition in the bids for constructing the vessel, other firm would be wronged by acceptance of the boat; also that the speed requirement of seventeen knots was not fixed by law, but by the secretary of the navy.