

REVENUE PRODUCER

Committee Proposes Check Stamp Tax.

SUGAR DEBATE OPENED

Rest and Caffery Are for the Opposite-Original Senate Committee Amendments Were Withdrawn.

Washington, June 12.—The long-debate on the sugar schedule of the bill came on abruptly at 1 o'clock, after the senate had discussed the cereals in the agricultural bill. Jones of Arkansas opened the debate on this subject, answering the statement on the sugar schedule as a whole.

Vest severely criticized the bill, and argued that the rates further tribute to its vast revenue. Caffery of Louisiana also opposed the bill, and argued that the schedule as a whole.

Committee Amendments.

Washington, June 12.—The Republican members of the finance committee withdrew the amendments for a tax on beer and for a tax on revenue is giving the considerable concern. If there is a withdrawal of the increase, the bill would not meet the revenue producer. For this it has been practically determined to make a bank check stamp tax.

The committee has agreed upon a number of amendments to the bill, the most important of them relating to fish. The bill provides for a tax on fish, the present rate is 2 cents per pound, the original finance rate of 2 cents.

PANNER IS MISSING.

Disappearance of the President of the Forest Grove Bank.

Forest Grove, Or., June 14.—The Forest Grove bank closed its doors today, because of an order to that effect by Cashier F. T. Kane. Kane, the president of the bank, came in a registered letter from Portland, in which he also had an assignment to S. and A. Hinman, made by Mr. Kane for the benefit of all his creditors.

Mr. Panner said that he had reached the point where he feared to go on with his business, as he did not feel that he was able to stand the mental strain that he intended to go off among his creditors, and if he got well, he would return, if not, he would die.

Mr. Panner was considered one of the wealthiest men in the county, and he had plenty to pay all his debts. There does not seem to be any reason why any one should have claims against him. He had for the last few years been in the habit of making an inventory of his real estate, and this is complete, it will show what his liabilities and assets are.

Mr. Panner did a large real estate business, and enjoyed the success. He was at the front of the ventures of a public nature, and he who built recently a telephone line from here to Forest Grove.

Prisoner Rogers Drowned.

Forest Grove, June 14.—Captain Rogers, of the steamship Santa Rosa, was killed while off the entrance to the bay yesterday. A. K. Rogers, a passenger, jumped overboard and was drowned. Rogers was for some time the purser of the steamship Santa Rosa.

He had been ill for some time, and it was thought he had been temporarily insane at the time of his tragic death. He leaves a widow and one child.

MURDER THE CHARGE.

Bates Soper, Alias Homer Lee, Arrested in Ashland.

Ashland, Or., June 14.—S. E. Lowe, of an Eastern detective agency, left here on this evening's train for Portland, en route eastward, with Bates Soper, alias Homer Lee, arrested by him near Ashland late last evening on a requisition from the governor of Missouri, on a charge of murder in the first degree.

It is alleged that six years ago last April Soper murdered his wife and two children, at Archie, Cass county, in Missouri, by deliberately chopping them to pieces with a hand ax.

Soper, according to his own story, came away from Missouri in 1891, and was over in Washington two months. He then came to Oregon, and lived in the Willamette valley, above Oregon City, for a year and a half. He then went to Portland, he says, and lived there four years, being known as Sandy Soper, and having employment most of the time with the Pullman Car Company in cleaning and such work in the railroad yards. He was married in Portland, and his wife is there now, though he refused to give her address.

When Soper left Portland, it is claimed he had a 2-year-old child with him, and it is suspected that he made way with this child, too, after leaving Portland. Soper left Portland last April, and passed through here to Sissou, where he remained a week, and then came back to Ashland, April 28, where he has been working since in farming and orchard work. He had leased an orchard tract here, and, at the time of his arrest, was working on the Owen farm, south of town. Those who have known him say that he was an exceedingly quiet and inoffensive man, and was an unusually good worker. He was known here as Homer Lee.

When arrested he did not deny being Bates Soper, the man wanted, though he does not admit the crime charged against him.

Lowe, the young detective who captured him, claims to have spent a year and a half in searching for Soper, and to have been on the case off and on for six years, locating his man in Portland last December. He was not entirely satisfied, so returned for further instructions, to come back and follow his trail from Portland this way. He claims to have spent months in following a clew at Cripple Creek, and then returned East with the wrong man.

CANNON BLOWN TO ATOMS.

Explosion of a Gun Cotton Shell at the Indian Head Proving Grounds.

Washington, June 14.—The state of Maryland trembled last evening as the result of an explosion of 330 pounds of gun cotton at the government proving grounds at Indian Head. A 12-inch breech-loading rifle weighing 101,000 pounds and worth \$25,000, was blown to pieces. The armor-covered "bomb-proof" in which the spectators take refuge while tests are made was wrecked and a dozen naval officers and ordnance experts narrowly escaped with their lives.

The final test was being made of a gun cotton shell invented by a Chicago man, and through some unaccountable accident the shell exploded in the gun, wrecking the monster and its carriage and throwing some of the pieces more than a mile down the Potomac.

Colonel O'Neill, the chief of ordnance for the navy, and several United States naval officers and naval attaches from the various foreign legations had fortunately taken refuge on a navy-yard tug about a mile from shore. Lieutenant Anderson, who had been directed to fire the gun by electricity when the signal was given from the tug, had gone behind a big earth bank or "butt" about 300 yards from the gun. He and other spectators were unhurt, though a massive piece of the gun, weighing many tons, flew through the air with frightful velocity and struck the water within 100 feet of the tug.

If the spectators had gone into the "bomb-proof," as they usually do, when such tests are made, they would all have been killed, for a big piece of steel struck it and ripped through the 12-inch armor as if it had been so much paper. A great hole was torn in the ground where the gun stood and the buildings at the proving grounds were badly shaken. Not a particle of the massive gun or its carriage remained.

This was the largest charge of gun cotton ever fired or attempted to be fired from a powder gun. The government paid about \$25,000 for the gun blown up, and it was built especially for these tests. A shell shot from this gun was expected to perforate 21 inches of steel at a distance of 1,500 yards and to travel from six to ten miles before losing its momentum.

A Cyclone in Iowa.

Mason City, Ia., June 14.—At 6:50 tonight a cyclone struck northwest of Lyle, Iowa, taking a southeasterly course. Several people are reported killed and injured. The cyclone tore up houses and other buildings in its path, and the territory is now bare. The path of the storm was about half a mile in width. All telegraph lines north are down, and box-cars on sidings were crushed into kindling.

A cyclone passed over the town of Kandiyohi, Wilmar county, Minn., and entirely demolished the buildings on the farm of John Berquist.

A. W. Nickerson Accidentally Killed.

Spokane, June 14.—Alfred W. Nickerson, an old resident of this city, and formerly manager of the Chatterbox Lumber Company, was killed today by the collapsing of the second floor of a building at Second and Mill streets. The building was partly destroyed by fire several weeks ago. Nickerson and his partner had bought it, and were tearing it down for the materials. Two other men were near Nickerson. Charlie Ericsson was slightly injured.

AN UPRISING IN INDIA.

A Number of Officers Reported Killed by the Natives.

Bombay, June 14.—A dispatch from Simla announces serious trouble on the northern frontier, and the massacre of a number of British officers and native soldiers in the government employ.

From particulars obtainable it seems that two guns belonging to the Bombay mounted battery, escorted by 300 men belonging to the First regiment of Sikhs and the First Punjab infantry, were treacherously attacked in Tochi valley by a large force of hostile natives. The first reports said Colonel Bunny, two officers and 26 privates had been killed, and three officers and 24 men injured. Indications are that the affair is more than a conflict with warlike natives, and that the notorious Mullah of Piewindah is at the bottom of the trouble.

The latest advices, however, are that a political officer, Mr. Gee, was visiting Shirani with an escort of troops, when he was attacked at Manza by superior forces. The British troops were compelled to retreat and were followed several miles by overwhelming numbers of the enemy. The fighting was desperate. All the British officers were severely wounded. Captain Browne, of the First Sikhs, son of the late Sir James Browne, and Lieutenant Crookshank, of the royal artillery, were killed and Surgeon Higginson, Lieutenant Higginson, of the First Sikhs, and Lieutenant Seaton Browne, of the Punjab infantry were wounded.

A second dispatch says Colonel Gray has taken command of the British troops, and it is inferred that Colonel Bunny is among the dead, as at first announced.

Tochi valley lies north of Gonnala, and on the road to Ghazni and Waziristan. It has been controlled by the British since the elimination of the Hindoo-Afghan frontier, but the tribes have always been turbulent. The mullah of Piewindah is a notorious fanatic priest, and has always been hostile to the British.

PROPOSED FORTIFICATIONS

Contractors Looking Over the Site at Marrowstone Point.

Port Townsend, Wash., June 14.—The advertisement by the government for bids to prepare the site for the erection of Puget sound fortifications here has brought to inspect the site contractors from all over Washington, Oregon and California. Marrowstone point is a rough steep, high promontory, and the first work will necessarily be the providing of a source of fresh water. Prospective contractors think it will be necessary to dig a well 80 to 100 feet deep to obtain it. The contract for the Marrowstone point work will be let June 30. Condemnation proceedings for title to 1,000 acres for the fortification site on Point Wilson are under way and bids for contracts for preparing the site will appear in a short time. Fifteen hundred acres of land are included in the Point Wilson fortification reserve. The advertisement for bids stipulates that work must begin within 10 days after the contract is awarded.

CHEYENNE WAR SCARE OVER.

Yellow Hair and Sam Crow Arrested and White Bull Surrendered.

Denver, Colo., June 14.—A special to the Rocky Mountain News from Miles City, Mont., says: Sheriff Gibbs and Stock Inspector Smith reached this city this evening, having in custody Yellow Hair and Sam Crow, the two Cheyenne Indians implicated in the Hoover murder. Agent Stone called the Indians all in and the arrests were made by the Sheriff, no resistance being offered. Chief White Bull is still at liberty, but can be arrested at any time, having expressed himself as willing to appear in court when wanted. The sheriff did not think it advisable to arrest him until matters had subsided a little.

Washington, June 14.—A telegram received at the war department from headquarters at St. Paul states that all is now quiet among the Indians in Southern Montana, and that it is safe to withdraw the troops sent from Forts Custer and Keogh, which will be done.

May Search the Elbe.

Milwaukee, June 14.—If the wrecking company which has discovered the long-lost Pewabic is successful with its new diving apparatus in this venture, a contract will be closed with the North German Lloyd to recover the ocean steamer Elbe and its treasure of \$500,000 in gold.

The Elbe lies in 250 feet of water, a depth at which diving bells heretofore constructed have been useless, and from observations and soundings taken, is in good condition. The Elbe was sunk in collision in the North sea on the night of January 30, 1895, and 300 lives were lost. The officers of the wrecking company have been negotiating with the German Lloyd Company for some months and the result of the Pewabic will decide the outcome.

Death on the Waves.

San Francisco, June 14.—The brig Geneva, which sailed from Sydney on March 23, has arrived. Captain Paulson reports that First Officer W. E. Laideck had been lost overboard, and that one of the sailors had been crippled on the voyage.

Boston, June 14.—After a day of good weather following the excessive rains of Wednesday and Thursday, the reports from the northern, eastern and central sections of New England tonight show flooded rivers and lakes. The two days' record will include nearly a dozen lives lost and great damage to railroad and mill property, aggregating at least \$500,000, distributed over a small territory. Its equal in June has not been known for many years.

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

A Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

News Gathered in All the Towns of Our Neighboring States—Improvement Noted in All Industries—Oregon.

A McKay creek ranch, shipped 430 sheep from Pendleton to Seattle recently. He received 2 cents a pound for the sheep, and they averaged 90 pounds.

Fishermen along the river at The Dalles report a good many salmon in the river, and if the water continues falling expect a large catch soon.

The Pioneer Mill Company, of Island City, in Union county, has received orders for 5,000 sacks or ten carloads of flour for direct shipment to China.

Nineteen double-decked cars went out of The Dalles recently loaded with sheep. They go to the new ranges in North Dakota, on the line of the Great Northern.

The firemen's tournament for volunteer firemen of Eastern Oregon and Southwestern Washington, was held in Baker City last week and was largely attended.

The new postoffice in Salem is inspected by Chief Postal Inspector Munro and Inspector Thrall, and a favorable report is said to have been forwarded to Washington.

Wool is coming into the warehouses in The Dalles at the rate of about 250,000 pounds a day, and the warehouses are being rapidly filled, says the Times-Mountaineer.

The track at the coal mine, near Coquille, connecting the new opening with the main track, about 1,100 feet, is nearly completed. The work has been done rapidly, many citizens lending a helping hand and putting in several days of work. There were two or three pretty heavy cuts, but they were bravely tackled and hushed.

Superintendent Shields, of Astoria, had the new reservoir cleaned out, and when the water had nearly all been taken out of the big tank, the bottom was found to be filled with beautiful mountain trout, of all sizes and colors. Mr. Shields had all the fish carefully preserved, and will replace them in the tank after the water is turned in again, says the Astorian.

The Light & Water Company, of Hillsboro, has commenced a new tank that will have a capacity of 100,000 gallons. The tank on the tower in Hillsboro holds 70,000 gallons, and with the new tank the reserve supply will be 170,000 gallons, enough to keep four streams flowing for three and a half or four hours. The new tank will be set in the rear of the station and on top of the ground.

Washington. Good crops of gooseberries were raised on a number of ranches in Thurston county this year. The berries were all sold in the Sound markets.

The lieu-land settlers in Eastern Washington are preparing to organize to fight the Northern Pacific Railroad Company for titles to their lands.

The plat of township 24 north, range 11 west, has been filed in the Olympia land office and applications for land in this township are now being received.

There are about 1,000 shingle boats in the Tootle river, between the mouth and Tower, in Cowlitz county. The river is low, and the drivers are having a hard time getting the bolts out.

A number of wheat sacks have been stolen from the warehouses in Alto, Walla Walla county, lately. "In one night more than 2,000 sacks were stolen. There is no clew to the thieves.

The commissioners of Chehalis county have granted a petition for a six-foot right-of-way from Aberdeen to Montesano, along the old country road, for a bicycle path. The road is to be built by private subscription, and a portion of the necessary funds has already been collected.

The governor and secretary of state have issued a deed to the United States government, conveying the tidelands fronting the Magnolia bluff property, at Seattle, for a military site. It is the first deed of the kind issued under the law passed in 1880 by the state of Washington.

The Medical Lake Granite Company has secured the contract for supplying the granite for the army post at Spokane, and has put on a large force of cutters, blasters and general quarrymen, all of whom are busy. It is estimated that the filling of the contract will require three months of steady work.

The Indians at Kettle Falls claim the white men's fishwheels are robbing them of their rights, as no salmon have found their way up the river for three years—at least not enough to give even "one fish to one Indian," and it was reported in the spring that Indians were suffering on the reservation for want of food. This was among those who have not yet learned to raise enough to last through winter, and formerly depended upon dried salmon.

The money order business at Olympia has increased \$4,000 a month, because of the refusal of the secretary of state and commissioner of public lands to accept bank checks in payment of remittances to their departments.

Registration for the school election closed in Whatcom with 1,358 names on the books, about 500 being women. Evidently there are several hundred new voters who are not registered, as the male registration last year was about 1,400.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

There was not much trade in wheat last week but prices were firmer and the close was 2 cents higher than the preceding Saturday. It is safe to say that with the statistical situation so strong as at present, the volume of general trade never was lighter. Speculation is confined to professional traders who have been educated up to see nothing but the short side. However, there is another side to the market.

The Orange Judd Farmer makes an estimate of the prospective yield of winter and spring wheat, placing it at 515,000,000 bushels, somewhat lower than the former estimates from other sources. The real stimulus to the market at present is the unseasonable weather that has prevailed in the Northwest for the past two weeks, and if the wheat crop has recently been as badly damaged by frost as it is claimed, we will see a sharp advance as soon as this fact is fully determined. We are inclined to look for further advance under the prevailing conditions. Receipts of wheat for eastern shipment at Duluth have been light, most of the spring now going to Minneapolis where there is an extraordinary milling demand. Beerbohm's report estimated the world's shipments for the week at only 5,600,000 bushels. The exports from both coasts of North America were reported at 1,890,000 bushels, compared with 2,620,000 bushels last week, and 2,922,000 bushels the corresponding week of last year. The amount on passage to importing countries decreased in the seven days 1,100,000 bushels. The American visible supply decreased 1,764,000 bushels and now totals 22,686,000 bushels. A year ago the visible decreased only 6730,00 bushels, and totaled 494,800,000 bushels.

The long expected advance in stocks is now under full headway, and values have advanced steadily all week, with scarcely any reaction to speak of.

Portland Markets.

Flour—Portland, Salem, Cascadia and Dayton, \$3.75; Benton county and White Lily, \$3.75; graham, \$3.40; superfine, \$2.60 per barrel.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 74@75c; Valley, 76c per bushel.

Oats—Choice white, 38@40c per bushel; choice gray, 37@39c.

Hay—Timothy, \$13.00@14.00 per ton; clover, \$11.50@12.50; wheat and oat, \$10.00@11.00 per ton.

Barley—Feed barley, \$16.50 per ton; brewing, \$18@19.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$14.50, shorts, \$16.50; middlings, \$23.50.

Butter—Creamery, 30c; dairy, 20@25c; store, 17@30c per roll.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 40@50c; Garnet Chilies, 55@65c; Early Rose, 35@40c per sack; sweets, \$2.75 per cwt for Merced; new potatoes, 1@1 1/2c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@3.25; geese, \$4.00@5.00; turkeys, live, 10c; ducks, \$2.50@3.50 per dozen.

Eggs—Oregon, 11@12c per dozen. Cheese—Oregon, 11 1/2c; Young America, 12 1/2c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 6@8c.

Hops—7c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50; cows, \$2.50@3.00; dressed beef, 5@6 1/2c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 2 1/2c; dressed mutton, 4 1/2@5c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice, heavy, \$4.00@4.50; light and feeders, \$2.50@3.00; dressed \$3.00@5.50 per cwt.

Veal—Large, 3 1/2@4c; small, 4 1/2@5c per pound.

Seattle Markets.

Wheat—Chicken feed, \$26 per ton.

Oats—Choice, \$21@22 per ton.

Flour—(Jobbing)—Patent excellent, \$4.60; Novelty A, \$4.30; California brands, \$4.75; Dakota, \$5.65; patent, \$6.40.

Barley—Rolled or ground, \$20 per ton; whole, \$19.

Corn—Whole, \$20 per ton; cracked, \$20; feed meal, \$20.

THE ADMINISTRATION

WANTS INFORMATION BEFORE ACTION IS TAKEN.

Good Republican Organization in Senate. While Democrats Are Just the Opposite—Responsibility of Any Delay in Bill Will Lie With Democrats.

E. F. PARSONS, Special Correspondent.

Washington, D. C.—Much interest is felt here in the course of the house of representatives upon the senate resolution recognizing the Cubans as belligerents. Whatever delay occurs in this matter will be because the administration is not yet ready to act in the matter. It is absolutely necessary that a new administration, which found on coming into power its only source of information those created by a party adverse to its interests and methods, should have time not only to study the situation, but to study it through men selected by itself. Any step looking to the recognition of the Cubans, either as belligerents or as an independent nation, must be a grave one, and is likely to bring about serious complications with one or more European nations. It is easy for men who have not this responsibility upon their shoulders to insist upon immediate action and to talk glibly about the ability of the United States to whip any nation, but the man who recognizes that his action, unless carefully considered, is likely to plunge nations into war, sacrifice not alone millions of money but perhaps thousands of lives, must feel that the responsibility is a very grave one. Human life, whether in Cuba or in the United States or upon the high seas is sacred, and a president who could or would take action likely to create such complications as to endanger the lives of his own people or the people of other nations, without the most careful consideration, would be unworthy of the confidence of his country.

The Tariff Bill.

That the senate of the United States is not a Republican body everybody knows. That the ability of the Republicans to pass a tariff bill depends upon the strength of the protective sentiment among the Democrats and Populists is conceded. The Republicans are in the minority in the Senate. To pass the tariff bill they must either have the active support of one or more Democrats or one or more members of the Democratic and Populist parties must omit to vote against it. There is reason to believe that the bill will receive the support of at least one Democrat and probably two Populists, if Senator Kyle is to be classed as a Populist. He is put down in the Congressional Directory as an Independent. Senator Jones, of Nevada, who has been classed as a Populist for the past two years, will, it is understood, support the bill, and it is probable that Senator Kyle will do so, or at least not vote against it. Senator McEnery, of Louisiana, Democrat, has indicated clearly his intention to support a protective tariff. The Republicans, in their caucus, determined to put aside personal preferences in regard to the various items of the bill, each man submitting his proposed amendments to the finance committee, and afterwards, if necessary, to the caucus committee, upon this subject.

They further agreed, much as they might desire to enter upon a general discussion of the tariff, to forego that undertaking for the sake of economy of time, and to press at every turn for active, energetic work upon the schedules of the bill, with the purpose of getting final action upon it at the earliest possible moment. Not a speech, aside from the explanation which Senator Aldrich offered in the opening day of the debate, is made by the Republicans, other than the brief responses made necessary in reply to the attacks which the Democrats make upon the schedules of the bill, as the discussion progresses. Thus the public may understand that for the delay in the passage of the bill through the senate, the responsibility rests with the Democratic party, who recognize the fact that every day's delay is a postponement of business activity and prosperity, and that by this process only are they able to create the dissatisfaction which they hope may result to their advantage in the coming elections.

One Hundred Millions Seek Investment.

The people who have been insisting that the United States needs "more money" are puzzled to know how to explain the fact that a great railway of this country recently refunded more than 100 million dollars of bonds at three and a half per cent interest, and found plenty of money to take them at that price. If the country really needed more money for general business purposes, that which it has would not be looking for investment to three and a half per cent per annum.

No Half-Way Policy.

Peru's abandonment of the silver standard proves to be of the most radical type. Detailed statements of her action on this subject which have reached Washington show that not only does she make gold the standard of value but the act goes so far as to prohibit the importation of silver coin. Even the product of her own mints which have gone out of the country cannot be returned, except at one port, where it must be melted into bars.

The gold production continues to increase both in the regions where mines were in operation last year and through the development of new gold fields. Mr. Otis S. Gage, formerly of Washington, D. C., who has spent the past two years in Ecuador, reports the gold fields of that country "surpassing in richness and extent the famous mines of South Africa." Reports from Mexico represent that new and very rich gold fields are being developed there, advice from Texas indicates that gold is being

San Francisco Markets.

Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 50@75c; Early Rose, 60@70c; River Burbanks, 50@65c; sweets, \$1.25 per cwt.

Onions—New, 35@50c.

Eggs—Ranch, 12@14c per dozen.