

Eugene Weekly Guard.

CAMPBELL BROS., Proprietors. EUGENE, OREGON.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

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

In his report on the army in the Philippines, General Chaffee upholds General Bell.

A large furniture factory at Beauharbois, Quebec, was burned, entailing a loss of \$100,000.

The American Federation of Labor, now in session, is considering a plan to pension men of 60 and over.

A Swedish sailor on the transport Summer jumped overboard to save the ship's flag and was drowned.

British Columbia accuses the United States of stealing thousands of square miles of territory near Portland canal.

The official returns from the recent election in Pennsylvania show that the Republicans elected their governor by a plurality of 156,410.

A gang of robbers operating in Elyria, N. Y., were interrupted and in the fight that followed one officer was fatally wounded and one robber killed.

Four of the men injured in the furnace explosion at Lebanon, Pa., have died, making the death list eight. Many of the injured are not yet out of danger.

Members of the German reichstag came to blows in a debate over a bill.

General Chaffee was tendered a reception in San Francisco by the business men.

Southwestern Pacific locomotive engineers have asked for an advance of 2 1/2 per cent in wages.

The war department has announced that additional bonuses to hold 410 men will be paid at Vancouver at once.

General Hulse has gone to Havana, where he will work for the early adjustment of differences on the reciprocity treaty.

The war department will reduce the duty on imports to 50 per cent to the 100 per cent duty on dutiable goods in such cases.

A party in a New York hotel has been found guilty of robbing the post office for a number of years. He has about \$25,000 in stolen jewelry.

President Chaffee, of the American Federation of Labor, says that unless trade unions change their course the day is not far distant when they will all go to pieces.

The trouble in Mexico promises to become a serious matter before settled. The country is without a cabinet. Several powers are sending warships to protect their interests.

Edna D. Bryan, formerly of Illinois, has been appointed superintendent of education for the Philippines.

The matter Wyoming, regarding completion of the canal, will be turned over to the government November 29.

The secretary of the navy has directed that the army transport Hancock proceed to New York, where she will be used as a receiving ship.

All Christmas presents entering the Philippines will be subject to the same duty as other goods, according to advice issued by the war department.

Forty prisoners in the Arizona penitentiary overpowered the guards and escaped. This is the second delivery in a month. A new prison is being built in the solid rock of a mountain side.

The 28th annual convention of the American Bankers' association is in session in New Orleans. There are about 100 delegates and 500 visitors present. Seattle wants the next meeting.

General Owen Summers has been made commander-in-chief of the Spanish-American war veterans. The National headquarters will be moved to Portland. Colonel R. H. Savage, elected commander-in-chief, was compelled to resign on account of ill health and the honor fell to the vice commander, General Summers.

The chief of ordnance of the navy recommends the establishment of wireless telegraphy along the entire Pacific coast.

The annual report of Assistant Postmaster General Wynne favors a greater appropriation for the rural mail delivery routes.

No trace can be found of B. F. Egan, the Great Northern railroad man who was lost in the mountains near Bolton, Mont., a week ago.

All the money necessary for irrigation work at Portland has been raised and the committee has the plans of entertainment almost completed.

General Chaffee has reached San Francisco from the Philippines.

The main issue between the negotiators of the Cuban-United States reciprocity treaty is the rate of rebate to be allowed on sugar and tobacco entering the United States.

Wisconsin capitalists have purchased 224,368,000 feet of yellow pine timber in Idaho for 81 cents per thousand. The timber sold is on lands selected by the state along the North Fork and its tributaries between Smith's Ferry and the upper end of the lakes. These lands cover 32,589 acres.

Trust legislation is almost sure at the short or long session of congress.

Dr. Nansen, the Arctic explorer, will start on another expedition in 1903.

Major General MacArthur has been ordered to the command of the Department of the Lakes.

Much anxiety is felt concerning the condition of the emperor of Russia. He is greatly depressed in mind and is melancholy.

Minister Wu, Chinese representative at Washington, will not await the arrival of his successor, but will return home at once.

ANOTHER PELEE DISASTER.

Little Doubt that Thousands Were Killed by a Volcano in Guatemala.

San Francisco, Nov. 15.—That thousands of lives have been lost as a result of the outbreak of the Guatemalan volcano Santa Maria is the belief of coffee merchants of this city, based on the definite news of a terrific explosion, brought last evening by the steamer Newport. The steamer got the news of the disaster at various points along the coast, and while exact information is lacking, all indications are that the catastrophe is of the most terrible nature.

While the Newport was at Champerico, a letter was received from the factor of that district, a German named Kauffman, announcing that the volcanic peak of Santa Maria, 40 miles inland from that port, was in eruption, and that all the coffee districts on the eastern slope of the range, in the immediate neighborhood of the mountain, had been utterly destroyed, and that thousands of lives had, in all probability, been lost. The letter continued: "The towns of Palmar, San Felipe, Colombia and Coatepec are all ruined. Ashes are seven feet deep in the fincas and towns. Mud, stones and lava have fallen all over the country. Houses have been crushed by the weight of the volcanic matter that has fallen upon them. Ratahuleu, Maratenango and Quezaltenango have not suffered so much, but this calamity is only beginning. We have mud and ashes in Retahuken. There is great loss of life. Cattle and horses are dead by the thousands, famine and pest are approaching. God help us."

Late in the afternoon of October 25 the people of Santa Maria telegraphed to the president of Guatemala, saying that they were groping in total darkness that had rushed upon them at noon, ashes were falling thick. They asked the president what was happening. This dispatch was sent, apparently, just before the eruption, and not a word has been sent since. The wires of the telegraph have been destroyed, and the fate of those who asked that question of the president of Guatemala is a mystery profound and ominous. It is thought in Champerico that there are no survivors in the town of Santa Maria, nor yet in any of the towns that lie upon the eastern slope of that mountain of belching mud and lava and smothering gases. It may be a second Pelee.

The area in which those towns are situated covers 30 miles in a half circle, and it is estimated that the aggregate population is 35,000. The town of Santa Maria contains 10,000 inhabitants and the other villages are said to average 6,000.

The Tallant-Grant packing company, of Astoria, has filed articles of incorporation.

The Multnomah county delegation to the legislature, at a meeting held last week, indorsed a \$500,000 appropriation for the Lewis and Clark fair.

Eugene has asked for an increase in mail carriers to meet the growing demand for free delivery.

Two million feet of logs were swept away in a Lewis river freshet caused by the recent heavy rains.

The work of installing the new machinery at the Mountain View mine, near Baker City, will soon be completed.

The 1902 hop crop in this state will amount to about 85,000 bales. Of this amount less than 20,000 bales remain in the hands of the growers.

A bill for the nomination of political candidates by the voters has been prepared for the Oregon legislature.

An experimental salmon hatchery is in operation on the Alea river, in Benton county. The past season has proven so successful that it is likely to be made a permanent station.

A custom quartz mill will soon be in operation in the Quartzburg district. Contracts have already been secured for reducing ore sufficient to keep a 20-stamp mill in constant operation.

Hugh O'Donnell, a pioneer mining man of Baker county, aged 65 years, is dead.

The Waldo smelting and mining company will put in a 100-ton smelter at once at its copper mines in the Waldo district. A smelter at Waldo will be of great benefit to the vast mineral district of that section, as, aside from treating the ores of its own mines, it would also do a general custom business. A number of good mines of that section will be able to do their smelting at home and with much less expense than heretofore, as the ores had to be sent to California.

Wants Foreign Soldiers to Leave. Shanghai, Nov. 15.—Unusually strong articles are appearing in the Chinese newspapers declaring that with the withdrawal of the British troops from Shanghai to Wei Hai Wei, and the withdrawal of the German forces from here to Kiao Chou, the independence of the Yangtze valley is still menaced. The Chinese want the British and Germans to get out of China altogether, instead of merely evacuating Shanghai and withdrawing to their respective garrison stations in China.

Engineer Prevents a Hold-Up. Frankfurt, Ind., Nov. 15.—Four men attempted to hold up the south-bound Monon express at Cyclone today. The train slackened speed on striking torpedoes on the rails, but when the engineer faced four revolvers he threw open the throttle. The four men fired rapidly and often, but all the trainmen and passengers escaped injury. Sheriff Coran and deputies afterward caught the men, who gave the names of Charles Johnson, James Mock, Frank Smith and Harry Gray. All claim to live in Cincinnati.

Forty Persons Still Missing. Wellington, N. Z., Nov. 15.—Forty persons who were on board the British steamer Ellingamite, which was wrecked November 2 on one of the Three Kings islands of the north coast of New Zealand, are still missing, in spite of the careful search which has been made on the coast and islands adjacent to the scene of the wreck. The wreckage from the Ellingamite has drifted to a great distance from the point where the ship was lost.

Successful Airship Trial. Nantes, France, Nov. 15.—The airship built for the Messiers Piere and Paul LeBandy made a very successful trial today in this neighborhood. Several free ascents and descents were effected, accompanied by "evolutions" in all directions over the fields and woods. The flying machine returned each time to its point of departure at the rate of 25 miles an hour. There were four persons in the car.

NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of the Past Week—Brief Review of the Growth and Development of Various Industries Throughout Our Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

The burglars who blew open the safe at Holix a few days ago have been captured and a portion of the stolen money and goods recovered.

Twenty thousand of the 75,000 booklets advertising Lane county have been printed and are in the hands of the advertising department of the Harriman company for distribution in the Eastern states.

George Smith, colored, who murdered his white wife in Portland, has been sentenced to hang on December 19. Fifteen days' time has been granted to prepare a bill of exceptions to be used in an appeal to the supreme court.

George L. Dillman, state engineer for the examination of land applied for under the Carey arid land act, expresses the opinion that private operations will not prevent government work, as the amount reclaimed is small compared with the total area of arid land in the state.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Ackerman has decided that as soon as a parent or guardian moves into a school district with the intention of making it his bona fide residence, a child of such parent or guardian is entitled to free tuition from the time he moves into the district.

Linn county farmers are preparing a protest to be presented to the next legislature against the proposed change of the game law, under which upland birds may be shot from September 15, instead of from October 1. Open season before October 1 means at a time when the farmers are busy with harvesting and they desire to have an even chance with hunters from the cities.

The Three Sisters canal company has filed in the office of the state land board an application for contract for the reclamation of 30,000 acres of arid land lying in the western part of Crook county. The tract is located between the mountains known as the Three Sisters and the Deschutes river. It is proposed to irrigate the tract with water from tributaries of the Deschutes.

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PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 68¢@69¢; blue-stem 73¢@74¢; valley, 70¢. Barley—Feed, \$21.00 per ton; brewing, \$22.00. Flour—Best grade, 3.50@3.70; Graham, \$3.00@3.50. Millstuffs—Bran, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, \$23.50; shorts, \$19.50; chop, \$17. Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.12@1.15; gray, \$1.10@1.12 1/2 per cental. Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$8.00; cheat, \$8@9 per ton. Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60¢@80¢ per sack; ordinary, 50¢@55¢ per cental; growers' prices; Mercad mixed, 1.17@1.25 per cental. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.25; per pound, 10¢; hens, \$4@4.50 per dozen; per pound, 11¢; springs, \$3.00@3.50 per dozen; fryers, \$2.50@3.00; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; ducks, \$4.50@6.00 per dozen; turkeys, young, 12¢@15¢; geese, \$3.00@3.50 per dozen. Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15¢@16¢; Young America, 15¢@16¢; factory prices, 10¢@11¢ less. Butter—Fancy creamery, 30¢@32¢ per pound; extras, 30¢; dairy, 20¢@22¢; store, 18¢@19¢. Eggs—25¢@30¢ per dozen. Hops—New crop, 22¢@25¢ per pound. Wool—Valley, 12¢@15¢; Eastern Oregon, 8¢@14¢; mohair, 26¢@28¢. Beef—Gross, cows, 3¢@3 1/2¢ per pound; steers, 4¢; dressed, 6¢@7¢. Veal—7¢@8 1/2¢. Mutton—Gross, 3¢ per pound; dressed, 6¢. Lambs—Gross, 3 1/2¢ per pound; dressed, 6 1/2¢. Hogs—Gross, 6 1/2¢@6 3/4¢ per pound; dressed, 7¢@7 1/2¢.

THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

Governor McBride, of Washington, Asks People to Observe Nov. 27.

Olympia, Wash., Nov. 14.—State of Washington, Executive Department, Olympia, Proclamation by the Governor:

"Whereas, the president of the United States, following a time honored custom, has designated Thursday, the 27th day of November, 1902, as a day of festival and national thanksgiving for the manifold blessings of the past year, now, therefore, I, Henry McBride, governor of the state of Washington, in accordance with custom and by virtue of the power vested in me by law, do hereby appoint Thursday, the 27th day of November, 1902, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer throughout the state of Washington, and do earnestly recommend that the people, in grateful recognition of the many blessings we are now enjoying, cease from their usual avocations and dedicate this day to deeds of charity and brotherly love, and in their churches and their homes render praise and thanksgiving to the Giver of all good. "In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the state to be affixed, this 12th day of November, A. D. 1902. "HENRY MCBRIDE."

REFORM PHILIPPINE FINANCES.

Vice Governor Wright Discusses Situation and Makes Suggestions.

San Francisco, Nov. 14.—Luke E. Wright, of the Philippines, speaking of financial affairs in the islands, said in an interview that the money market is continually fluctuating.

"A bill to afford the necessary relief was presented to congress, but not passed," said he. "I think that for the benefit of the commerce the matter should again be taken up at the next session of congress. It has been suggested that a Filipino dollar of silver should be introduced into the islands. This dollar should be worth actually 50 cents of our gold money. I think such a coin would remedy the present financial situation. Such a monetary system would be similar to the one now in use in Japan."

"It has been suggested that a limited number of Chinese—say 100,000—be allowed to land in the Philippines. Do you think their presence would relieve the present labor shortage?" was asked.

"I would not like to see the doors thrown open to the Chinese. Skilled labor, yes, if limited, would certainly prove beneficial. Some of the Chinese are very clever, and they would be able to teach the Filipinos many of the industries."

Governor Wright, accompanied by his wife, left for the East Thursday night.

POLITICS IN HAWAII.

Republicans Win a Sweeping Victory All Through the Islands.

Honolulu, Nov. 7, via San Francisco, Nov. 14.—The elections yesterday resulted in a victory for the Republican ticket. Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianoʻe, the Republican nominee, is elected as delegate to congress, and the legislature will be Republican in both houses, in spite of five home rule senators holding over from the last legislature, to three Republicans.

The result of the election, it is thought by Republicans, will be the end of the home rule party. A division of the voters along the lines of Republicanism and Democracy, as on the mainland, is now expected. It is also regarded as disposing largely of the race issue and the issue of royalism in Hawaiian politics, for the campaign of the defeated candidate, Delegate to Congress R. W. Wilcox, was largely based on his record as a royalist and on race feeling.

Will Search for Lost Treasure. San Francisco, Nov. 14.—The Chronicle says that there is no longer any doubt that the object of the schooner Louisa D., about ready to sail for the South, is to attempt to recover a part of the treasure lost in 1862 by the burning of the Pacific Mail steamer Golden Gate off Manzanillo, on the Mexican coast. The wreck of the Golden Gate caused the loss of 200 lives and a property loss of \$1,750,000. Much of this amount was in the form of bullion, and a considerable quantity of it was never recovered.

Big Chinese Fire. Victoria, B. C., Nov. 14.—Mail advices from China report a fire at Kweilin Kwang Si, causing great loss of life and property. The fire, which originated in a firecracker shop, spread and burned several hundred houses. Many Chinese were burned to death. The Christian Alliance mission, which was unscathed. The result of this freak of the fire is that many Chinese have come since to the mission building to be baptized.

Little Hope of Finding Egan. Spokane, November 14.—The hopes of finding Superintendent Benjamin F. Egan, of the Great Northern railway, continue to diminish. All the larger searching parties have come in without finding trace of him. Some experienced woodsmen under pay of the railway company are expected to keep up the search for eight or 10 days more, and there are also individuals who are searching in the hope of gaining the reward offered, but hope is small.

Pennsylvania Mine on Fire. Shamokin, Pa., Nov. 14.—The Burnside shaft, which employs 700 men and boys, was discovered on fire today. All of the employees got out in safety. The mine is owned by the Philadelphia & Reading coal and iron company. The flames were extinguished this evening, and the mine will resume work tomorrow.

THE MINERS' SIDE

MITCHELL GIVES EVIDENCE TO THE ARBITRATION BOARD.

Operators' Attorney Shows That He Will Attempt to Prove by Mitchell's Own Testimony That Organization is Irresponsible—Non-Union Miners May Be Given a Hearing.

Seranton, Pa., Nov. 15.—The Anthracite Coal Strike commission appointed by President Roosevelt to arbitrate the differences existing between the miners of the hard coal fields of Pennsylvania and their employers yesterday began the hearing of testimony by which it will determine whether the workmen are receiving fair and just wages for their labor, and whether their condition should not be improved. The star witness for the miners, John Mitchell, president of the Mineworkers' Association, took the stand in the forenoon, and when the commission adjourned at 4 o'clock in the afternoon he was still under fire of cross-examination by David W. Wilcox, general counsel for the Delaware & Hudson company. It was a trying day for the miners' leader, but he seemed to stand the test well. The heaviest fire of cross questions was aimed at him late in the afternoon session, and when the hour of adjournment was reached Mr. Wilcox was still propounding questions and testing Mr. Mitchell's memory. The opening of the session was a notable day in the annals of the law in the upper anthracite region. The commission's sessions are being held in the beautiful room of the Pennsylvania superior court, which is now sitting in Philadelphia. Ranged around three tables in front of the seven commissioners, who occupied the judges' bench, were no less than 30 lawyers, 24 of whom were looking after the interests of the mineworkers. During the day Mr. Wilcox asked Mr. Mitchell many questions as to the policies of the union, the method of calling strikes, the ability of the union to maintain discipline and prevent the members of the union from violating the law, and also as to the liability of the union breaking contracts. It was understood to many of those present who understood the situation, that Mr. Wilcox's object was to attempt to prove by Mr. Mitchell's own testimony that the contention of the companies that the miners' union was an irresponsible organization, and that trade agreements, therefore, could not be safely entered into, was well founded. During the hearing the statement was brought out for the first time since the late strike was begun that the union had disbursed \$1,500,000 among the union and nonunion men who were on strike. One of the questions which came up before the commission was the advisability of hearing counsel on behalf of the nonunion men who remained at work during the strike. Attorney J. J. Lenahan, one of the attorneys for the nonunion men, asked the commission what his status before the arbitrators was. Judge Gray informed him that the question would be taken under consideration, and that an answer would probably be given him today.

WAGES RAISED.

Pennsylvania Railroad Announces Voluntary Advance of 10 Per Cent.

Pittsburg, Nov. 17.—Notices signed by J. M. Walls, general superintendent of the West Pennsylvania road, were posted in the offices of the company at Allegheny today to the effect that an advance of 10 per cent would be made in wages of all employees permanently in the service of the Pennsylvania system east of Pittsburg who are now receiving less than \$200 a month, to take effect from November 1, 1902.

Robert Pitcairn, assistant to President Cassatt, of the Pennsylvania road, said that almost the entire working force of the system east of Pittsburg would be advanced. The announcement of the advance in wages was entirely voluntary. About 12,000 men on the Pittsburg division will be benefited by the raise.

To Investigate Religious School. Washington, Nov. 17.—The appeal of the Cuban children who recently arrived in New York destined for the Universal Brotherhood school at Point Loma, Cal., but who were detained until the character of the school could be investigated, has reached the treasury department. Commissioner General of Immigration Sargent is in San Francisco, and Secretary Taylor has telegraphed him to proceed to Point Loma and make an investigation of the character of the school. The appeal will await Mr. Sargent's report.

Dishonest Hawaiian Officials. Washington, Nov. 17.—Official reports of defalcations by two prominent officials of the Hawaiian government were received by the secretary of the interior today from Governor Dole. William H. Wright, treasurer of the government, admitted that he was \$17,950 short, and H. B. Wright, chief clerk of the department of public works of Hawaii, is charged with the embezzlement of \$8,272. The former escaped on the steamer Alameda, which sailed from Honolulu September 26 for San Francisco.

Municipal Telephone System for Sale. New York, Nov. 17.—Tunbridge Wells provided on the opening day of the present century the first municipal telephone service in this country, and now, says the London correspondent of the Tribune, it has been decided to sell the whole system to the National telephone company. This decision gives a great shock to the agitators of schemes for breaking the control of the company through municipal ownership and competition.

American Colony for Canada. Toronto, Ont., Nov. 17.—The Ontario cabinet has accepted the proposal of a syndicate represented by J. E. Catt, of Rock Island, Ill., and Judge Catt, of Chicago, to place 12,000 American settlers on 2,000,000 acres of agricultural crown lands in Ontario, and the agreement will be signed in a few days.

SWITCHMEN WON'T STAND IN.

They Will Not Strike, and Trainmen Are To Be Given No Assistance.

Chicago, Nov. 13.—According to a statement made by Grand Master Hawley, of the Switchmen's union of North America, there will be no strike of switchmen in Chicago. Officials of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, however, scout the idea that Mr. Hawley's organization figures in the situation, and say the switchmen who are members of their organization are strong enough to enforce demands made by them upon the railroad companies entering Chicago. It was learned today that the Chicago Great Western, the Chicago Terminal Transfer and the Chicago & Eastern Illinois railroads had entered into agreements with the switchmen's union by which that organization accepts the increase of 2 1/2 cents an hour for switchmen and 3 1/2 cents an hour for foremen, which has been offered by the railroad managers. It was also learned that the Illinois Central and Rock Island companies were negotiating with the switchmen's union.

Grand master Hawley, of the switchmen's union, declared his organization had a membership of 1,700 in Chicago, and asserted that the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen could not call a strike of switchmen if they so desired. He said his organization had secured an increase of 10 per cent in the Northwest, and that the scale would be recognized by switchmen throughout the country. He further declared that the demands made by the brotherhood had been prompted by jealousy and could not be recognized.

RAILROADS AND MEN AGREE.

Increase of About 12 Per Cent for Labor at Switching Terminals.

Chicago, Nov. 13.—The wage controversy between the railroads and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, which, for a time, threatened to tie up all the principal switching terminals in Chicago, was amicably adjusted to-night at a conference between the railroad managers and the officials of the brotherhood. The settlement was reached on the basis of a compromise. Seventeen of the railroads signed the new agreement, and the Santa Fe, the other road involved, will sign tomorrow morning. The men will receive an increase of about 12 per cent. At tonight's meeting the railroads submitted a proposition offering an increase of 3 cents an hour to helpers and 4 cents to foremen. The proposition was accepted by the men. The rates agreed upon are as follows:

Day foremen, 31 cents per hour; night foremen, 33 cents per hour; day helpers, 28 cents per hour; night helpers 30 cents per hour. These rates are one-half per cent in excess of the St. Paul-Minneapolis rate for each class.

The effect of the new scale will be far-reaching. According to the officers of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, the rate will go into effect at all large centers west of Chicago, where committees are now in session awaiting the outcome of the Chicago trouble.

The Chicago scale goes into effect November 15, and through the signed agreements with the railroad managers it cannot be modified without 30 days' notice.

MOLINEUX FREE. After Four Years of Suspense and Prison Life, Jury Acquits Him.

New York, Nov. 13.—Roland B. Molineux was set at liberty today, after spending nearly four years in prison and being once condemned to death and twice placed on trial for his life for the murder of Mrs. Catherine J. Adams. But 13 minutes sufficed for the jury to reach a verdict of acquittal.

Molineux, who was brought into court as soon as it was known that the jury had agreed, was apparently unconcerned as he had been throughout the trial, and gave no evidence of emotion when the words that established his innocence were pronounced. His aged father, General Molineux, was deeply affected and could with difficulty respond to the greetings of friends who pressed forward to offer their congratulations.

New Cabinet for Spain. Madrid, Nov. 13.—King Alphonso has instructed Prime Minister Sagasta to begin the reconstruction of the cabinet, and given him a free hand in the matter. It is believed that General Weyler will not be retained. General Sagasta is endeavoring to embody in the new cabinet a more democratic element than that which was found in the previous cabinet. In an interview, General Weyler said: "I am at the disposition of Senor Sagasta; I shall not form any obstacle if a solution can be found."

Postal Receipts Going Up. Washington, Nov. 13.—Statistics of the gross postal receipts of the government for last month, as compared with October, 1901, at 50 of the largest postoffices in the country, show a total of \$5,580,599, an increase of 13 per cent. The increase at New York was 11 per cent, and at Chicago 19 per cent, the receipts being \$1,183,688 and \$864,884, respectively. The largest increase was 36 per cent at Los Angeles, with Milwaukee next with 33 per cent.

Burned to Death in Pesthouse. Charleston, S. C., Nov. 13.—The pest house at the city hospital caught fire this morning shortly after 2 o'clock, and four negro men were burned to death before they could be rescued. One negro woman, the only one of inmates of that department, escaped.

Jewelry Store Robbed. Tonopah, Nev., Nov. 13.—Frank Golden's jewelry store was robbed last night of watches, diamonds and money to the amount of \$3,000. This is the third robbery that has occurred recently, and it is surmised that an organized band of thieves is located there.

OPERATORS REPLY

COAL BARONS HOLD THAT MINERS' DEMANDS ARE UNJUST.

Leader of the Mine Operators Claims the Average Earnings of the Men Are Not Less Than in Other Callings Requiring Equal Skill and Training—Eight-hour Day Impracticable.

Washington, Nov. 13.—President Baer, of the Philadelphia & Reading coal and iron company, has filed with the anthracite coal strike commission the reply of that company to the statement made by John Mitchell, president of the Mineworkers of America, concerning the points involved in the anthracite coal strike. Following is the text of Mr. Baer's statement:

"To the anthracite coal strike commission: The Philadelphia & Reading coal and iron company replying to the demands of John Mitchell, representing certain anthracite mineworkers, says:

"That it owns 37 collieries situated in the counties of Schuylkill, Northumberland and Columbia, and that it did operate, previous to the strike inaugurated by the United Mineworkers of America, 33 collieries and four washeries and that at that time it had 26,829 employes in and about the mines.

"The demand for '20 per cent increase upon the price paid during the year 1901 to employes performing contract or piece work' is arbitrary, unreasonable and unjust. This company denies there is such similarity between the mining of bituminous and of anthracite coal as to make wages paid in one a standard for the other.

"This company denies that the present rate of wages is lower than is paid in other mines in the same locality and controlled by like conditions.