Hillsboro Independent

Issued Friday of Each Week

HILLSBORO..... 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.

Shonts reports progress on the Panama Canal.

Import statistics show that the Chinese boycott is waning.

Republican Senators have agreed to support a limited court review of rates.

Anthracite miners have formally accepted an agreement with the operators.

There is talk of Taft for President, with Roosevelt as his Secretary of State.

Roosevelt has asked Congress for another $500,000 for relief work in California.

Elaborate measures have been taken to protect the Czar at the opening of parliament.

Measures have been taken to protect San Francisco property from foreclosure of mortgage.

San Francisco authorities are driving able-bodied men from the bread lines with the idea of compelling them to work for a living.

Turkey has seized more Egyptian territory and declares she will fight Great Britain. The latter country is sending warships and soldiers to fight the Sultan.

Voliva has organized a strike against Dowie in Zion.

The anthracite miners and operators have finally agreed.

Britain and Turkey each stand firm and prepare to fight.

Russian democrats propose to give all land to the peasants.

Free restaurants are proposed to feed the destitute of San Francisco.

The president will co-operate with the several states in Standard Oil prosecution.

Leading architects estimate that the rebuilding of San Francisco will take but one year.

Heavy frosts in Wisconsin, Iowa and Nebraska have greatly damaged gardens and early fruit.

A Newport News, Va., man killed his wife because it was her wish. She had been released from an insane asylum but a short time and was again losing her mind.

Franz E. Creffield, chief of the Holy Rollers, has been shot and killed at Seattle by George Mitchell, brother of two of the women the self-styled "Joshua" led astray two years ago, when excitement over the new religion was high at Corvallis.

Trepoff and the dowager empress now rule the czar.

Turkey is rushing troops to Sinai to fight Great Britain.

Ohio is preparing to oust the Standard Oil from that state.

Advocates of international arbitration oppose a larger navy.

Attorney-General Moody is at work on Standard Oil indictments.

Anthracite coal miners will avoid a strike by accepting the old wage scale.

Smallpox has broken out in Zion City, and the Dowie party calls it Divine punishment.

Twenty-one students at an Indiana college have been suspended for hazing one of the professors.

Losses by the San Francisco fire have caused the bankruptcy of the Traders' Insurance Company of Chicago.

The president has won his fight on the railroad rate bill and an amendment has been inserted carrying out his views.

The battleship Rhode Island went aground in Chesapeake bay. No damage has been done, and it is expected she will be floated soon.

A bill has been introduced in congress authorizing the reappointment of a number of West Point students who were recently expelled for hazing.

Senator Heyburn's illness has become more serious.

The Czar is in a panic over what parliament may do.

The Southern Pacific has hauled 1,056 cars of supplies to San Francisco.

General Greely says there is sure to be more suffering in San Francisco.

The house committee has killed the bill abolishing land office receivers.

San Francisco has plenty of food on hand for ten days, with more on the way.

The management of San Francisco has been restored to the municipal officials.

The new Russian cabinet claims to be Liberal, and denounces Witte as an oppressor.

Great Britain has sent an ultimatum and a fleet to Turkey. She is supported by the other powers.

Geologists investigating the cause of the San Francisco earthquake have found an immense crevice in the mountain range near Redwood City.

The new Russian cabinet is composed of reactionaries.

San Francisco's water supply is now safe, but short.

San Francisco banks have reopened and are doing a good business.

Idle men in San Francisco are refused food and made to go to work.

A new copyright law has been completed, but its passage by congress is doubtful.

Military forces are after another bandit band in the province of Cavite, Philippine Islands.

Attorney-General Moody is preparing to prosecute the Standard Oil and railroads for rebating.

Two passenger trains of the Pennsylvania road collided near Altoona, Pa. Twenty-five people are dead or injured.

LAWS OUT OF DATE.

Inquiry Into Second-Class Mail Matter Is Proposed.

Washington, May 7.—Postmaster-General Cortelyou has recommended to congress the appointment of a commission to inquire into the subject of second-class mail matter, with a view to ascertaining what modifications of the present second-class laws are necessary to render its report to congress not later than December 10, 1906.

In order that all interests shall be represented, he has recommended that the commission consist of seven persons and be made up as follows: One senator, selected by the president of the senate; one representative, selected by the speaker of the house; one officer of the postoffice department, selected by the postmaster-general; one representative of the publishers of daily newspapers; one representative of the weekly, semi-weekly and tri-weekly newspapers, and one representative of the publishers of periodicals and magazines, the last three to be appointed by the president of the United States from among those recommended to him by representative publishers of such newspapers and periodicals, and a seventh member to be selected by the six, whose manner of selection is so specifically provided. An appropriation of $25,000 is recommended to defray the cost of the investigation.

The postmaster-general in his recent annual report recommends to congress a thorough review of the whole subject of second-class mail matter and the enactment of a statute to take the place of those existing, which would render unnecessary the consideration of such questions as those upon which second-class matter now depend. In now recommending this commission, the postmaster-general in his communication to the committee on postoffices and post roads of the senate, says:

"The existing statutes regulating the second class of mail matter are out of date; they do not meet modern requirements of the publishing industry, and the administration of them unnecessarily and unreasonably hampers the publishers of bona fide newspapers and periodicals.

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"As an indication of what is involved in administration, it may be stated that the question of what is a bona fide newspaper or periodical is one about which there may be and often is much difference of opinion. The same is true of what constitutes a known office of publication, of what constitutes a publication originated and published for the dissemination of information of a public character, what is devoted to literature, the sciences, arts, or some special industry, what is a legitimate list of subscribers. All of these questions must, however, be determined in each case before second-class entry can be granted; but a publication having met all requirements is positively prohibited admission if it be 'designed primarily for advertising purposes or for free circulation, or for circulation at nominal rates.' That such questions, especially the latter, are subtle and complex and render administration exceedingly difficult surely need not be stated."

Postmaster-General Cortelyou expresses the belief that such commission, if appointed, will be able to make recommendation that will be equable to publishers, relieve them from present annoyance and restrictions, and at the same time protect the interests of the government.

SLIDE DAMS CREEK.

Mass of Soft Earth Holds Back Immense Quantity of Water.

Sacramento, Cal., May 8.—A special from Woodland to the Sacramento Union says:

The threat of flood in the Capay valley, resulting from the slide of earth that has fallen from the mountain side and dammed the waters of Cache creek, is growing increasingly serious. It may be assumed that the slide in question was in some way the result of the recent earthquake, and it is now found to be 1,000 feet wide and to close completely the water course. Ever since the occurrence the waters have been steadily piling up behind it, and was found by measurements taken this morning that a depth of one hundred feet had been reached.

If it had been taken at an earlier stage the dam might have been blown up with dynamite and the waters released without danger to any locality, but it is now too late to do this, as it would but precipitate the flood that is feared. The dam is of soft earth and debris, and there is some hope that it may absorb the water or cut out gradually and the water pass in harmless quantities. Should it give way to the pressure the results will be very serious and a large area of country will be flooded.

Greely Given Ready Money.

Washington, May 8.—Following representation made to the war department by General Greely, Secretary Taft has placed at the disposal of that officer an amount approximating $300,000 of the relief fund of $2,500,000 appropriated by congress for the relief of the San Francisco sufferers. With this money General Greely will pay for supplies already purchased. Supplies heretofore issued, including the tents from the quartermaster stores, etc., and which had been charged against this appropriation of $300,000, will be returned to the army and are available for future use.

Trolley Car Collision.

Trenton, N. J., May 8.—Fifteen people were injured by a head-on collision of cars on the Trenton-New Brunswick Traction Company's lines at Plainsboro, twenty miles outside of this city, at midnight. The cars, one from this city and the other from New Brunswick, were making their last trips for the night, and in accordance with the usual custom, ran by the signal. When rounding a sharp curve the headlight of one trolley car showed the approach of the other. Before the power could be reversed the cars met, and the passengers were thrown from the chairs.

Exports to Brazil Fall Off.

Washington, May 8.—A bulletin issued by the department of commerce and labor says that the trade of the United States with Brazil aggregates in round numbers $110,000,000, a larger sum than any year with any country in South America. Imports from Brazil for the fiscal year 1905 aggregated $99,483,094, and exports were $10,985,096. The bulletin says the total exports to Brazil show a falling off from $15,165,079 in 1895, to $10,985,096 in 1905.

Line Cut to Mazatlan.

Mexico City, May 8.—Engineers of the Mexican National Railway have succeeded in cutting a line from Durango to Mazatlan on the Pacific coast. The locating work has been going on for a year. It is probable that the interoceanic railway will build an extension to the oil fields from Teziutlan.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

ASSESSMENT TO BE COLLECTED.

Klamath Water-Users' Association Will Assert Its Corporate Power.

Klamath Falls.—Directors of the Klamath Water-Users' Association at a recent meeting instructed their attorney to proceed to enforce the collection of the assessment from the delinquent members, after giving reasonable notice that such action would be taken if payments were not made at once. About 120 of the 520 members are delinquent, averaging about $7 for each stockholder thus derelict, and the association will now assert its corporate powers.

Books of the association closed since January 1 have been reopened for subscriptions, but landowners will hereafter be obliged to pay an enrollment fee or penalty of 50 cents an acre in order to become stockholders.

Land Office Collections.

Salem.—Secretary Brown, of the state land board, has turned over to the state treasury cash received in his office for the month of April as follows: Common school fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, $23,467.61; common school fund principal, payments on sales of lands acquired by deed or foreclosure, $907; common school fund interest, payments on certificates, $3,633.87; common school fund interest, rents and payments on sales of land acquired by deed or foreclosure, $484.55; agricultural college fund principal, payments on certificates and cash sales, $1,379.25; agricultural college fund interest, payments on certificates, $291.76; total, $30,164.04.

Fire Risk Increase at Eugene.

Eugene.—Several months ago a representative of the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific visited Eugene and announced that nearly all the business houses of the city were improperly wired, and were not up to the standard set by the code. Effort was made by owners of buildings to have defective wiring made right, while others disregarded the notice. Now comes the information to fire insurance agents of this city that insurance rates have been advanced on account of defective wiring. The average increase is 50 cents per $100. The announcement has created a stir among property holders, and steps will be taken to secure better wiring.

Examinations for Forest Service.

Roseburg.—Examinations will be held at Roseburg, Ore., May 14, for the position of forest ranger. Aspirants for positions who have not filed applications for examination with the United States commission at Washington should file at once with S. C. Bartrum, forest supervisor at Roseburg, from whom application blanks may be secured. The positions are under civil service. Examination will be along practical lines relating to forest patrol. Men between 21 and 40, of sound bodily condition, are eligible. Civil service examinations for the position of forest supervisor will be held in Portland, Astoria, Baker City and Eugene, May 18.

Salmon in Grand Ronde.

La Grande.—Superintendent Allen, of the Wallowa salmon hatchery, was in La Grande recently, and stated that the hatchery released a few days ago 1,000,000 fry and about the same amount will be ready to be released within a short time. Operations at the Wallowa hatchery so far are considered satisfactory. Salmon have commenced jumping in the Grand Ronde river at Oro Dell, a mile above La Grande. The salmon, which in the early history of the valley came up the river in abundance, have for the past number of years almost entirely disappeared. It is now hoped that the hatchery will be the means of restocking the river.

Improve Orchard Tract.

La Grande.—The Red Apple Orchard Company, which owns a large tract about three miles north of town in the foothills, is planning extensive improvements. About seventy-five acres will be cleared and the ground put in condition for the planting of apples. There is already a large area of growing trees, including fifteen acres of 12-year-old apple trees and forty-five acres of 2-year-old trees. There are five or six springs located on this tract, and it is the intention of the company to enlarge some of them, forming a lake, which will be stocked with fish.

Swarm of Black Ants.

Fairview.—A strange phenomenon was witnessed here last week. A cloud of flying black ants settled on many houses, some making their way inside. When they settled on the side of the houses they were so thick as to make the houses look black. On the houses the insects resembled ordinary black ants, but there were millions of them, and there is much speculation as to the cause of the strange visitation. When a disinfectant spray was applied to the buildings where they had alighted, the insects took flight, and have not been seen in this locality since.

Specimen Road Work in Marion.

Salem.—Judge Scott has been advised by L. W. Page, director of public roads of the department of agriculture, that A. E. Loder, engineer in charge of the mile of specimen road building near this city, will commence work about May 15. It is expected that many will be present from all sections of Western Oregon to witness the building of this road on scientific principles. A barbecue will be served while work is progressing, one day being planned for special entertainment of visitors.

Scouring Mills Resume.

Pendleton.—After being shut down since last October the Pendleton scouring mills will resume operations May 14. The mills are now being given a thorough overhauling and will be placed in first-class condition by that time. W. M. McDonald, of Boston, has arrived to take charge as superintendent.

Plant Big Orchard.

La Grande.—W. Lyman and L. Oldenburg have finished planting an apple orchard of ninety-five acres near Imbler. There are 4,500 trees of three varieties, including 2,500 Rome Beauties, 1,000 Ganos and 1,000 York Imperials. The balance of the tract, about sixty acres, was planted in potatoes.

Expect Heavy Fruit Crop.

La Grande.—Grande Ronde growers report the fruit prospects flattering for this season. It is expected that the crop will be twice as large as any previous year, and that there will be at least 500 carloads shipped from this valley. The apple and cherry yields will be very large.

SHEEPMEN PROTEST.

Oregon Men Not Satisfied With Allotment of Wenaha Reserve.

Pendleton.—Sheepmen of Umatilla county have made vigorous protest against the action of forest reserve officials at Walla Walla in standing by the allotment recently made of the range in Wenaha reserve. A remonstrance from Umatilla county has been filed with D. B. Sheller, forest reserve superintendent at Walla Walla.

Facts and figures are given in support of the contention of Oregon stockmen. These in substance are as follows: Of the total land in the reserve, 700,000 acres, more than half lies in Oregon. Only 35,357 Oregon sheep were admitted to the reserve, whereas 123,000 Washington sheep were allowed. To add insult to injury, 58,169 of the Washington sheep were allotted to range in this state. No Oregon sheep were allotted range in Washington. In scaling the number to be allowed in the reserve the Oregon men were cut down 50 per cent, while the Washington men were allowed practically all they asked.

It is held by the Oregon stockmen that forest reserve rules were violated by the manner in which the reserve was allotted. The rules specifically provide that in allotment of range in reserve, stockmen of the state in which the reserve is located shall be given preference.

Accompanying the general remonstrance were affidavits from twenty sheepmen of this county, setting forth claims to land in the reserve allotted to Washington men.

JOHN DAY PROSPERS.

People Flocking to That Section from All Parts of Northwest.

Baker City.—Many people from over the Northwest are flocking through Baker City on their way into the John Day country to take up timber claims. A few days ago a party of Idaho people went to Sumpter en route to the timber belt, and another party went from this place.

For the past three months timber seekers have come from Western Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and much valuable timber land has been located. Last week two parties, one of eight and one of five people, went out. These were Idaho people, who were evidently satisfied with their locations, as the last party which passed through here was composed of friends of the former company. All are from Genesee, Idaho.

July Fourth at Chautauqua.

Oregon City.—At a meeting here of the board of directors of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua Association it was decided to hold suitable exercises at Gladstone Park, July 4 next, in celebration of Independence Day. The grounds will be thrown open to campers July 2, eight days before the convening of the Chautauqua. No steps have been taken by the people of Oregon City towards celebrating this anniversary, and all will probably unite in the celebration that is planned by the Chautauqua Assembly.

Make Road Through Reserve.

Pendleton.—The first step in the solution of the Umatilla reservation cattle trouble was taken a few days ago when Col. J. H. Raley, as attorney for the stockmen, presented a petition to the county court asking that a road be opened through the government tract. This petition will be acted upon by the next term of court, and if granted will be carried to the superintendent of the agency and from him to the department of the interior. It is expected the petition will be granted, and the road will finally be constructed.

Hoboes Indolent and Numerous.

Albany.—Hoboes in the Willamette valley have increased in number since the San Francisco disaster. Notwithstanding notices in almost all valley towns offering work at good wages in logging camps and sawmills, the unemployed continue their migration. "We are all coal miners, not loggers," or "We are all fishermen," are the answers when officers tell them there is plenty of demand for labor in the logging camps.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat — Club, 71@72c; bluestem, 72@73c; red, 69@70c; valley, 70c.

Oats—No. 1 white feed, $27.50@28; gray, $27 per ton.

Barley — Feed, $23.50@24 per ton; brewing, $24@24.50; rolled, $24.50@25.50.

Hay—Valley timothy, $12@13; clover, $7.50@8; cheat, $6@7; grain hay, $7@8; alfalfa, $12.

Fruits — Apples, $2@3.00 per box; strawberries, $1.25 @ 1.65 per crate; Oregon, 20c per pound.

Vegetables — Asparagus, 75c@$1.25 per box; cabbage, $2.85@3.00 per hundred; cauliflower, $2.25 per crate; celery, $5.00 per crate; head lettuce, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@15c per dozen; radishes, 20c per dozen; rhubarb, 3@4c per pound; spinach, 90 per box; parsley, 25c; turnips, $1@1.25 per sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@$1 per sack.

Onions—No. 1, 3c per pound.

Potatoes—Fancy graded burbanks, 60@70c per hundred; ordinary, 50@60c; new California, 4c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 17½@20c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 18@18½c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 14@15c per pound; mixed chickens, 13½@14c; broilers, 20@22½c; young roosters, 12½@13c; old roosters, 11@12½c; dressed chickens, 16@16½c; turkeys, live, 17@18c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@23c; geese, live, 10@11c; geese, dressed, 10@11c; ducks, 17@18c.

Hops—Oregon, 1905, 12@12½c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c; valley, 24@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 28@30c.

Veal—Dressed, 3½@7c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4½@5½c; country steers, 5@6c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8@8½c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, with pelt on, 9@10c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@8½c per pound.

DISEASE APPEARS.

Typhoid and Ptomaine Poisoning Dangers of San Francisco.

Oakland, Cal., May 7.—Poor old San Francisco, with its old landmarks a mass of tangled and still smoldering wreckage, and its thousands of suffering people! The place tonight presents a scene which no pen can describe. What has passed during the nineteen days since the earthquake and fire is slowly creeping into history. During the past nineteen days San Francisco has been a living hell. In the weeks and months to come, yes, even in the years that are to follow, this state of hell will continue.

It is all well enough for the prominent business men of San Francisco, the government officials and those connected with the Red Cross Society, to be sanguine over what is being done to relieve the suffering of San Francisco's stricken people and of the future.

It is all well enough for these men to say: "Well, we'll build a better and more beautiful city." It is all well enough for Dr. Devine to say: "We have the situation well in hand, and no one will go without food or clothing." This is a right and hopeful view to take of the matter.

These big committees will care for the masses after their fashion of doing things on a big scale, but there are hundreds who are bound to be overlooked, thrust aside by the scramble for supplies, and this is not all.

Yesterday and today gave an intimation of the disease and sickness which physicians have feared would break out. The drinking water of the stricken city is polluted with typhoid fever germs. The constant cry of the health department officials for days has been "boil the water before drinking." This is easy advice, but, when people are cooking outdoors on shattered stoves and rudely constructed ovens made of broken brick, with the wind day after day blowing a gale, it is no wonder that the warning to boil the water is ignored.

Those in charge of the city's affairs across the bay have steadfastly maintained there was no danger from an epidemic. This was the truth a week ago. It was too early for infection, but now the period of incubation has run, and what the physicians have been preparing themselves for—the outbreak of typhoid—has struck the city.

Yesterday fourteen cases were taken to the Presidio hospital, and today a dozen more cases were recorded. Ptomaine poisoning is developing. This naturally must follow the constant diet of corned beef and other canned goods upon which the people have been living since the earthquake. This is one way that sickness is spreading in San Francisco.

The other and even more dangerous way will come from the supply depots. At these places wagon loads of bread, after being carted through the streets, dust-strewn and filthy, are unloaded at these camps. Typhoid germs will find their way into the bread and into the stomachs of the people, just as they would by drinking polluted water. So much for this.

Now for the half-hysterical and nerve-shattered people who still cling to the stricken city. Hardly a day has passed since Wednesday, April 18, but that the city has been rocked by an earthquake. Last Wednesday there was a terrific shock, and this morning shortly after 10 o'clock another hard tremblor that sent men, women and children from their homes and buildings into the streets screaming mad in fright. How long the people's nerves will stand this is unanswerable. They are a brave people, these folks who have passed through the earthquake and fire, but there is a limit to all courage. It simply means that, if the earth continues to groan and tremble, the most courageous will give up and quit the city.

Indeed, in some quarters men of authority are talking of sending all of the women and children out of San Francisco. This is talked of by no less authority that Captain Kennedy, who has charge of the United States general hospital at the Presidio.

Found No Killed Looters.

San Francisco, May 7.—The records of Coroner Walsh disprove the widely circulated stories that large numbers of people were shot and killed by the soldiers during the great fire that followed the earthquake. Of all the cases handled by this official and his deputies, in only one was it found that death was due to gunshot wounds. The exception was Heber Tilden, killed by a civic guardsman, who had the mistaken idea that the automobile in which Tilden was riding was being used for looting purposes. The military authorities have records of two cases of killings for disobedience of military orders.

Seizing Stolen Supplies.

San Francisco, May 7.—The police and military authorities are slowly but surely ferreting out the people who have abused the free supplies privilege. The detectives engaged in the work are proceeding cautiously, so that no seizures will be made unless the officers are certain that no injury to deserving persons will be inflicted. When it is established that supplies have been secured by subterfuge, the goods are seized and turned over to the nearest station. The authorities are being assisted by numerous anonymous letters, telling of the unlawful hoarding of stores.

Will Paralyze All Building.

Chicago, May 7.—"Within two weeks 20,000 workmen in all branches of the building industry in Chicago will be thrown out of work by suspension of construction work on skyscrapers and factories affected by the strike of structural ironworkers. It may not develop into a lockout, but there will necessarily be a shutdown if the strike continues." This was the statement made by one of the foremost building contractors of the city, and a member of the Building Contractors' Council.

British Gold to Pay Losses.

London, May 7.—The American steamer St. Paul, which sailed from Southampton for New York today, took $1,835,000 in gold, most of which is destined for the agents of British insurance companies to meet their San Francisco claims.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, May 8.

Washington, May 8.—Aside from a few minutes devoted to the reception of the Allison amendments to the railroad rate bill and a half hour given to routine business, the Senate devoted its entire session today to the ineffectual consideration of the Elkins amendment, prohibiting common carriers from engaging in mining coal or in the production of other commodities in competition with shippers, and adjourned at 5 p. m. in a state of great confusion as to the exact subject before it. The disorder was due to the fact that a number of substitutes for amendments to the original amendment were introduced. During the day, the Senate decided in the affirmative the disputed point that under the agreement the chair can entertain a motion to lay on the table. It refused, however, by a vote of 29 to 47 to lay the Elkins provision on the table. That amendment and the various motions will therefore be in order when the rate bill is taken up tomorrow.

Washington, May 8.—The House of Representatives devoted the day to the naval appropriation bill, and accomplished the reading for amendment of the first 15 pages. During this time several topics incident to the measure were discussed, including the difficulty of obtaining enlisted men in the navy, the location of the naval training station on the Great Lakes, the cost of smokeless powder, and finally the expenditure of $200,000 a year for chains for ships. This last matter was under consideration when the House adjourned.

The army appropriation bill was sent to conference with all of the Senate amendments disagreed to.

Monday, May 7.

Washington, May 7.—The senate today spent the major portion of its time on one amendment, but instead of accepting it, adopted a substitute. The provision which was made the basis of the discussion was that suggested by Foraker prohibiting the granting of rebates, passes, drawbacks, or special rates to passengers on railways and also prohibiting discrimination in the way of accommodations where equal rates are paid.

The discussion took a broad range, covering first the pass question and then the race question in the Southern States. The race issue was raised in connection with the clause relative to discrimination, which was interpreted as referring to separate cars for the races, and it called out very warm protests from Bacon, Money, Culberson and other Southern senators.

Washington, May 7.—Notwithstanding that this was the speaker's seventieth birthday, the house, after a splendid demonstration to Mr. Cannon as he ascended to the speaker's table, settled down to one of the biggest days in the history of the present session. The day was notable for the number of bills passed, forty-five in number, covering a large number of subjects. Many of the bills could have been passed by unanimous consent, but with Williams' "determination to object to any legislation by unanimous consent," these bills came up under suspension of the rules, this being known as "suspension day."

The following were among the bills passed:

Granting to the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company the right of way through the Fort Keogh military reservation, Montana.

To punish the cutting, chipping or boxing of trees on the public domain.

To amend an act concerning leases in the Yellowstone National Park.

To amend the act to provide a government for the territory of Hawaii.

Friday, May 4.

Washington, May 4.—In accordance with the agreement of last Monday, the senate today entered upon the consideration of amendments to the rate bill under the 15-minute rule, but made little progress. The greater part of the day was devoted to Lodge's provision bringing pipe lines within the terms of the bill, and it was ultimately unanimously agreed to, after being so amended as to make it exclude gas and water lines from its operation, thus practically confining it to oil lines. There were two roll-calls, but neither was of importance, as on the one accepting the amendment there was no division whatever, while the action taken on the other, on the question of confining the provision to oil lines, was practically nullified by the subsequent elimination of gas and water from the amendment.

Washington, May 4.—The house spent another day in consideration of the naval appropriation bill, the speeches in large measure being in support of the bill and the naval program therein outlined. Burton, of Ohio, delivered a scholarly address against what seemed the needless enlargement of the navy, contending that the American nation could well afford to serve notice upon the other nations that it stood for international arbitration and the peace of the world.

Butler of Pennsylvania, and Calder of New York, supported the bill, both agreeing that the measure had less to criticize in it than any bill reported from the naval affairs committee of the house in years.

Thursday, May 3.

Washington, May 3.—The naval appropriation bill, which carries nearly a hundred million dollars for the naval establishment, was taken up by the House today. Beyond the explanation of the bill by Foss of Illinois, chairman of the committee on naval affairs, and the running fire of questions which his presentation called forth, little interest was shown in the early part of the debate that ensued. Toward the close of the day, however, a lively colloquy occurred among Bates of Pennsylvania, Williams of Mississippi, Clark of Missouri, and Payne of New York, over certain statements made by Bates in relation to the price of steel rails. The discussion took on a wide tariff range, a forerunner of still further tariff discussion as the session nears its close.

Washington, May 3.—This was the last day for general debate in the Senate on the railroad rate bill, and it was fully occupied. Following a brief speech by Nelson, Tillman spoke at length in an effort to show by criticism of individual judges that the power of granting temporary injunctions by inferior United States courts should be taken from them in Interstate Commerce Commission cases, and he was followed by Bacon, Bailey, Teller and Foraker in speeches at some length.

Bailey opposed Bacon's contention that the judiciary should not be criticised on the floor of the Senate. Consideration of the army appropriation bill was resumed, and after further amendment it was passed.

Wednesday, May 2.

Washington, May 2.—Daniel continued his speech on the railroad rate bill in the senate today, reporting briefly his objections to Bailey's proviso for the non-suspension by the courts of the orders of the interstate commerce commission. In cases where the courts have suspended the rates of the commission, Mr. Daniel suggested that a substantial bond be required of the railroads.

The rate bill was then temporarily laid aside, and the army appropriation bill taken up. An important amendment authorizes the establishment of a general depot for supplies at Fort Mason, San Francisco, and appropriates $1,500,000 for the purpose. Of the amount appropriated, $750,000 is made immediately available.

Another amendment appropriating $500,000 for a cable from Key West to Panama via Guantanamo, Cuba, was made.

Consideration of the bill was not concluded when, at 5:45 p. m., the senate went into executive session.

Washington, May 2.—The house devoted almost the entire day to discussion of the agricultural appropriation bill, which is now almost completed.

Statehood Compromise.

Washington, May 5.—All of the minor amendments to the statehood bill are either disposed of or in shape to be made the foundation of argument at a moment's notice.

At today's session of the conferees on that measure the climax of the situation was reached for the first time. The question of the admission of Arizona and New Mexico as one state was discussed at length.

No proposition for a compromise was offered, and the meeting adjourned until Tuesday.

In a general way it is known that the compromise will be the Foraker amendment, allowing the people of the two territories to vote upon the question of being joined in statehood.

Whether this vote is to be coupled with the election for state officers or is to be held prior to such elections is one of the questions yet to be decided.

Were Cruel to Insane.

Washington, May 5.—Inquiry into the conditions at St. Elizabeth's asylum for the insane was begun today by the special committee of the house of representatives appointed by Speaker Cannon. Nearly a dozen witnesses were heard. Evidence was adduced showing that some of the patients who worked in the hospital laundry had been cruelly treated, and some of the witnesses testified that Foreman E. L. Maeneh, of the laundry, frequently was intoxicated while on duty.

The testimony showed that Henry Setterfield, one of the employes in the laundry, teased the patients and then choked them for becoming angry and excited. None of the patients, according to the testimony, was severely hurt. The inquiry will be continued next week.

May Vary Size of Farms.

Washington, May 8.—The house today passed the bill authorizing the secretary of the interior to fix farm units on government irrigation projects anywhere from 10 to 160 acres, according to the productivity of the soil and the kinds of crops that can be raised. The bill contains a provision authorizing the sale of lots in the townsites of Rupert, Heyburn and Sherer, Idaho, the expenses to be defrayed from the reclamation fund. Until this bill passes, these lots cannot be sold, for the land office has no funds to sell them under the general townsite laws.

Navy Men Did Well.

Washington, May 8.—Acting Secretary of the Navy Newberry has laid before the president a report of cases of gallantry and signally efficient performances of duty by officers and men of the navy in connection with the San Francisco disaster. The data were collected by direction of the president, and the acting secretary's report embodies extracts from letters and telegrams from Rear-Admiral Goodrich, commander-in-chief of the Pacific squadron; Rear-Admiral B. H. McCalla, and Lieutenant-Commander Henry C. Haines, of the marine corps.

Cuba Wants Better Terms.

Havana, May 8.—A sub-committee of the joint committees of all the commercial and industrial associations of Cuba has submitted to the full committee a report on the general basis for the negotiations for a new commercial treaty with the United States. It is understood the full committee approves of the report. It is said the report asks for more favorable treatment for sugar, for which Cuba would be willing to give more favorable treatment to American cottons and food products.

Auto Industry Thriving.

Washington, May 8.—The automobile industry, according to a preliminary bulletin issued by the census bureau today, shows a very large increase for the calendar year 1904, as compared with 1900, the year of taking the twelfth census. In the former year 21,386 passenger and pleasure machines were produced, as against 3,316 in 1900, and 1,441 vehicles of other styles in 1904, as against 407 in 1900. In 1900 the amount of capital invested was $20,555,247, as against $5,768,857. The value of products increased 461 per cent, the amounts being stated at $26,645,064 in 1904, as against $4,748,011 in 1900.

Belmont Is Satisfied.

Washington, May 8.—Perry Belmont was asked today what he thought of the proposed amendments to the publicity bill. He replied: "I believe the proposed amendments will improve the bill, which already covers national and congressional committees, but did not provide for the publication of contributions and expenses under the close of campaigns, while the amendments provide for publication, both before and after elections. As the principle of the publicity is preserved intact by the amendments, I am confident that no member of our organization will object to them."

Yellow Macaroni Is Barred.

Washington, May 8.—The department of agriculture today announced that inspection of recent importations of macaroni, noodles, and similar products, contain chemical preservatives, such as fluorids, which are regarded as injurious to health, and that after June 1 next no importation of macaroni colored with martius yellow, or other colors forbidden by the Italian law, or preserved with fluorids or other preservatives injurious to health, will be permitted.