

## The Estacada News

Based Each Thursday

ESTACADA OREGON

## NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Secretary Root has returned with restored health.

The French government has decided that Morocco must pay damages to foreigner.

Owing to the strict quarantine maintained San Diego has little fear of the plague.

It is likely that Canada will have to pay heavy damages on account of the Vancouver anti-Japanese rioting.

China has just sent representatives to a number of countries for the purpose of studying the constitution question.

Messenger boys at Tacoma have struck and the telegraph company is considering the advisability of using girls.

The Western Union still claims to be getting its old men back all over the country, but the service does not improve.

Congressman Longworth says the Roosevelt will not become a candidate for a renomination unless the whole country demands it.

A Harvard scientist has found that spleens are edible and says his discovery will add 50,000,000 pounds to the nation's annual meat output.

Secretary Root's health is fully restored.

Senator Dewey says he favors Roosevelt for another term.

A fire in the Esperanza mines, Musquiz, Mexico, cost 27 lives.

The rival sultans of Morocco are to settle their claims in a big battle.

A crusade is to start to exterminate the Monte Carlo gambling house.

Britain is considering the advisability of giving back the Shetland islands to Norway.

Heney is expected in Portland soon in connection with the Oregon land fraud cases.

Vancouver, B. C., laborers are mobbing Japanese and international trouble threatens.

A new telegraph company has been formed in Chicago that hopes to extend its service over the entire United States.

J. E. Hall, president of the Belding-Hall Manufacturing company, Chicago, has appropriated \$315,000 of the company's money to his own use and a receiver now has charge of affairs.

Jerome has called a grand jury to indict traction trust officials.

Commissioner Lane is to inquire into rebating on Western railroads.

The cases against the Standard Oil company of Ohio will be tried soon.

Extreme measures are being adopted in San Francisco to stamp out the plague.

The International Harvester company has just paid a fine of \$35,000 to Texas for being a trust.

William H. Taft, secretary of war, was royally entertained while in Portland on his way to the Philippines.

Government officials at Washington believe the loan of \$1,000,000 to the Jamestown fair can never be recovered.

A Wisconsin woman after being in prison 16 years convicted of murder, has been found innocent and released.

Twelve persons were killed and as many more injured in the wreck of an express train on the Rock Island at Norwalk, Iowa.

Pickpockets on a Rock Island train in Nebraska robbed many sleeping passengers and after a fight with the conductor escaped.

A monument to Wm. McKinley has been dedicated at Buffalo, N. Y.

The moral effect of the change in the police administration of San Francisco is apparent.

A group of American capitalists with Thomas F. Ryan at the head is said to be preparing a typewriter trust.

The French fleet has bombarded the Moorish fanatic stronghold of Mazagan and almost completely destroyed the town.

Lewis Stuyvesant Chanler, of New York, is mentioned as Bryan's running mate in the next presidential campaign.

Trainwreckers drew spikes from the rails of the Baltimore & Ohio 20 miles east of Pittsburgh. A freight train was wrecked but no one hurt.

Roosevelt is not satisfied with results gained at The Hague and may call a peace congress of his own to embrace the ambassadors at Washington.

An Illinois woman is suing for divorce on the ground that she married the wrong brother. The two men are twins and she couldn't tell them apart.

Attorney General Bonaparte denies he will resign.

Congressman Burton is to run for mayor of Cleveland, Ohio.

Inquiry into the lumber industry has been begun by Federal authorities.

Antwerp is in the hands of a mob of strikers and the militia has been called out.

Six persons were killed and 20 injured in a wreck on the Canadian Pacific.

An anarchist has been arrested in Milan who was threatening the Italian king's life.

The French troops have drawn the Moors into a trap and inflicted a crushing defeat.

## TRUST IS WITH SPRECKLES.

Has Large Interest in Spreckles Company, but Does Not Compete.

San Francisco, Sept. 10.—John Spreckles, president of the Western Sugar Refining company, testified yesterday before United States Commissioner Richards in regard to the relations existing between his company and the American Sugar Refining company, of New York, the so-called Havemeyer sugar trust. It was established by his testimony that Mr. Havemeyer and his men own a large minority of the stock of the Western Refining company, but he denied that either he or his father, Claus Spreckles, has any interest in the American Sugar Refining company.

He declared that the price of sugar on the coast was held low enough to prevent competition from Mr. Havemeyer, except in a few special grades, which the Western does not manufacture.

Mr. Spreckles' testimony is to be used in a suit brought by the receiver of the Pennsylvania Sugar company against the American Refining company for \$30,000,000 damages as the result of the Havemeyer interests getting control of the Pennsylvania company and shutting down the plant. The suit is both for conspiracy and for violation of the Sherman anti-trust law, and is brought in the United States District court of New York.

## GATHERING AT SARATOGA.

Fifty Thousand Grand Army Veterans Expected at Encampment.

Saratoga, N. Y., Sept. 10.—Amid gayly decorated streets, veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic have been arriving all day for the Forty-first National encampment, which will be held here this week. Fifty thousand veterans are expected.

This may be the last encampment held anywhere but in Washington. At the business session of the organization a resolution probably will be introduced fixing that place as the permanent meeting place of the organization hereafter. It is also probable that within a few years the annual encampment will become only a meeting of delegates, for the veterans, it was stated by Grand Army officials, are becoming too feeble to attend the meetings in a body and to take part in the annual parade.

The encampment program begins today.

## NEW RULES TO BEGIN WAR.

Hague Conferer Requires Notice to Enemy and Neutrals.

The Hague, Sept. 10.—The fifth plenary sitting of the peace conference was held today. The whole American delegation was present. The following rules regarding the opening of hostilities were adopted, a few countries making reservations:

"The contracting powers agree that hostilities must not begin without previous unequivocal notice having been given, either in form of a declaration of war setting forth its motives or in the form of an ultimatum with the additional declaration of war."

"A state of war must be notified without delay to the neutral powers the effect of the latter beginning after they receive notice, which can be given even by wire. In any case the neutral powers cannot protest against the lack of this notice, if it is established that they undoubtedly knew that a state of war existed."

## MOB SAILORS IN JAPAN.

Four Men From Cruiser Chattanooga Flew for Their Lives.

Tokio, Sept. 10.—While the United States cruiser Chattanooga was at Hakodate on her way here from Vladivostok, four of her men had a thrilling experience and a narrow escape from serious injury at the hands of a Japanese mob.

In a dispute over prices, one of the American sailors struck a Japanese shopkeeper. A mob quickly formed, armed with clubs and started after the assailant and his three companions. Two of the sailors were forced to jump from a dock and swim to a sampan. The others were rescued from the mob by the police, who took them aboard the ship.

## Car Shortage Again.

Chicago, Sept. 10.—A New York special to the Record Herald says: Is the prosperity of the country again to be threatened this fall and winter by a shortage in freight equipment and cost merchants and farmers untold millions? The question is being asked in his railway circles in the East and on Wall street, and, as a rule, it is being answered in the affirmative. Men in the traffic world who control vast systems are shaking their heads and admitting that a recurrence of the disastrous car shortage is threatening.

## Eskimos Sell Women.

Nome, Alaska, Sept. 10.—Action is to be taken by the city and federal authorities to stop the practice of bartering their women as indulged in by native Eskimo boys, which has grown to alarming proportions. Young native lads have been found enticing drunken men to their tents on the sand spit and on the beach, where they offer them their girls and their women. The revolting practice and the disgusting orgies which occur late at night is the direct result of the natives' desire for Hootch, or whiskey.

## Moors Fall to Show Up.

Paris, Sept. 10.—The heretofore Moors' delegations failed to materialize at Tangier Saturday, according to official reports received here tonight. If the delegations do not appear tonight, the report adds, military operations will be resumed energetically tomorrow. General Druide says he has profited by the suspension of fighting by determining the exact positions of the enemy. Admiral Philibert cables that all the ports are orderly.

## Vaccinated by the Thousand.

Vienna, Sept. 10.—There are no signs of abatement in the smallpox epidemic. During the last few days 166,000 persons have been vaccinated. Public meetings and processions have been forbidden.

## OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### FAIRGROUNDS A DELIGHT.

Attractive Plan of Beautifying is Being Carried Out.

Salem.—Not the least important of the many improvements being made at the fair grounds in preparation for the Greater Oregon State fair, September 16-21, is the transformation of the unsightly and barren wastes of dry grass and weeds into beautiful landscape effects. This is the first appeal to the artistic sense that has been attempted along this line, and, although it has been found impossible to make all the needed changes in one year, the most glaring faults have been remedied. The concessions have all been removed to one district, and dozens of unsightly shacks destroyed. New walks have been laid throughout the grounds, the idea being to combine beauty with convenience as far as possible. Buildings have been moved whenever necessary, and other conditions made to conform to the new arrangements. The walks will all be of fine gravel, dressed with green sand.

The main improvement is noticeable in the square between the main pavilion and the dairy building, which has been moved to a site northeast of its old position. The visitor is no longer confronted with the row of candy stands and lunch counters of all sizes, ages and colors, and the expanse of dry grass which formerly assailed the eye. The only remaining relic of the old regime is the fountain, with its familiar figure in the center, but even this has been repainted and remodeled until it is hardly recognizable, and is now surrounded with a bed of flowers, and a winding path.

There are many other flower beds also, in the shape of crescents, stars and other designs, and all will be in blossom fair week. The big center bed contains large, spreading palms. Where there are no flowers green lawns have been planted. Water has been piped to this section, and the work of beauty is being rapidly completed.

A pretty feature is the statues which will be placed in this square. Just east of the main wing of the pavilion, the large, reclining figure, representing the state of Oregon, was seen last year, and will again occupy the same position. In front of the pavilion, the fountain and its small statue have already been noted. Back of this fountain, the large standing figure of Ceres, goddess of agriculture, which last year was located in the pavilion, but seemed rather cramped and out of place, will be set up. On either side of this statue two smaller images will be placed, making five pieces of statuary in all. They will be set upon suitable bases and bordered with flower beds. These statues were secured from the Lewis and Clark exposition of 1905 in Portland.

### Public Wharf at Oregon City.

Oregon City.—After trying for more than a year to bring about the establishment of a public wharf in Oregon City, the promoters of the project have at last been successful and the city council has authorized the establishment of a grade on Main and Eleventh streets from Main street to the water front, this action being taken preliminary to the improvement of the streets leading to the site of the proposed dock. The cost of the new wharf will be about \$1,500, the money being subscribed with the provision that the streets be improved by the city.

### Fruit Goes Out by Carloads.

Freewater.—The Freewater Canning and Preserving company has leased its factory to the Weber-Russell Canning company of Seattle. This firm is shipping by carloads peaches, pears and prunes to the coast cities. Ranchers everywhere are complaining of their inability to secure pickers, and a far more serious shortage in fruit boxes. However, the fruit season in this vicinity has been unexcelled for three years, and six and seven carloads are being shipped daily to eastern points.

### They Seek the Noble Elk.

Albany.—To kill an elk is the pronounced ambition of most of the hunters who are now leaving for the mountains in this part of the state. After a closed season of several years, it will be lawful to kill elk after the 15th of this month, for a period of one month. Each hunter is limited by law to one elk, but the members of the hunting parties now equipping for the mountains will be satisfied with this legal limit, though they are very desirous of killing that one.

### Railroad Refuses Crossing.

Oregon City.—At a recent meeting of the city council a communication was read from the Southern Pacific in regard to the erecting of a steel overhead crossing at Sixth street. The company refused to agree to erect a steel crossing, but said it would construct one of wood if the council would accept it. After some discussion the city fathers decided that they would erect the steel crossing, and furthermore, they would force the ordinance requiring the railroad to station a flagman at every crossing.

### Has Brood of 220 "Chinas"

Albany.—Chris Van Dran, of this city, has raised 220 Chinese pheasants this season. He has been more successful this year in hatching and raising the birds than ever before. Van Dran was one of the pioneer pheasant raisers of Oregon, but this is the largest brood he has ever raised in one season. The demand for Chinese pheasants is such that he could easily sell twice as many as he raises and could contract for all his brood in advance.

### Many Hops Moldy.

Aurora.—The hopgrowers in the Aurora, Hubbard and Butteville districts are in the hardest kind of luck this season. The weather for the past week or 10 days has been an injurious factor in the ripening of the crop, and in a number of the yards mold has appeared to such an extent that the yards will not be picked. In fact the yards are very scarce where there is not more or less mold. The prairie yards are the freest from mold.

### GOOD OUTLOOK FOR OREGON.

Large Freshman Class Enters State University This Year.

Eugene.—Prospects are the best for a banner year at the University of Oregon. The freshman class will in all probability number 200, an increase of 50 per cent over last year. One favorable sign of the growth of the university in attendance and in its standing among the institutions of the West is the fact that a large number of Portland students who have been attending Berkeley and Stanford will this fall transfer to Oregon. Freshmen from Portland will number about 50.

A great advance is also noticed this year in the standing of the high schools throughout the state. Scarcely a high school from Roseburg to Pendleton but that will send from one to a dozen students to the university. The unsettled status of the normals will also contribute to the attendance at Oregon.

Accommodation for the increase has been seen to, and a good sized women's dormitory has just been completed. The new library, which has been under construction since about June 1, has been completed and accepted. The time for moving in has not been definitely set.

The campus this year will be a great improvement over the past. Captain Briggs has kept a small force steadily at work on the grounds all summer, and is getting them in splendid condition, in appearance very much like the Lewis and Clark fair grounds.

### TUTTLE ACT INVALID.

Unequal Assessment Makes New Road Law Unconstitutional.

Salem.—In a decision just rendered Judge William Galloway, of the State Circuit court for Marion county, declared the Tuttle good roads law, as enacted by the legislative assembly of 1905, unconstitutional, because of its provisions of unequal assessment of costs for such improvement. The question was raised in the case of the St. Benedictine Abbey vs. the Marion County court and other county officials, in connection with the proposed construction of a macadam road between Marquam and Silverton for a distance of four miles. The law provides that the cost of such improvement shall be assessed to the property located within a radius of one mile upon each side and at each end of the proposed improvement, and the plaintiff complained that, under this system, a property owner at either end of the stretch of road to be improved would be doubly assessed in case the improvement be extended.

### Ask the Old Men.

Salem.—In order to secure information which will form a basis for the determination of what are just and equitable freight and passenger rates, the Oregon Railroad commission has decided to investigate the actual cost of the construction and equipment of the railroads of Oregon. To a large extent this investigation will be conducted by calling before the commission the men who have had personal knowledge of the cost of construction by reason of their connection with the roads as contractors or managers.

### Railway Losses Franchise.

Albany.—The city council has authorized the city attorney to institute proceedings to revoke the franchise of the Albany street railway. The franchise is to be revoked has been running about 25 years and was renewed a few years ago for another quarter century. Only a horse car line has been operated. The line was sold last winter to C. E. Sox trustee, representing an unknown purchaser, who agreed to electrify it within a year.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat.—(New crop)—Club, 82c; bluestem, 83c; Valley, 80c; red, 78c. Oats.—(New crop)—No. 1 white, \$23.50; gray, \$23. Oats.—(New crop)—Feed, \$22.50; 25 per ton; brewing, \$24.50; rolled, \$24.50; 25. Corn.—Whole, \$28 per ton; cracked, \$29. Hay.—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17; 18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$19@20; clover, \$11; cheat, \$11; grain hay, \$11@12; alfalfa, \$12@13. Butter.—Fancy creamery, 32 1/2@35c per pound. Poultry.—Average old hens, 13c per pound; mixed chickens, 12c; spring chickens, 12 1/2c; old roosters, 8@9c; dressed chickens, 16@17c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; geese, live, 8@10c; ducks, 10c. Eggs.—Fresh ranch, candied, 27@28c per dozen. Veal.—Dressed, 6@8 1/2c per pound. Pork.—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 8@8 1/2c; packers, 7 1/2@8c. Fruits.—Apples, \$1@1.50 per box; cantaloupes, 50c@1.00 per crate; peaches, 40@55c per crate; blackberries, 4@5c per pound; prunes, 50@75c per crate; watermelons, 16@17c per box; plums, 50@55c per box; pears, 75c @ \$1.25 per box; grapes, 50c@1.50 per box. Vegetables.—Turnips, \$1.75 per sack; carrots, \$2 per sack; beets, \$2 per sack; asparagus, 10c per pound; beans, 3@5c; cabbage, 2c; celery, 75c@1 per pound; corn, 25@35c per dozen; cucumbers, 10@15c per dozen; lettuce, head, 15c per dozen; onions, 15@20c per dozen; peas, 30@35c per pound; pumpkins, 1 1/2@2c; radishes, 20c per dozen; rhubarb, 3 1/2c per pound; squash, 50c@1 per crate; tomatoes, 30@50c per crate; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2c per pound. Onions.—\$2.25@2.50 per hundred. Potatoes.—New, \$1@1.15 per hundred. Hops.—4@6c per pound, according to quality. Wool.—Eastern Oregon, average best, 16@22c per pound according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to shrinkage; mohair, choice, 20@30c per pound.

## IS THORNLESS WONDER.

Burbank Tells Irrigation Congress of Latest Creation.

Sacramento, Cal., Sept. 6.—Most interesting among the addresses delivered at the Irrigation congress yesterday was one by Luther Burbank, the wizard, who told of efforts to produce a thornless cactus. Resolutions on national land policy were adopted and a slate for officers prepared by the committee on organization.

A resolution was introduced by the Outdoor League department of the California club, through its chairman, Mrs. Lovell White, declaring that Niagara Falls are menaced with destruction through the rapacity of the power companies located on both sides of the river. The resolution, which was referred to the committee on resolutions, urged that the congress approve the act of the American Civic association in its attempt to preserve unimpaired Niagara Falls, and urging congress to enact necessary legislation.

Luther Burbank, the expert on plants, who appeared before the congress Wednesday night, was again called on for an address. He told the congress of his experiments in trying to produce a thornless cactus. He had all but succeeded, he said, a lack of nutrition being the only obstacle to overcome. He predicted that this thornless cactus would become the great food of the arid region, for all kinds of stock relish it and fatten quickly. About 200 tons can be grown per acre, an extraordinary output compared with other kinds of feed. The development of the high nutrition is being assiduously pursued by Mr. Burbank, and the grazing men will soon have some important news from the wizard.

The congress adopted a resolution declaring that there should be no thought of making a profit for the government through the sale of timber or granting of grazing privileges. Bona fide miners, stockmen and farmers should be only charged a rate for such privileges which would meet the government expenses.

### ONLY ONE FLEET.

Roosevelt Does Not Propose New One for Atlantic.

Washington, Sept. 6.—It is authoritatively stated that the Navy department has decided that it will not consider the creating of two battleship fleets. Nor does Secretary McCall, nor even the general board, which is supposed to represent the extreme views in naval development, favor either the division of the present magnificent fleet under Admiral Evans' command or the creation of another fleet in order that there may be a formidable American navy in both oceans—the Atlantic and Pacific.

On the contrary, it is regarded at the Navy department as better policy to maintain one perfectly equipped, well drilled fleet, free to move at will to any part of the globe at short notice, and the present plans contemplate the increase of the strength of the existing Atlantic fleet from 18 to 28 battleships. This will afford a command as large as can be properly directed by any one officer, and it will mean about mark the capacity of ports and dry docks in any particular section of the world.

So it is asserted positively at the department that there is not the least intention of keeping the battleships which will go to the Pacific permanently in those waters. That fleet, it is added, will surely return to the Atlantic seaboard after it has fulfilled its mission and demonstrated the feasibility of transiting such a vast naval force between oceans.

### Antwerp Strike is Serious.

Antwerp, Sept. 6.—Militia controlled the situation here today, though the rioters attacked a number of freight cars in which strikebreakers were riding. About 3,000 of the locked out laborers, porters and men in similar trades, who struck in sympathy with the locked out laborers, held a meeting during the day and adopted a resolution setting forth that they were not responsible for yesterday's disorders. Twenty rioters were wounded last night by the sabers or revolvers of the police in dispersing them.

### Cannon to Help Alaska.

Fairbanks, Alaska, Sept. 6.—Congressman William Sulzer, of New York, predicts that Alaska will be a territory before 1909 is ended. In an interview Congressman Sulzer said that he has obtained the absolute promise of the speaker of the house of representatives and some of the members of the committee on territories that the Alaska territorial bill will be enacted upon early in the next session of congress, which convenes in December. He is certain that the bill will pass and Alaska will get the rank of territory.

### Try to Kill Grand Duke.

Berlin, Sept. 6.—The Prussian railroad administration has ordered a reward for the discovery of the persons who wrecked the St. Petersburg-Berlin express near Berlin shortly before midnight, resulting in 11 persons being injured. Presumably it was the work of anarchists or Russian revolutionists, who hoped to kill a member of the imperial family who was said to have been on the train. The train was derailed and several cars telescoped.

### Would Use Bears as Dogs.

Copenhagen, Sept. 6.—Captain Amundsen, who in 1905 concluded the navigation of the northwest passage, is making plans for a larger expedition to the polar regions. He is credited with the intention of using polar bears in the same manner as dogs are used now.

## INDORSE ROOSEVELT

Irrigation Congress Approves of President's Course.

### PRESERVE CALIFORNIA BIG TREES

Also Ask That Grazing Charges on Reserves Be Reduced to Actual Cost.

Sacramento, Cal., Sept. 7.—After four days of addresses and discussions, the Fifteenth National Irrigation congress yesterday took up the big work of the gathering, when the report of the committee on resolutions was submitted by its chairman, ex-Governor George C. Pardee.

There is an indorsement of the policy of President Roosevelt and his administration in connection with the policy of reclamation, irrigation, forest preservation and conservation of resources. The departments that have the big work in hand are indorsed. There is a recommendation that the government only charge enough for timber cut from forest reserves to pay for maintenance of the forest service. Congress is asked to pass a law providing for the preservation of the Calaveras big trees by the exchange of other timber land for them.

The irrigation congress is asked to make every effort to have the seventeenth session of the congress held in Washington at the same time the National congress is in session, and provide for a committee of five to promote the matter. Protection is also asked for the beet sugar industry and also for the work of irrigation, reclamation, preservation and conservation.

The only resolution objecting to administration ideas is one protesting against further enactment of legislation favoring Philippine sugar to the injury of the beet sugar industry of America. Not an objection was made as the resolutions were read and hearty applause followed.

There was a spirited discussion on an amendment which Judge Raker, of Modoc county, California, sought to have added. This was made a special order for today. Judge Raker's amendment asked for the removal of the duty on lumber coming into this country.

Today's session which is to mark the close of the congress, promises lively developments.

### STRIKING OPERATORS SUED.

Refuse to Pay Bill of Postal Telegraph Company.

Chicago, Sept. 7.—A new phase in the strike of the commercial telegraphers developed today when the Postal Telegraph company began suit against the union for the recovery of a debt of \$129.39. The bill is for messages sent by the union during the month of August. Payment was refused by officers of the union on the ground that the company had failed to send some of the messages.

One telegram sent to Hot Springs after the strike began was not delivered, according to the officers of the union. When the regular month's bill was presented Thursday the collector was asked to furnish proof that the messages had been sent. The company decided it would furnish the proof in the Municipal court September 11, on which date the suit will be heard.

### Classify Postal Clerks.

Chicago, Sept. 7.—Thirty days' vacation at full pay for all clerks and carriers in the post office service and a classification of the service above the \$1,200 grade, the present limit, has been adopted as the policy of the Post office department, and will be urged by the postmaster general at the coming session of congress. Frank H. Hitchcock, first assistant postmaster general, accompanied by R. E. Hoch, private secretary of the postmaster general, was in Chicago tonight and said that the department has been committed to such policy.

### Fears Hughes' Big Stick.

New York, Sept. 7.—Directors of the Interborough Metropolitan, the holding corporation of many traction companies in New York City, including surface, elevated and subway, decided today to pass the regular quarterly dividend on its preferred stock. Previous quarterly dividends have been 1 1/2 per cent, but the directors decided to withhold this one until the investigation of the affairs of this company by the Public Service commission, which is now in progress, is concluded, as the money may be needed.

### Board of Health Men Resign.

San Francisco, Sept. 7.—Dr. Jules Simon, president of the local board of health, and Dr. Power, a member of the board, tendered their resignations today to Mayor Taylor. The mayor, in speaking of the matter tonight, said that he expected other members of the board would resign, and that in that event the appointment of an entirely new board would devolve upon him. It is said that the resignations grew out of lack of harmony among the health officers in the manner of handling the local bubonic plague cases.

### Arrested for Wire-Tapping.

Chicago, Sept. 7.—George S. Birdsell, a member of the Commercial Telegraphers' union, was arrested today on a warrant charging him with maliciously tampering with Western Union telegraph wire in the suburb of Mayfield on August 22. Birdsell admitted that he disconnected two of the company's lines, but declared he had been instructed to do so by a wire chief of the Western Union, and therefore could not be punished.

### More Indictments Come.

Pittsburg, Sept. 7.—Attorney Palmer Chambers, who has had charge of the collection of the evidence for the Voters' Civic league in the tax receipt frauds, announced today that there would be 200 additional indictments drawn in these cases. He said that these will include men as prominent as those already indicted.

## JAPANESE SEIZE ISLAND.

May Establish Naval Base at Gate of Philippines.

Washington, Sept. 4.—News from Yokohama that Japanese "explorers" had occupied and hoisted the national flag over the island of Pratas, near the Philippines, attracted much attention here because by this act has been added to Japanese territory an island within 120 miles of the Philippines, which would furnish an admirable naval base, Japanese possessions are brought almost within the archipelago, because Pratas island is less than 60 miles north of the twentieth parallel, which was the international boundary of the former Spanish dominion as defined in the treaty of Paris.

Pratas island, in connection with the excellent anchorage afforded by Pratas reef, would be very serviceable to the Japanese, should their navy operate in the waters adjacent to the Philippines. The reef, the northeast point of which is about eleven miles from the island, is a wind barrier of circular form, enclosing a lagoon with water of from five to ten fathoms. The reef is about 40 miles in circumference and between one and two miles in breadth. There are two channels leading into the lagoon, one on either side of Pratas island. There are several good anchorages in from ten to twenty fathoms of water, the position abreast of the reef channel being well adapted for naval purposes.

The War and Navy department officials say they have no official information about this new acquisition of the Japanese nation.

### POSTPONES ALTON INQUIRY.

Judge Landis Adjourns Grand Jury Till Immunity Claim is Settled.