

EVENTS OF THE DAY

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

Thirty people were drowned by the sinking of a steamer in the Danube river.

Reports from the district in Guatemala devastated by the volcano place the loss of life at 10,000.

The famous eating house at Meacham, on the O. R. & N., which burned a few days ago, will be rebuilt.

Prominent citizens of Denver have started a movement for the establishment of a sanitarium for actors.

Augustin Chacon, one of the most desperate outlaws in Arizona, has been hanged. During his career he had taken at least a score of lives.

A serious financial problem is confronting Germany. The government expense deficit is larger than ever before and the people can hardly afford to pay more taxes.

Advices from South China state that the Boxer movement is spreading. Large bands of rebels are marching through the country devastating everything they go.

Secretary Moody has announced that employees of government yard yards are to be allowed to present in person to the board of wages any question affecting the rate of pay.

Venezuela complains of European governments aiding her revolutionists.

The sultan of Morocco has given \$5,000 to the widow of an English missionary who was killed by natives.

Three Chicago saloons were dynamited by unknown persons, breaking down doors and causing other damage.

Prominent physicians testified before the coal strike commission that coal mining is an unhealthy occupation and greatly shortens life.

Friends of the Nicaraguan route for an isthmian canal are picking up courage from the check to the negotiations with Colombia relative to the Panama canal.

A well dressed individual accosted the sentry on guard at the German emperor's palace and said he was his majesty's son. He was arrested and searched and a loaded revolver found. The man has been placed in the insane asylum.

A large Minneapolis flouring mill has agreed to grind nothing but Canadian wheat. It will be shipped to the mill in bond, ground and the flour shipped to the Atlantic coast in bond and sent to Liverpool. Hereafter the wheat has been sent to England and grounds.

Extreme cold weather prevails all over Europe.

Two more forest reserves are to be created in Northeastern Oregon.

The president did not get a shot of a bear during the four days he was out hunting.

B. E. Clark, son of the general traffic manager of the Great Northern, committed suicide on account of ill health.

A trust has been formed at Stockton, Cal., by Chinese whereby two-thirds of the potato crop of the San Joaquin valley has been cornered.

Stephen Dewatur, jr., great grandson of the famous American commodore of that name, has been admitted to the Annapolis naval academy.

A New York woman, who claims to belong to a band of anarchists, has reported to the police an alleged plot on the life of the president.

Government officials look upon Oregon with mistrust because of timber frauds and conflicting representations regarding forest reserves and irrigation.

Uribe-Urbe has advised his fellow revolutionists to make terms with the Colombian government, saying United States intervention has killed the Liberal cause.

The attempt on the life of King Leopold has revived the question of suppressing anarchy.

Two distinct shocks of earthquake in Utah demolished chimneys and crockery and stopped clocks.

Four soldiers at Fort Stevens have been arrested for attempting to burn the fortifications. It is believed that they are guilty of starting all of the recent numerous fires.

The coal strike commission has reached the fourth demand of the miners' union, which calls for a yearly trade agreement, and which means a straight out recognition of the union.

All hope of finding E. J. Egan, superintendent of the Great Northern, who was lost in the mountains of Montana, has been given up and the search for him abandoned.

Fire in the freight depot at Pell City, Ala., resulted in the death of two men and the injury of 10, two perhaps fatally.

A meteor of great brilliancy fell near Lexington, Ky., causing considerable excitement.

Venezuelan government troops are reported to have won an important battle with the revolutionists.

Senator Elkins, who has heretofore fought reciprocity with Cuba, has come out in favor of the measure.

The north bound Southern Pacific express was wrecked Sunday afternoon north of Cottage Grove. Only one man was hurt and he says he was walking along the track and had stepped aside to let the train pass. Every car in the train, except the Pullman, was damaged.

An anarchist fired three shots at King Leopold, of Belgium, but hurt nobody.

Congressman Babcock has declined to enter the speaker's race and has thrown his support to Cannon, thus assuring the latter's election.

SEPTEMBER FOREST FIRES.

Total losses in Oregon and Washington amounted to \$12,767,100.

Washington, Nov. 23.—The bureau of forestry, after careful examination by a field agent, estimates that September forest fires in Oregon and Washington caused a total loss of \$12,767,100, of which \$3,910,000 fell in Oregon.

This includes the value of timber, farm property and sawmills and their products which were destroyed. Owing to its nearness to market, however, much of the burned timber in Oregon will be saved, reducing the total loss as above set forth. It was found that 86 Oregon families were rendered homeless, while 200 others suffered partial losses.

In that state farm property worth \$315,000 was burned, and sawmills suffered losses aggregating \$149,000. It is estimated that 2,124,000,000 feet of standing timber went up in smoke in Oregon, largely Douglas fir, spruce, cedar and hemlock. The total loss in timber alone was over \$3,000,000. In all, 170,000 acres were burned over, all of which, save 50,000, were well timbered.

In Washington 434,000 acres were burned over. The timber was fully as heavy as the Oregon timber, and of better quality. It is estimated that 5,026,800,000 feet of Douglas spruce alone were killed, representing a value of \$5,026,800. Other timber to the value of \$725,000 was destroyed. The total loss in Covitz, Clark and Skamania counties where the fires were the most disastrous, was \$6,600,900, and in the other burned areas, \$2,726,300.

A singular chain of circumstances combined to make the fires so destructive. Not only was the summer very dry, but the two preceding summers were wet in May and June, thus interfering with the burning of slashings, and allowing an unusual amount of debris to accumulate. The most direct cause was carelessness. This is shown distinctly by the fact that practically no damage was done in the Cascade forest reserve, which is patrolled by forest rangers.

In many instances the fires smoldered for considerable periods without attracting attention, and this in the face of the fact that the past season was one particularly favorable for forest fires. Many blazes started from the unextinguished camp fires of berry pickers or hunters, others resulted from careless burning of slashings, and one was known to have started from locomotive sparks. With the exception of this case, reasonable precaution on the part of individuals would have prevented the loss of millions of dollars. It is the opinion of the bureau, after tracing many of the fires to their origin, that most of them could have been extinguished before they became serious.

The origin of the blaze is a mystery. Superintendent Worthington says he has not the slightest idea how it started, but said the matter would be thoroughly investigated. When asked for an opinion as to the origin, he said he had no opinion to offer. He admitted that a coal oil lamp was left burning on the north side of the building, and since then many improvements have been made. Within the last six months the company has built another ship and added improvements to the extent of \$75,000.

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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.

A light snow has fallen in parts of Southern Oregon.

Albany will hold its regular city election Monday, December 1. Considerable local interest is manifested.

The Methodist church in Oregon City is being raised high enough to permit of a store room being built on the ground floor. This arrangement will bring the church people about \$150 per month.

The heavy rains have washed out a large portion of the dam of the Condor water and power company, at Yolo. Eighty men of the crew have been laid off and work is practically abandoned for the winter.

The farmers of Linn county will hold a farmers' institute November 28 and 29, under the auspices of the experiment department of the Oregon agricultural college. The meeting will be held at Grange Hall No. 10, near Albany.

The tides of the past few days have done many thousand dollars' worth of damage to the diked lands on Young's river and the Lewis and Clark. How much cannot yet be estimated, but it is believed that it will reach at least \$10,000.

Three weeks ago J. J. Jackson, a Negro charged with breaking open a freight car at Huntington in August, sawed through the bars in the county jail and escaped. The fact was only made public a few days ago. Jackson's trial was scheduled for next week.

The best sale of apples in the Rogue river valley during the present season was made by W. H. Norcross, a well known orchardist of Central Point, who disposed of 10 carloads at the fancy price of \$1.50 per box f. o. b. at Central Point. The apples go to New York City.

If the government finally decides to create a forest reserve in Northeastern Oregon, as indicated by the withdrawal of entry, Oregon will be the gainer by over \$100,000. The tracts mentioned contain at least 20,000 acres of unsurveyed school lands, and these are practically valueless at present.

The board of directors of the Willamette Valley Chautauque association, at a meeting held in Oregon City last week, decided to take some steps toward reorganization and appointed a committee for that purpose.

Operations at the Tillamook fish hatchery have been suspended on account of the recent heavy rains.

Two different companies are endeavoring to secure franchises for operating street car systems in the city of Roseburg. One company is composed largely of local capitalists and the other is made up of Eastern men.

It is expected that the lumbermen on the lower Columbia will advance the price of yellow fir logs from \$7.50 to \$8 per thousand. Yellow fir logs bring a much higher price than ordinary fir, and are in great demand.

The freshest on the Simla river caused by the recent heavy rains did considerable damage to the fish hatchery on that river.

A postoffice has been established at Inglis, Columbia county. An office has also been established at Tiller, Douglas county.

The safe in the depot at Newberg was opened Friday night and \$1,180 secured by a burglar. The crook evidently knew his business, as he worked the combination of the lock.

There were 860 hales of hops sold at Dallas last Saturday for 27 cents f. o. b. No sales have heretofore been made above 26 cents, though offers of 26 1/2 cents were out.

During the first two years of his term Governor Geer granted 15 pardons and 20 commutations, and during his last two years 10 pardons and 16 commutations. Of the 19 men pardoned in the last two years two were guilty of murder, two of manslaughter, four of larceny, one of assault with a dangerous weapon and one of obtaining money under false pretenses.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 70¢; blue stem 76¢; valley, 72¢; 73¢.

Barley—Feed, \$23.00 per ton; brewing, \$23.50.

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 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; Mercers, \$1.75@1.78 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@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, young, 12¢@13¢; geese, \$5.00@6.50 per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15¢@16¢; Young America, 15¢@16¢; factory price, 1¢@1 1/2¢ less.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30¢@32¢ per pound; extra, 30¢; dairy, 20¢@22¢; store, 18¢@18.

Eggs—25¢@30¢ per dozen.

Hops—New crop, 22¢@25¢ per pound.

LAND IS WASTED.

Refugees Bringing in Reports of Work of Guatemalan Volcano.

San Francisco, Nov. 21.—The first of the refugees from the devastated lands of Guatemala arrived today on the Pacific Mail steamer City of Paris. They came from the districts far inland from the sea, and traveled over a country laid waste by sand, ashes and pumice before reaching a railway station. From there they made their way by rail to Champerico, and there took the steamer to San Francisco. They sailed on November 7, and the volcano was still smoking, and rumblings like thunder and flashes of lightning gave evidence that more eruptions were yet to come. These people fled from their plantations in fear for their lives. They escaped to the seaside with little more than the clothing they wore, transportation being so difficult as to preclude the carrying of baggage.

The refugees confirm stories of loss of life. They say that the victims are for the most part Indians. They had not heard of any white people being lost. Thousands of Indians were asphyxiated or buried in the sand. Miles of plantations are under ashes, and absolute ruin is the lot of many planters whose all was invested in the fields. One refugee comes from within half an hour's ride of General Barrios, and brings information that the general and family are safe. A cablegram received here when the first eruption occurred stated that General Barrios had been asphyxiated.

The refugees state that it is not the crater of Santa Maria that is in action, but a smaller mountain rising from one of the western slopes of Santa Maria, called El Rosario.

Bands of Mexican robbers are now swarming over the desolated regions, robbing and murdering refugees on the road and looting the abandoned and desolate plantations. The people left behind on the plantations, it is said, are in danger of starvation, for the food supplies have been cut off and there is no way to send in supplies to the afflicted districts.

Convention Adjourns.

Irrigation Congress Will Meet Next Year in Baker City.

Portland, Nov. 20.—The Oregon irrigation convention yesterday perfected organization by adopting by-laws and electing additional officers. Resolutions were adopted commending all irrigation projects and endorsing the proposed immigration bureau at Portland.

During the day addresses were delivered by A. P. Davis, principal engineer of the reclamation service; Governor Geer, Major Alfred F. Sears, W. B. Chase, and H. B. Maxson, secretary of the National irrigation congress.

The next session will be held at Baker City the first Monday of June, 1903, and the next annual meeting at Pendleton the second Monday of November, 1903.

Stole Band of 1,400 Sheep.

Flower, Colo., Nov. 21.—Five men drove off 1,400 head of sheep from the flock of James Brown, 15 miles of northwest this place, after dynamiting the hut in which the herder was sleeping. The explosion blew the cabin to pieces and threw the herder into the air. Mr. Brown was aroused by the noise of the explosion and found the herder lying unconscious upon the ground. He was not seriously hurt. A posse overtook the men with the sheep after a chase of several miles. They abandoned the flock and fled northward. Sheriff Baldwin started out with a posse later, determined to apprehend the would-be rustlers.

Germany After English China.

Victoria, Nov. 21.—A mail advices from the Orient include a story of complications in the Yangtze valley. The Ashi Shimon, of Japan, says that Germany has taken advantage of the naval demonstration made by Great Britain against China at Hanku to formulate, with regard to the evacuation of Shanghai, conditions which would completely obliterate all traces of England's sphere of influence in the Yangtze valley. The Tokio papers say Germany has induced France to join her in this maneuver.

Gambler Held Up.

Minneapolis, Nov. 21.—Two bandits held up a gambling den at Columbia Heights tonight and secured \$19,423 from the proprietors and score or more of players. Harvey Howard, a Negro porter, was shot by the robbers. The gambling house, which is operated by a syndicate of sporting men, is at the end of a trolley line leading from Minneapolis. Each robber used a dark handkerchief to shield the lower part of his countenance. There are two entrances to the place, and the bandits appeared simultaneously at either door.

Prisoners Escape Mob.

Cincinnati, O., Nov. 21.—After being pursued by mobs in Fleming and Mason counties, Kentucky, two men charged with murder were located and lodged in jail at Covington, Kentucky, today. They are Alvin Burgess, of Flemingsburg, and George Benz, of Maysville. They had been taken to the Brookfield jail, and when it was learned that mobs were coming, the sheriff, by detour routes, reached Covington.

Less Cholera in Manila.

Washington, Nov. 24.—A cablegram has been received from the Philippine commission stating that the number of cases of cholera had gone down to five a day instead of 34 a day a week ago. The message says that the commission feels much relieved, and it is believed the Marikina watershed, which furnishes the water supply for Manila, will be contained.

Diplomat's Son in Trouble.

Washington, Nov. 24.—The state department has been informed that Godfrey Hunter, jr., son of the United States minister at Guatemala City, today shot and killed William Fitzger, a clerk of Grand Rapids, Mich. Hunter has taken refuge in the legation, and an interesting question has arisen as to his exemption from arrest.

Stillman Gives Harvard \$100,000.

Boston, Nov. 21.—James Stillman, president of the National City bank of New York, has presented \$100,000 to Harvard University for the endowment of a professorship in comparative anatomy.

MAY COMPROMISE

MINERS AND OPERATORS TO SETTLE WITHOUT COMMISSION.

Negotiations Will Be on a Basis of 10 per Cent Increase in Wages, a Nine-Hour Day, and Trade Agreements Between the Miners and Company by Which They Are Employed.

Scranton, Pa., Nov. 24.—The miners, through their representatives, have agreed with the mineowners to attempt to adjust the differences existing between them outside the anthracite coal strike commission. The proposition was made on a compromise basis, and negotiations, it is expected, will at once be entered upon, with a reasonable hope of settlement, with the aid of the arbitrators. The rough proposition, which is to form the basis of negotiations, is a 10 per cent increase in wages, a nine-hour day, and the company by which they are employed. The only one of the four demands not touched upon is that of the weighing of coal by the legal ton.

While both sides have expressed a willingness to settle their differences among themselves, it is not to be construed that it carries with it the acceptance of the terms proposed. They are mentioned only as a basis, it is understood, from which a settlement is to be effected. It is possible that the foundation already laid can be wrecked by either party holding out too strongly against some question, and thus leave the whole matter in the hands of the commissioners, which in the meantime will act as a sort of board of conciliation rather than as a board of arbitration.

It cannot be officially stated which party made the proposal first. The attorneys for both sides are averse to talking, but those who were inclined to say something differ in their statements. An attorney for one of the railroads said it came from the miners' side, while one lawyer for the miners said it came from the operators. Another representative for the miners said it was a "spontaneous" proposition.

It is generally believed that the operators were the first to make the proposal. Wayne MacVeagh, who carried on such a brilliant cross examination of President Mitchell, is given credit for bringing about the present situation.

It is probable a week or 10 days' adjournment will be taken by the strike commission in order to give all parties an opportunity to confer on the state of affairs.

Another Train Robbed.

Blew Up the Safe with Dynamite and Got Everything in Sight.

Davenport, Ia., Nov. 24.—A west-bound passenger and express train on the Rock Island known as No. 11 was held up by 12 masked robbers soon after midnight this morning