

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.

An explosion in a Japanese arsenal resulted in the killing or wounding of 100 persons.

Hyde and Alexander have both resigned from office in the Equitable Life Assurance society.

Many Chicago striking teamsters are endeavoring to make terms with their employers for reinstatement.

It has been decided that the Russian government must pay for the British steamer St. Kilda, which was sunk.

F. H. Harroden, of Portland, has been appointed Northwest purchasing agent for the Panama Canal Commission.

American shipyards have been assured that they will get their share of contracts for rebuilding the Russian navy.

The Russian war party still opposes peace and Linievich pleads for another battle, saying he has victory in his grasp.

The president has removed Clarence Meizer, deputy collector of internal revenue at Philadelphia, for complicity in election frauds.

In the recent naval battle Admiral Togo narrowly escaped death, a shell striking on the bridge beside him, and a splinter tearing away a part of his trousers leg.

The peace conference will meet in August.

Pope Pius has advised Catholics to go into politics.

France and Germany have agreed to a conference on Morocco.

Police stopped the president's chauffeur for exceeding the speed limit.

Cossacks have killed many wounded Japanese in Red Cross hospitals.

Pittsburg steel workers threaten to strike. Five thousand men are involved.

The Japanese are forcing the Russians outposts to retreat by flanking movements.

The president is hastening peace negotiations to prevent another big battle if possible.

Lightning struck a tank at Lima, Ohio, containing 33,000,000 barrels of oil. The loss is placed at \$200,000.

The postmaster general and Minister Obaldia, of Panama, have signed a postal treaty between the two countries.

The Chinese government has decorated John Barrett, minister to Colombia, for his services with the Chinese exhibit at the St. Louis fair.

It is estimated that the influx of immigrants has reduced to the verge of destitution 100,000 English speaking families on the New York East Side.

Rioting by Chicago teamsters has again caused trouble.

Railway officials say they can run trains from New York to Chicago in 14 hours.

Russia has tried to change the peace conference to The Hague, but Japan would not consent.

Germany and France have both explained their positions to Roosevelt and seek his support.

Mayor Dunne, of Chicago, will ask the city council to construct 100 miles of street railway lines to be operated by the city.

The Japanese have successfully floated two Russian battleships sunk at Port Arthur and work is almost complete to save a third.

Dowie has practically completed arrangements for the purchase of 1,000,000 acres of land in Mexico, and a tropical Zion City is to be established.

It would now seem that a prince of the house of Bernadotte will be selected to rule Norway, King Oscar not being opposed to such an arrangement.

England has just added two new battleships to her navy.

General Maximo Gomez, the idol of the Cuban populace, and the one man above all others to whom the little island republic owes its existence, is dead. He was 74 years old.

The Franco-German dispute about Morocco nears a crisis.

General Maximo Gomez is very low and may die at any time.

Norway is likely to become a republic, as no one desirable for a king is willing to accept.

Governor Brady, of Alaska, wants to attend the Lewis and Clark fair, but Secretary Hitchcock has ordered him to remain at his post for the present, as he may be needed.

The Federal grand jury at Chicago has turned in a number of indictments against beef trust officials, but particulars will not be given out until the jury has finished its work.

President Roosevelt is striving to prevent another big battle in Manchuria before peace is concluded.

JUDGE FACES DISGRACE.

New York Legislature Will Remove Supreme Justice Hooker.

New York, June 20.—For the first time in its history, the legislature of New York will meet in special session this summer for the purpose of formally expelling a justice of the Supreme court.

The last time that this power of the legislature was invoked was during the exposures following Tweed's downfall, when three Supreme court justices who had worked hand in hand with the old Tammany boss, were stripped of their judicial emine. But that was at a regular session.

The machinery of the law is now being invoked by a Republican governor to enable a legislature overwhelmingly Republican in both branches to retire a Republican judge.

The person who will be removed is Warren B. Hooker, long a congressman and longer still an influential Republican politician in the upper section of the state. There is not a doubt in the world but that he will be put out, and every big Republican in the state has begged and implored him to resign, but he is stubborn.

New York state rewards its judicial officers more liberally than any other section of the Union. In New York city a justice of the Supreme court receives \$17,500 a year for 14 years, with a court day lasting from 11 to 1, and 2 to 3:30 or 4, together with nearly four months' vacation in summer. And the United States Supreme court, the highest judicial tribunal in the land, only pays \$10,000. Hooker is an "up-state judge," but was transferred here by the governor soon after he ascended the bench, and, in consequence, is paid as highly as the men who were elected by the city voters.

The charges against Hooker are many, and are involved in the case against Machan, the celebrated, or rather, notorious, postal official. Hooker's young nephew wanted money to go through college. Hooker had him appointed a clerk in a post-office. He never did any work, but he drew the salary.

A man in the district owed Mrs. Hooker, wife of the judge, \$2,500. He was promptly appointed a letter carrier, and each month turned over his check to Mrs. Hooker. This man admitted on the stand that he never did any work for the government and never expected to. He simply adopted an easy way, suggested to him, to pay off a bill.

A building owned by the judge was leased by the government for a post-office at what was admittedly an exorbitant rental. Despite this the amount was twice raised at intervals of a few months.

SPY OUT TRADE CONDITIONS.

Government Sends Out Five Special Agents to Foreign Countries.

Washington, June 20.—The department of Commerce and Labor has completed preparations for sending five special agents abroad to investigate trade conditions, with the object of promoting the foreign commerce of the United States. The five agents selected are: Professor Lincoln Hutchinson, University of California; Charles M. Pepper; Harry R. Burrill; Raymond F. Crist and Dr. Edward Bedloe.

As the appropriation is only \$30,000, it was decided to limit the several fields of investigation in order that the best results may be obtained for presentation to congress early in the approaching session. Messrs. Burrill and Crist will go to the Orient. Professor Hutchinson will go to South America, and has already entered upon his work. He will visit all the ports of the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of that continent.

Mr. Pepper will go to Canada, and subsequently to Mexico, extending his investigations to the Central American countries. Dr. Bedloe will be sent to the West Indies, Venezuela, British, Dutch and French Guiana. It is expected that the investigation will be completed in the field by the close of the present year, and that all of the agents will have their final reports ready for congress in January.

Millions From Alaska.

Seattle, June 20.—According to a cablegram received by James D. Hoge, \$2,000,000 in gold is stored in his bank of Nome awaiting shipment on the fleet that will soon start back for this port. Another \$1,000,000 is held by other banks. The Scandinavian-American bank has been notified that \$1,000,000 in gold is on its way to that institution. The Union Trust & Savings bank has \$500,000 to come. The Wild Goose mining company, of San Francisco, has a large amount, besides much for local institutions.

Swedish Prince for the Throne.

Stockholm, June 20.—It is openly asserted that the plan to have a Swedish prince ascend the throne of Norway has been perfected, and that it will be brought before the Riksdag soon. King Oscar, according to those who are cognizant of the plan, will protest at first, but will finally reluctantly consent. It is positive that one of the conditions to be expected will be that the Norwegian fortifications on the Swedish frontier be dismantled.

Fatal Explosion in Colliery.

Ekatereinoslav, Southern Russia, June 20.—Five hundred persons were killed in the explosion which occurred at the Ivan colliery at Khartsisk, belonging to the Russian Donetz company.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

SCHOOL LAND FRAUD.

State Will Hold Back Titles to Large Tracts in Oregon.

Salem—John De Laittre, a Minneapolis banker, appeared before the state land board last week to show himself and members of his family to be the innocent purchasers of 20,000 acres of state land sold to various persons in 1900 through the mediumship of H. H. Turner and A. T. Kelliber. The board was not entirely satisfied with the showing made and gave him until July 25 to submit further evidence. At that time the board will probably make known its policy regarding the issuance of deeds to holders of state land certificates which have been fraudulently obtained.

At the meeting of the board an order was also made which will result in a test mandamus suit being brought to determine whether an innocent purchaser of a land sale certificate is entitled to a deed, even though the certificate was fraudulently obtained. This order was made at the request of W. H. Holmes, who came before the board as the attorney for the unnamed client. He presented two certificates of sale, issued upon applications bearing the names of H. A. Wild and I. U. Girard, and sworn to before H. H. Turner, the notary public, who is supposed to be under indictment for his connection with state land transactions. The two certificates are from a large number which Mr. Holmes said are hypothecated in a Chicago bank.

KREBS MEETS WITH SUCCESS.

Hop Raisers are Signing 'Up for Big Pool for 1900.

Salem—President Krebs, of the Oregon Hopholders' association, has returned from St. Paul, in the north end of this county, where a meeting of growers was held. Mr. Krebs says that about 45 growers were present and that all signed agreements to transfer their 1905 crop of hops to a corporation of growers to be formed at Salem at some future date. Committees were appointed to secure similar agreements from those growers in the St. Paul district who were not present.

Mr. Krebs says that the movement for the organization of a growers' corporation is meeting with much greater success than he anticipated. In the Independence district, all but three growers have signed agreements to transfer their hops to the corporation. The enthusiasm with which the growers are taking up the project convinces Mr. Krebs that 95 per cent of the 1905 crop will be in the hands of the corporation.

The plan is to have the affairs of the corporation managed by a board of directors composed of growers elected from the various districts by the growers themselves.

Year of Growth at 'Varsity.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—The class that was graduated this year is not the largest class ever graduated by the University of Oregon, there being 31 members only, but the increase in attendance and the general character of work done is such as caused every alumni to approve of the regime of President P. L. Campbell. One of the greatest changes made in the university during the past year was the adoption of the partially free elective system. That change was made as a result of the firm growth of state high schools, thus making it possible for the university not only to abolish the preparatory department, but also to place the student upon his own responsibility in choosing a course of study.

One Bar Made Easier.

Independence.—The government dredger in the river below here has completed its work on the bar and will go on down the river to smaller obstructions. The work is expected to be completed by July 1. No work will be done above this point this year. A channel 35 feet wide at the bottom and 45 at the top is being cut. This will give four feet of water during low water and will enable the boats to make the run between Salem and this place throughout the summer, which has not been possible heretofore.

Silverton Sawmill Sold.

Silverton.—The King sawmill, together with 700 acres of timber land, has been sold to William J. Swinson, of Minnesota, for a cash consideration of \$11,500. The 700 acres of land is said to be one of the best bodies of timber in this vicinity, averaging about 1,500,000 of first grade fir to each 40 acres. Mr. Swinson is an experienced millman and will continue to operate the mill after making some improvements.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 82@83c per bushel; bluestem, 88@89c; valley, 85c. Oats—No. 1 white, feed, \$30 per ton; gray, \$30. Hay—Timothy, \$14@16 per ton; clover, \$11@12; grain, \$11@12; cheat, \$11@12. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 19c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 17 1/4@21 1/4c per pound. Strawberries, \$1.25@1.50 per crate. Apples—Table, \$1.50@2.50 per box. Potatoes—Oregon, fancy, old, \$1.25@1.35; Oregon, new, \$1.50. Hops—Choice, 1904, 19@21c per pound. Wool—Eastern Oregon, best, 19@23c per pound; valley, 26@27c; mohair, choice, 31@32 1/2c.

TITLE CLAIMED BY STATE

Klamath County Land Good Now Only for Hay.

Salem—The state of Oregon has asserted title to 4,500 acres of land in the vicinity of Swan lake, Klamath county, and questions the right of a dozen settlers to acquire the land from the government under the homestead laws. In order to determine the rights of the state and the settlers, the government has assigned a special agent at Klamath Falls to go with State Land Agent Oswald West and ascertain the character of the land.

Though the state's claim is adverse to the settlers, there is no intention on the part of the state land board to oust the settlers from their homes. On the contrary, the assertion of the state's claim will be a protection to the settlers, for it will remove all doubt as to the validity of their title. If the investigation should result in a decision that the state's claim is good, all bona fide homestead entries will be given an opportunity to buy from the state at the minimum price of \$1 per acre.

There is room for dispute as to the character of the land. It is low and for a considerable part of the year is covered with water. Late in the summer the water recedes sufficiently to permit hay harvesting, and the settlers save a crop for winter feed. In many, and perhaps all instances, the settlers cannot live on the land all the year, for the reason that it overflows. If it is in fact swamp land, the settlers could never acquire valid title through their homestead entries, the experience of the Warner valley settlers being an illustration of the outcome of an effort of that kind. Some of the settlers realize the condition of their title and are desirous that the state press its claim in order that they may know whether they can secure the land from the government or not. If they cannot, the sooner they find it out the less will be their loss. If they can, the determination of that fact will leave them with indisputable titles.

In the case of the Warner valley lands the state sold the swamp lands to men other than the settlers, and litigation has thus far resulted adversely to the settlers. In this instance the state will settle the question of title before selling the land, and then, if it be decided that the state owns the land under the swamp land grant, will give bona fide homesteaders a chance to purchase.

HAY HARVEST IN LANE COUNTY.

Vetch Has Come Into Popular Favor and is Raised Generally.

Eugene.—Farmers in this county are nearly all in the midst of hay harvest, and for two weeks all energy will be directed towards putting in the hay for market or for winter use. The crop is the best that has been seen here for years. All kinds of grass have grown better than usual and on account of a shortage a year ago there is an increased acreage.

There is an immense amount of vetch, which has proven to be one of the best fodder crops ever introduced here, for the triple reason that it is very nourishing, yields a heavy crop and enriches rather than impoverishes the land. Its use has become general and nearly every farmer raises more or less of it.

Less grain will be cut for hay than usual, on account of the abundance of the purely hay crops.

Continue Normal School.

Pendleton.—At a meeting of the board of regents of the Eastern Oregon Normal school, held here, it was decided to continue the institution, regardless of state assistance. Funds will be solicited from private sources, and the board announces that over half of the amount needed has been promised. A committee consisting of President R. E. French, G. W. Probstel and P. A. Worthington, secretary of the board, was appointed to secure the funds necessary for the maintenance of the school.

No Warrants for Supplies.

Salem.—All advertisements for supplies for the state institutions will hereafter contain the provision that the supplies will be paid for with certificates of allowance, for which warrants will be issued when an appropriation becomes available. This provision will be inserted so that those who furnish supplies will know what they are to get, and cannot afterward say that they made their bids with the expectation of receiving warrants.

First Crop of Alfalfa Cut.

Pendleton.—F. B. Holbrook, manager of the Oregon Land & Water company, of Irrigon, was in the city last week attending the good roads convention. Mr. Holbrook says that the first crop of alfalfa in his vicinity has been cut and stacked, and that the second crop is already a foot high. Strawberries in that section are nearly gone, and black cap raspberries are on the wane, having been ripe for several weeks.

Grain Ready for Threshers.

Milton.—A number of farmers north and east of this place have binders at work binding their grain, which is almost ripe enough to thresh. While it may be bound before it is entirely ripe, the berries are perfectly formed, and while yet in the dough it ripens in the stack. The yield of grain being bound will be far above the average, as crop conditions have so far this year been ideal in this vicinity.

TRAINS COLLIDE.

Eighteen People Killed and Sixteen Others Badly Injured.

Baltimore, Md., June 19.—Eighteen persons are known to have been killed and a score more injured tonight in a train wreck on the Western Maryland railroad about a quarter of a mile from Patapoco, a small station between Westminster and Finksburg. Passenger train No. 5, westbound, was running at a very high rate of speed when at the point named it crashed into a double header freight running east. All three of the engines were reduced to scrap iron, two baggage and express cars smashed and a number of the freight cars splintered. The passenger coaches sustained little injury and almost without exception their occupants escaped with nothing worse than a bad shaking up.

The fatalities occurred among the crews of the engines and workmen employed by the railroad. Not being regular passengers they had boarded the baggage cars and engine. Those in the baggage cars were badly mangled and the crews of all three engines were killed outright.

The three coaches in the passenger train remained on the track and none of the passengers was seriously hurt, all but a few escaping with a bad shake-up, and bruises. As soon as word of the accident was received a special train with physicians was sent out from here and by 9 o'clock the injured were being conveyed to hospitals. The patients were distributed between City Hospital, St. Joseph's and others near the railroad.

"DON'T BE TOO HARD ON US."

Plea of Russian Papers to Japan—Some Suspect America.

St. Petersburg, June 19.—The press of all shades of opinion is discussing Japan's probable terms and declares with practical unanimity for a continuation of the war rather than the acceptance of humiliating conditions. In this the newspapers are upheld by public opinion, which is steering around to support of the war policy if Japan's terms prove too hard.

Only the Nashi Shism advises Russia that she need not balk at the payment of an indemnity, the cession of the Sakhalin islands, the renunciation of her right to keep warships in Far Eastern waters or the surrender of Vladivostok, but the paper holds that Russia must retain Northern Manchuria and the Vladivostok railroad.

The Bourse Gazette draws a gloomy picture of Russia's relations with France, Great Britain, Germany and Austria. The Novoe Vremya and the reactionary Svet sound notes against the United States. The Novoe Vremya reiterates that Russia's chief enemies in the Far East are not the Japanese, but the British and the Americans, on account of their commercial rivalry, while the Svet objects to Washington as the place of meeting of the plenipotentiaries, declaring that the atmosphere there is unfriendly, and asserting that Russia's representatives will be subjected to prejudicial influences in "the capitol of the enemy's ally."

BAD AIR IN THE SUBWAY.

Scientist States that Gases May Explode as in Mines.

New York, June 19.—Foulness of air in the subway has reached the stage when the fainting of women is of almost daily occurrence and the indications are that as the summer advances conditions will grow worse. Nicola Tesla makes a statement that indicates that the poisonous character of the subway air is not its most dangerous characteristic, but that it is really a violently explosive union of gases that may at any time cause such a catastrophe as is occasionally reported from deep mines. Tesla in his statement says in part:

"The danger to which I refer lies in the possibility of generating an explosive mixture by electrolytic decomposition and thermal dissociation of water through direct currents used in the operation of the cars. Such process might go on for hours and days without being noticed, and with currents of this kind it is scarcely practicable to avoid it altogether."

England Stands Ready.

London, June 19.—It is probable that the crisis that Germany is forcing upon the nations of Europe will soon assume a new phase. Every move thus far made by the kaiser has been aimed at France, although chiefly designed to damage British interests. The British government has not the slightest desire the shelter itself behind its more exposed neighbor. There is reason to believe that Lord Lansdowne will soon take occasion to make England's position clear and the direct issue.

Yellow Fever in Panama.

Panama, June 19.—The greatest excitement prevails here over the sudden increase in the number of cases of yellow fever which have been discovered. Residents of the city as well as the laborers of the isthmian canal are much alarmed over the spread of the disease that has been made recently. Samuel Davis, a former detective sergeant of New York, who was brought here by President Amador to reorganize the police force, died last night.

Big Pay for Wallace.

Panama, June 19.—It is reported that Chief Engineer G. F. Wallace, of the canal commission, who left here some time ago to go the United States, may not return. It is said he has been offered a position with a railway in the United States that will pay him \$60,000 a year.

VICTIMS OF HEAT

Torrid Weather in East Prostrates Many People.

TWELVE DEATHS ARE REPORTED

Dwellers in Cities Flee to Seashore for Their Lives—Children Among Victims.

New York, June 20.—Many prostrations and four deaths, the latter all of young children, accompanied the renewal of yesterday's torrid temperature, aggravated by a high degree of humidity in the early hours of today. At 12:30 P. M. the thermometer marked 88 degrees with every indication of a further rise, but soon afterwards relief came in the shape of a cool breeze from the sea, accompanied by a rapid fall in temperature and humidity, which continued steadily until tonight, when the air was almost too chilly for the comfort of the thousands who had fled to the seaside resorts to escape the heat of the morning. Nowhere in the city was the suffering so intense as in the East Side tenement section, where little preparation had been made for it. Ordinarily such days do not come until early in July. From hundreds of stuffy tenements, thousands of children swarmed into the street, many of them half clad and others struggling to rid themselves of such fragments of winter garments as still clung to their little bodies. Mothers with haggard faces peered out of lofty windows and shrieked in vain for their little ones to come in. The police were constantly called upon to quell infantile riots, and scores of children were reported lost at night-fall.

Eight Deaths in Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, June 20.—At noon today the government thermometer registered 89 deg., and was rising steadily. One death and several prostrations were reported up to noon. The maximum reached by the government thermometer was 92. This evening at 8 o'clock it was down to 85 with promise of showers and cooler weather tomorrow. In the district including Pittsburg, Allegheny and McKeesport there were eight deaths and six prostrations reported up to 11 o'clock tonight and no doubt others not reported.

Several Prostrated in Washington.

Washington, June 20.—Several persons were prostrated by the heat in Washington today. None of the cases was serious. The temperature rose steadily from 4 A. M. until nearly 1 P. M., when a storm threatened and some relief followed. The maximum temperature recorded by the Weather Bureau was 93 degrees.

IOWA FARMS UNDER WATER.

Mississippi River Threatens to Swamp Several Towns.

Des Moines, Ia., June 20.—The Mississippi river is out of its banks from Clinton to Davenport. Thousands of acres are inundated, and the crop and property loss will run up into the hundreds of thousands. The situation at Muscatine and Clinton is critical. A rise of another foot will flood part of the streets in both cities. The river is now rising at the rate of about one inch per hour.

The Pleasure island at Davenport was surrounded today, several thousand people who had gone there on the electric line having to be removed by boat, the road having been covered. The river is rising at Dubuque, but is rising more rapidly at Burlington and Keokuk, where the danger is apprehended. Hundreds of men are working on the levees at Muscatine, the water threatening to break through at any time.

ENVOYS TO CHOOSE PLACE.

President Will Not Intercede in Behalf of Any City.

Washington, June 20.—President Roosevelt today received the invitation of Governor Chamberlain and Mayor Williams to have the peace commission meet at Portland, if it is decided to leave Washington after the first formal meeting. It is said at the White House that the president will not advise the commission on that point, as he does not feel that it is within the proprieties of the situation to do so. He will leave the selection of a place of meeting outside Washington to the envoys, only taking care that ample provision is made for their comfort and convenience while in session.

Log Raft Across Ocean.

San Francisco, June 20.—A log raft containing 10,000,000 of spars and piling is to be towed across the Pacific to Shanghai during the summer. This is the gigantic plan of a new company just organized under the laws of British Columbia, which is to be a branch of the Robertson Raft company, of this city. At the head of the concern is H. R. Roberts, n. who is said to have been very successful in rafting lumber from northern points to San Francisco.

Must Leave Port Arthur.

Chefoo, June 20.—American and European firms still in Port Arthur have been notified by the Japanese authorities to depart and to remove their merchandise. Many of the firms are now arranging to charter steamers for that purpose.