

WORLD'S DOINGS OF CURRENT WEEK

Brief Resume of General News From All Around the Earth.

UNIVERSAL HAPPENINGS IN A NUTSHELL

Live News Items of All Nations and Pacific Northwest Condensed for Our Busy Readers.

Columbus, Ohio, residents are fleeing the lowlands because of the high water in the Scioto.

The rainfall at Portland for March reached 10.91 inches, 1.85 inches less than March, 1873, the highest figure on record.

Villa is fleeing southward hoping to reach the Sierras, where, it is claimed, it will take many months to capture him.

Failure of senate Republicans to take any action at a conference on the Mexican situation leaves the administration unhampered in dealing with the problem.

The senate bill designed to increase the number of cadets at West Point was ordered favorably reported by the house military committee, with a few minor changes.

Turkey has informed the United States it was not a submarine of the Ottoman government which sank the liner Persia in the Mediterranean last winter with loss of American life.

The British infantry storms and take the first and second line German trenches along a front of 600 yards at St. Etel. The British official communication gives this information.

R. C. Stoddard, of Vancouver, B. C., and two other passengers were seriously injured when the Wolverine Flyer, on the Michigan Central railway, jumped the track near Kalamazoo, Mich.

The British steamer Manchester Engineer, from Philadelphia March 11 for Manchester, has been sunk, according to information received by Lloyd's. The members of the crew were taken aboard a tug.

Miss Catherine Prehm, editor and publisher of the Merrill, Ore., Record, was arrested in Klamath Falls on a charge of disturbing the peace by attempting to horsewhip George Bradnack, editor and publisher of the Merrill Times.

Twelve men at Kelly's Butte, a workhouse for Portland prisoners, escaped by sawing the bars of a cell. The exit was only 7 inches square, therefore a large number of heavy-weight prisoners were detained. The break was not discovered until daylight.

The most sensational of the Mann act cases in Chicago since the passage of that law, involving William Rufus Edwards, a wealthy St. Paul lumberman, as defendant and Miss Ada Cox as complaining witness, was begun before United States District Judge Anderson.

The literacy test, barring, with a few exceptions, all aliens over 16 years old, physically capable of reading, who cannot read the English language or some other language or dialect, was approved by the house working as the committee of the whole, by a vote of 225 to 82. This presaged the passage of the bill by an overwhelming majority despite the record of Presidential vetoes of several similar measures on account of the literacy test.

Villa is reported to have held up a train and searched it for Americans, but found none.

One of the American columns penetrated 50 miles into Mexico before it was discovered by the natives.

Congress avoids any unnecessary discussion of the Mexican question, but is ready to authorize war measures at a moment's notice.

A dispatch to the Balkan agency from Bucharest says the chief clerk of the American legation at Sofia is reported to have been arrested by the Bulgarian authorities, accused of giving a present to an employe for using greater haste than ordinary in issuing passports.

Men of the Hungarian landsturm born in 1868 and 1869 and also the men belonging to the classes of 1865 and 1897, who hitherto have been employed in making war materials, now are dismissed from this service and ordered to join the army on April 6, according to a Reuter dispatch.

Yuan Shi Kai renounces the throne of China and proclaims the restoration of the republic, but his opponents say the change is too late to save him.

Instructions to recruit the 12 National Guard companies of Arizona was transmitted to the company commanders by order of the War department.

An army aviator was found by a wagon train after being lost in the Mexican desert for 48 hours. He repaired his leaking tank, received a supply of gasoline and was soon on his way.

It is believed the government will soon define clearly its attitude toward the entire submarine question.

The house education committee voted unanimously to take no action on pending bills to reopen the North Pole controversy. Dr. Frederick A. Cook recently asked the committee to investigate his claims.

The Hay army increase bill, providing for a regular army peace strength of 140,000 fighting men instead of the present 100,000, passed the house by a vote of 402 to 2. It goes to the senate for immediate consideration.

SINKING OF SUSSEX TO BE PROBED; PRESIDENT MAY ASK OPEN RUPTURE

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson's patience has reached the point of exhaustion in connection with the destruction of passenger-carrying vessels in the European war zone. He is gathering all the facts in relation to the sinking of the Sussex. When these are in his possession he will decide whether to advise congress that a situation has arisen which necessitates a rupture of diplomatic negotiations with Germany.

So far as the state department has been advised the circumstances thus far developed:

First—That the quartermaster of the Sussex saw the torpedo coming and sheered away in the hope of escaping.

Second—That the three American passengers swear they distinctly saw the wake of the torpedo.

Third—That a bronze fragment was found on board the Sussex which a French officer says was a part of a German torpedo.

Lieutenant Smith, the American naval attaché in Paris, has been directed to examine the fragment. If his opinion should coincide with that of the French officer President Wilson will conclude that the circumstantial evidence is sufficient for action.

The German embassy does not believe that a German submarine was responsible for this catastrophe. It is pointed out that there was no military advantage to be gained by the sinking of the Sussex. In case of the improbable, however, it is declared positively that the German government will disavow the act of the submarine commander, punish him, offer reparations and satisfy the American government that the outrage was in direct violation of the instructions issued by the German admiralty.

But the president is at the point where such acts are of no consequence. The fact is that Germany gave explicit assurances that passenger ships would not be torpedoed without warning, nor sunk until passengers and crew had had an opportunity to escape. If Germany should deny that any of her submarines committed the outrage, which is regarded as extremely probable, the administration will have to rely upon circumstantial evidence. Such evidence, it is pointed out, is stronger than a denial.

The administration knows further that no English submarines were operating in the channel and it seems as impossible the suggestion that one of these vessels fired the fatal torpedo. In the first place the British government would hardly jeopardize the lives of its own subjects as well as those of its ally. Again the British government does not use the bronze torpedoes employed by the Germans. Nor could Germany shift the blame to one of her allies—Austria-Hungary or Bulgaria. Neither of these powers has submarines in the Atlantic.

Delegates Talk Preparedness; Gag Order Comes Too Late

Spokane, Wash.—Shortly after the Northwest preparedness conference began here Tuesday a telegram was received from the war department at Washington instructing army officers not to take part in the conference. The telegram was received too late to affect the appearance of Lieutenant Colonel David J. Baker, Jr., of Vancouver Barracks, who spoke on the necessity of adequate protection for the northern Pacific states.

Preparedness questions affecting the Pacific Northwest from the viewpoint of military and naval officers featured the addresses despite the telegram from the war department. Under the circumstances pains were taken by the officers to say nothing that could be construed as having a political effect, or bearing on the measures now before congress.

Delegates were present from Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. The conference elected N. W. Durham, of Spokane, chairman; Frank W. Hammond, of Seattle, secretary, and P. N. Bernard, of Kalispell, Mont., assistant secretary.

Colonel Baker was not in uniform, and in the preamble of his address referred to the fact that he spoke only as a private citizen. In speaking of the Japanese question, Colonel Baker said:

"I think there is danger of trouble to Japan through the ignorance and arrogance and narrowness of our own people on this coast who lack knowledge of the Japanese and therefore misunderstand and misjudge them."

Paper Cost Is Serious.

Washington, D. C.—A resolution for an investigation of the news print paper situation by the department of Commerce was introduced in the house by Representative Copley. Much of the supply of raw material for print paper that came from Germany, was cut off by the war. Other material is being shipped from this country to Europe for use in the manufacture of munitions. According to Mr. Copley the price of paper has advanced so far that the lives of many small newspapers are threatened.

Hunt Elusive Blue Tiger.

San Francisco—A quest for the blue tiger—a beast which has been termed the "Flying Dutchman of Zoology," because many scientists and explorers have seen it, yet none ever has been caught—will begin Wednesday when Roy Chapman Andrews and Mrs. Andrews sail from San Francisco for the Orient on the liner Tenyo Maru.

Somewhere in Central Asia or Tibet they expect to capture a specimen of their elusive quarry and to make an exhaustive study of zoology for the American Museum of Natural History.

Wilhelm Honors Sultan.

Berlin, (By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—The semi-official Overseas News agency has received advices from Constantinople confirming reports that Field Marshal von Mackensen had reached that city on a mission, given him by Emperor William, to present to the Sultan the Field Marshal's baton which the emperor had bestowed upon the Turkish ruler. The dispatch describes the Field Marshal's reception as most enthusiastic.

BRITISH SEAPLANES BROUGHT DOWN

German Aviators Defeat Three of Fleet of Five Raiders.

LONDON ADMITS LOSS OF DESTROYER

Berlin Claims No Damage Done by Bombs—Crews of Fliers Made Prisoner—Patrol Sunk.

Berlin, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—Not fewer than three British hydroplanes, among them a fighting aeroplane, were brought down Sunday by German guns on and about the island of Sylt, during an air raid on Northern Schleswig, according to a German official communication. The crews were taken prisoner.

Bombs dropped in the district of the Hoyer water gate did no damage, says the statement, which follows:

"From two ships, which were accompanied by a cruiser squadron and a flotilla of destroyers, five English hydroplanes started for an attack against the German aeronautic establishments in Northern Schleswig.

"Not fewer than three of them, among which was a fighting aeroplane, were forced down by the defensive service on and about the island of Sylt. The occupants of the machines, who were made prisoners, are four English officers and one non-commissioned officer.

"Bombs were thrown only in the district of the Hoyer water gate. No damage was done."

London—Three British aeroplanes which took part in a raid on German airships in Schleswig-Holstein Sunday are missing.

A dispatch says that two German armed trawlers acting as patrols were sunk by the British outside Sylt harbor.

The admiralty also reports that a torpedo-boat may have been in collision with another of its own fleet in the venture. No fears for the crew are entertained.

The following official statement was issued:

"An attack by British seaplanes was delivered Sunday morning on German airship sheds in Schleswig-Holstein eastward of the island of Sylt. The seaplanes were conveyed to their rendezvous close to the German coast by an escorting force of light cruisers and destroyers under Commodore Tyrwhitt.

"Three of the seaplanes which took part in the attack are missing. The destroyer Medusa was in collision with the destroyer Lavrock and it is feared that in the stormy weather which prevailed the Medusa may have been lost, but no missivings are felt as to the safety of the crew. Two German armed patrol vessels were sunk by our destroyers.

"No detailed report has yet been received, but from Danish press dispatches it would appear that this operation, which was carried out within the enemy's waters, achieved its object."

Six Lose Lives in Exclusive Country Club Conflagration

San Antonio, Tex.—Six persons lost their lives early Sunday in the burning of the fashionable San Antonio Country club.

Five of the victims were guests at the club, which was the scene of several week-end parties, bringing together a large number of persons prominent in social and business circles to the Southwest.

The dead are: Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Waltham, Judge J. E. Webb, Homer Jones, San Antonio; Mrs. Maco Stevart, Galveston; Helen Cockrell, maid at the club.

The fire had its origin in a collection of paint stored in the basement of the three-story frame clubhouse. It spread quickly to a stairway leading to the first floor and rapidly communicated to the other two floors above.

About 15 guests asleep in the building had narrow escapes, many jumping from the second story windows, so quick was the spread of flames.

Fortune Goes to Worker.

Seattle—Harold Richard Clements, 19, who has been working in a department store at a small salary, has been notified by Arthur Payne, attorney, of Louisville, Ky., that he has inherited the \$3,000 fortune of his grandmother, Mrs. Mary Clements, who died recently. Young Clements is the son of Harry Curtis Clements, formerly president of the Denver Traction company, who died nine years ago. When Mr. Clements died he left the bulk of his estate to his mother, only a small allowance going to his son.

Water Poisons Soldiers.

Douglas, Ariz.—Employes of the Nacozari railroad brought a report from Cabullona Monday that several hundred Carranzas soldiers had been killed recently in the Yaqui River Valley in Western Sonora by drinking water that had been poisoned by the Yaqui Indians. They said that Mexican employes of the railroad had received the information in letters from Hermosillo that those poisoned were of the Fifth Brigade of the Sonora troops. The detachment numbers 900 men.

Villa General Is Killed.

Queretaro, Mexico—General Pedro Gomez and 22 others, all members of Villa's band, were killed in battle in the neighborhood of Laguna and Dinamita Sunday. In this action between government forces and bandits 10 prisoners also were taken and summarily executed. This information came in a message to the minister of war, General Obregon, who was informed that the campaign against the Villistas was being waged with the utmost vigor.

ENTENTE ALLIES CONFERENCE IN PARIS OF GREAT IMPORT

Paris—The most important conference of the entente allies since the outbreak of the war began in Paris Monday under the presidency of Premier Briand. The premiers of Great Britain, Italy, Belgium and Serbia participating.

The British foreign secretary, Sir Edward Grey; secretary of war, Field Marshal Earl Kitchener, and commander of the continental forces, General Sir Douglas Haigh; the French commander in chief, General Joffre, and the Italian general, Cadorna, also have seats at the council table. Russia is represented by the foreign minister, M. Isolvsky, and General Gienksy, aide-camp to the emperor; Japan by the Japanese ambassador at Paris, and Serbia by Prince Alexander.

Probably nothing will be disclosed concerning the questions under discussion or the decision reached, but it is expected that the allied powers will come to an agreement concerning common military and political actions.

Property Destroyed and Traffic Blocked by Middle West Floods

Chicago—Blizzards, abnormally warm weather, rain and snow much colder weather, all crowded into a few days, have combined to cause much sickness and distress in Middle Western states. Floods also are now taking a toll in human life and destroying property.

Northern Illinois cities report many streets submerged and light and power stations out of commission. Warnings are issued in Chicago and all the Northern Illinois territory of imminent peril of typhoid. Eastern Iowa and Southern Michigan, Northern Indiana and Ohio are also facing typhoid conditions.

Dispatches from Southwestern Wisconsin accentuate recent reports of flood damage. Seven have been drowned, with many districts entirely inaccessible. Almost one-eighth of the state is affected. Reports tell of one drowned in Rock county, one in Richland county and one in Grant county. Two perished when a bridge gave way. Others were drowned trying to get through flooded streams by fording.

One in Grant county died trying to lead his cattle from the stable to the hills, when they became so frightened that they trampled him to death.

President Wilson Warns Public Against Mexican War Rumors

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson has issued a warning that "sinister and unscrupulous influences" are spreading alarmist reports about the Mexican situation with the object of forcing intervention by the United States "in the interests of certain American owners of Mexican properties."

In a formal statement the President told the people of the United States to be on their guard and not credit such stories. He urged those who disseminate news to test the source and authenticity of every report from the border, and called attention again to the government's announcement that the sole object of the punitive expedition now in Mexico was to punish Villa and his followers.

The news services supplying newspapers had been asked, the President said, to assist in keeping this view constantly before the Mexican and American people, to the end that the expedition should take on the color of war.

Steamer Hits Log; Sinks.

Portland—After striking a 30-foot sunken log, which tore a huge hole in her hull at the port bow, the steamer Twin Cities, of the Dalles-Columbia line, began to sink near the mouth of North Portland harbor Saturday night. She was successfully beached after a struggle. Quick work on the part of the officers in charge, and the coolness of the members of the crew, prevented loss of life.

The 10 passengers aboard, and the livestock which formed part of the cargo, were landed in safety before the vessel settled in the shallower water near the bank. The steamer lay partially submerged at the south bank, near the mouth of the North Portland harbor. A portion of the rail around the upper deck was awash and the water, which was rising rapidly, was expected to flood the passenger cabins.

Shackleton Ship Is Safe.

London—Reports received here Monday stated that the auxiliary ship Aurora, of the Shackleton Antarctic expedition, which was damaged in the ice, is now proceeding to New Zealand for repairs and is not in distress or in need of assistance. The latest message indicates that the Aurora is proceeding under her own steam. A New Zealand wireless station is in communication with her.

Sir Douglas Mawson, the Antarctic explorer, expresses the opinion that there is no cause for alarm.

Army Bars Bald Heads.

Chicago—Baldheaded men are not wanted in the pursuit of Villa. It was warm along the border and they might become affected by the heat. So announced Lieutenant Kenney Monday in refusing to enlist Stanley Twoney, of Syracuse.

Twooney sought enlistment and was rejected because of his baldness. He returned wearing a wig and was accepted. While he was awaiting transportation to Jefferson Barracks the deception was discovered and he was again rejected.

Fires Worst in Oregon.

Washington, D. C.—More than 72 percent of all the damage done by forest fires in government forest reserves during 1915 was in Oregon, according to a bulletin just issued by the Forest service. During the past year forest fires burned over 300,000 acres of forest reserve lands, and destroyed 158,000,000 feet of timber, valued at \$190,000. The report says that 87 percent of the total loss was confined to Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Steamer Englishman Sunk.

London—The steamer Englishman, of the Dominion line, has been sunk, according to Lloyd's. It is said that 38 survivors have been accounted for. The last record of the steamer Englishman shows that she sailed from Portland, Me., February 17, for St. Nazaire and Avonmouth. The Englishman was a vessel of 5257 tons and was owned by the Mississippi & Dominion Steamship company, of Liverpool. She was built in 1892.

ALLIES DECLINE TO DISARM VESSELS

Secretary Lansing's Proposal to Dismantle Guns Refused.

ENTENTE POWERS POLITE BUT FIRM

Alleged Disregard of Germany for Treaties Basis of Rejection—Case of Belgium Is Cited.

Washington, D. C.—All of the entente powers through their embassies here have handed to Secretary Lansing formal responses rejecting the proposal made by the State department in its circular memorandum that they enter into a modus vivendi and disarm all of their merchant ships with the understanding that the United States government would endeavor to secure from the central powers a pledge not to attack such unarmed ships without warning and without providing for the safety of the passengers and crew.

Soon after the proposition was broached, through interviews in the press and otherwise, responsible officials of the entente powers indicated their decided opposition to such a plan. It was generally believed here that the unanimous expression of disapproval inspired the German government to promulgate the new order which now is in force for attacks without warning by submarine commanders on any armed belligerent merchantman.

While Secretary Lansing said he had not had any opportunity as yet to consider the formal replies, it is known that, though based on different lines of reasoning, each of the entente powers has with polite expressions of regret declined to accept the proposal. The nature of their objections was indicated in the unofficial statements of various officials when the American memorandum was submitted, and it is understood that they have simply been elaborated in the communications before the State department.

It was contended in the unofficial discussions that Germany's contempt for treaties and other formal stipulations as evinced by her treatment of Belgium had made it unsafe to rely on any German pledge. The fundamental object urged, however, was that there should be no change in the principles of international law during the progress of hostilities such as would be involved in the acceptance of the modus vivendi at this time.

Three Americans Killed on Border.

Douglas, Ariz.—Three Americans, two women and one man, were killed near Gibson's line ranch on the New Mexico-Mexico boundary, eight miles west of Columbus, N. M., between 4 and 5 o'clock Wednesday, presumably by Mexicans, according to the story brought here by a party of five Douglas people, who said they arrived on the scene shortly after the bodies had been removed by soldiers.

A command of United States soldiers stationed at the Gibson ranch was said to have crossed the line in pursuit of the slayers.

The automobilists were on a pleasure trip. Near the ranch they were stopped by a Twelfth Cavalry man, who advised them to go to the ranch immediately so that the detachment there could afford them protection. They were guarded at the house all night by seven troopers who had arrived there from Hachita, N. M., in response to the alarm given when the three bodies had been found. The five civilians passed a sleepless night, sitting in the car, while the soldiers crouched around them in the pouring rain on guard. Peals of thunder and intermittent flashes of lightning increased the apprehension of the women.

The soldiers told them that the bodies of the two women and a man had been found in an automobile near the ranch, but they did not know what disposition had been made of them. After daylight they were allowed to proceed toward Hachita. They did not stop there, they said, to make inquiry about the affair.

German Loan Is Success.

Berlin—(Via wireless to Sayville)—Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the imperial treasury, told the reichstag Saturday that the fourth German war loan had been a brilliant success, the subscriptions having reached more than 10,000,000 marks, not including 10,000,000 marks abroad and at the front. It was pointed out that the German war loans have now reached a total of 36,000,000 marks, while the British loans have only totaled 19,000,000 marks, and those of France 11,944,000 marks.

Army Short of Airmen.

San Diego, Cal.—There are no qualified military aviators available here for duty with the expeditionary forces in Mexico, according to Captain Cowan, commander at the North Island training institution, commenting on the request of General Pershing for eight fliers. "We have not got them to send," said Captain Cowan. "There are four student aviators at North Island who are ready to take their junior military aviators' tests, but thus far none of them have had experience in cross-country flights."

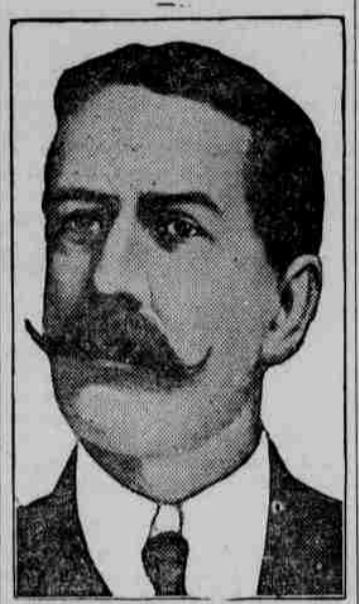
GENERAL FUNSTON ASKS WAR DEPARTMENT FOR "ADEQUATE FORCE"

San Antonio, Tex.—General Frederick Funston asked the War department Tuesday for more troops to send into Mexico, after long consideration of the advisability of continuing the operations against Francisco Villa with his forces now commanded by General Pershing. General Pershing suggested that another regiment be sent to him, and General Funston asked the department for what he characterized as an "adequate force."

It was announced at General Funston's headquarters that the Fifth Cavalry, of which one squadron is at Fort Myer, Va.; another at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and the third at Fort Sheridan, Ill., would be brought to the border at once, and sent forward along General Pershing's line of communication to Casas Grandes.

The only reason given for strengthening General Pershing's forces, known by the public generally to be considerably more than 4000, was that

COL. H. J. SLOCUM



In command of the Thirteenth cavalry at Columbus, N. M., who sent the first soldiers across the border in pursuit of Villa and his bandits.

his field of operations had become so extended that his main line of communication and the subsidiary lines were much weaker than they should be.

Protocol Is Accepted.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson and his cabinet Tuesday decided to accept a proposal for a protocol between the United States and the de facto government of Mexico for cooperation in the pursuit of General Villa and his outlaws.

Mexico City—Although the terms of the new arrangement which, on the direct instructions of General Carranza, is being sought with the United States have not been made public here, it is understood that many of the provisions entered into between the two countries in 1882 regarding the pursuit of outlaw Indian bands are included in the proposed protocol. The United States is asked to agree not to occupy any town, village or camp, and not to penetrate Mexican territory further than may be necessary for actual pursuit of Villa. Furthermore, a pledge is requested of immediate retirement of foreigners as soon as the expedition is an admitted success or failure.

Senate Passes \$11,000,000 Armor Plate Factory Bill

Washington, D. C.—The Tillman bill to provide for the erection of an armor-plate factory by the government at a cost not to exceed \$11,000,000 was passed by the senate late Tuesday by a vote of 58 to 23.

Democratic senators supported the bill solidly, regarding it as one of the important measures include the National preparedness program. Nine progressive Republicans joined with the majority in voting for the bill.

Passage of the measure in the house is regarded as assured. Administration leaders are planning to bring it up soon after passage of the army reorganization and immigration bills.

The bill, which has the approval of the administration and Secretary Daniels, was bitterly opposed by several Republican senators.

Sack Offer Guaranteed.

Pendleton—The first guaranteed sack delivery offer of the season was made this week by the Inland Empire grain-growers at their meeting in Pendleton by the Balfour-Guthrie company at 14 cents. Heretofore war clauses have been attached. Although no action was taken, it is probable the cotton sack investigated by H. W. Collins will receive a tryout in Umatilla county. The sentiment seems to be that a carload of 50,000 cotton sacks be purchased at 11 and 12 cents each. Wesley Harrah, John Mumm, Henry Huleman and other farmers are building portable elevators to take care of the 1915 crop. The grain can be taken by the elevator from the field to the cars for loading.

Black Cat in Four Wrecks.

North Yakima, Wash.—One closed Northern Pacific freight car, in which a black cat was locked at Auburn, was responsible a few days ago for two accidents. The train had two derailments on the west side of the mountains, the same car figuring in both. The ill-omened car jumped the rails in the Ross canyon and spilled a shipment of flour and automobiles. After passing this city it caused another wreck in the lower valley. When the car was opened at Pasco the cat disappeared, and no more trouble was encountered.

Potash Plant in Favor.

Washington, D. C.—The senate committee on agriculture Tuesday virtually agreed to report a bill appropriating \$150,000 for the establishment of a government plant on the Pacific Coast to experiment with processes for extracting potash from kelp.

By means of this plant, department representatives told the committee, they believed they could develop a commercial process for the manufacture of potash fertilizer.

Ground kept, they said, is worth now \$40 a ton.

Million Dollar Oil Fire Rages.

Tulsa, Okla.—Damage estimated at not less than \$1,000,000 was done in the oil fields near Drumwright Tuesday night, when a fire starting in a pile of refuse spread to the wells. At midnight 12 wells were burning. 24 derricks had been destroyed and many thousands barrels of oil in tanks consumed by the flames. Without means of checking the fire, oilmen feared that the loss would extend into many millions of dollars.

NEWS ITEMS

Of General Interest

About Oregon

Farmers' Week Is Plan at McMinnville June 21 to 24

McMinnville.—A West Side Farmers' week and picnic is to be held in McMinnville June 21 to 24, under the auspices of the McMinnville Grange. Other granges and farmers' unions as well as all other farmers' organizations are invited to participate. Speakers of national standing as well as leading educators of the northwest will be invited. The agricultural college will be asked to hold a farmers' institute in connection with the week's program. The committee has been assured of the assistance of County Agriculturist M. S. Shrock, whose work is along similar lines.

Following are some of the speakers who will be invited: Secretary of Agriculture David P. Houston, Governor Withycombe, President W. J. Kerr and R. D. Hietzel, of the agricultural college; President P. L. Campbell, of the University of Oregon; J. Frederick Thorne, of the same institution; Dr. C. H. Chapman, of Portland; J. A. Churchill, superintendent of public instruction; L. R. Alderman, superintendent of Portland schools; "Farmer" Smith, of the O. W. R. & N. Co.; Dr. Hector McPherson, of the bureau of markets and rural organizations of the Oregon agricultural college.

It is the intention of the committee to ask the candidates for president on the republican, democratic and prohibition parties to participate in the program.

Opposes Inviting Laborers to Oregon

University of Oregon, Eugene.—Leters that invite laboring men to come and settle in Oregon should not be sent by Oregonians to Eastern friends or Eastern newspapers. This admonition was given by O. P. Hoff, state labor commissioner, to students in the University school of commerce. "Oregon offers less opportunity for the laboring man than any state in the Union. A city the size of Portland has five times as hard work taking care of a surplus of 10,000 men as a city of the same size in Massachusetts has, because Portland does not have the great manufacturing establishments of the East," said Mr. Hoff.

The state labor commissioner thinks that as a partial remedy for winter unemployment the state should arrange to get needy men onto small tracts of stub land. "No man can make a profitable investment by buying such land and putting all his time on it," said Mr. Hoff, "but by using his idle time any man could build up a good home in a few years."

Mr. Hoff said compulsory safeguards would put an end to 50 per cent of all accidents in industrial plants in Oregon.

Electric Line Proposed.

Pendleton.—An electric road from Pendleton to Walla Walla and from Cold Springs Landing through Pendleton to Bingham Springs is an undertaking projected by an association of capitalists represented by C. W. Lefler, formerly a farmer in the Cold Springs country. It is understood E. W. McCormack, of Pendleton, is connected with the undertaking.

Mr. Lefler said there was plenty of money back of the venture. The plan is to lay the rails on concrete ties to reduce the cost of maintenance.

The route has been selected with an idea of tapping much of the freight-producing area of the country, as well as the area of passenger traffic. The line from here to Cold Springs Landing would be a feeder to the open river.

Mining Property Bought.

Baker.—One of the most important mining deals in the Sumpter district in many years has been consummated in the purchase of the Bald Mountain property by the Ibez Mining company. The Ibez mine has been idle in several years because it was deemed unwise to run it until the Bald Mountain mine could be secured, and the acquisition of the latter will insure the operation of both properties within a short time.

A tunnel between the Bald Mountain and Bald Mountain mines has already been started, and with the use of a gravity system both mines can be operated in an economical manner. Reports say that the mine's equipment will be greatly augmented, and that both will be operated extensively this season. The price paid for the Bald Mountain mine has been kept secret.

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