

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.

The Chinese famine is growing worse.

There is a move to put a British prince on the Serbian throne.

All Italian shipping has been tied up by the general strike of seamen.

At Norfolk, N. C., the temperature is 3 below zero with coal at \$20 per ton. Japanese warships will avoid San Francisco for a time lest the Maine disaster recur.

A mining exchange has been organized in Chicago in connection with the board of trade.

Germans are confident of a tariff agreement between their country and the United States.

A fuel famine is on at Phoenix, Arizona. There is no oil and the gas and electric plants have shut down.

Governor Mead has appointed a special committee to investigate the shortage of coal in Washington.

Charles G. Washburn has been elected congressman from Massachusetts to succeed the late Rockwell Hoar.

There is little doubt in London circles that James Bryce will be the next British ambassador to the United States.

A Montana man whose cereals won a gold medal at the St. Louis fair has found there is not a particle of gold in his medal.

A million bushels of wheat are being allowed to rot on Northern Pacific platforms in Central Washington, while sidings are crowded with empty cars.

An influential Japanese paper says the solution to the present trouble in the United States would be to allow the Japanese to build their own schools and if necessary to get aid from the home government.

There is an upward tendency in the hop market.

Russian terrorists tried to kill Admiral Doupasoff.

Hill has abandoned his Great Northern-Burlington merger.

John Barrett, United States minister to Colombia, is in Portland.

Negro convicts in Mississippi revolted and several were severely hurt.

Chicago has arranged terms for ownership of the street railway systems.

Cardinal Gibbons defends King Leopold's government of the Congo state.

The pope says French political freedom does not compare with that existing in America.

President Smith, of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, says political leaders threaten to confiscate their property and denounce Roosevelt and the judges who fined the railroads.

The Interstate Commerce commission will start at Minneapolis in January and work West investigating the car shortage.

The Mexican minister to the United States says his government assumed control of the railroads to prevent American ownership.

There is little hope of King Oscar's recovery.

The president will endorse ship subsidy in a special message to congress after the holidays.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30¢/35¢. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 35¢ per dozen. Poultry—Average old hens, 11¢/12¢; mixed, 10¢/11¢; old roosters, 10¢/11¢; dressed chickens, 14¢/15¢; turkeys, live, 17¢/18¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20¢/22¢; geese, live, 10¢; ducks, 15¢/16¢.

Fruits—Apples, common to choice, 50¢/75¢ per box; apples to fancy, 1¢/1.20; pears, 1¢/1.50; cranberries, 11¢/12¢ per barrel; persimmons, 15¢ per box.

Vegetables—Turnips, 90¢/¢1 per sack; carrots, 90¢/¢1 per sack; beets, 1¢/1.25 per 1.50 per sack; horseradish, 9¢/10¢ per pound; sweet potatoes, 2¢/2.5¢ per pound; cabbage, 1¢/1.25 per 1.50 per pound; cauliflower, 1¢/1.25 per 1.50 per pound; pumpkins, 1¢/1.25 per 1.50 per pound; onions, 10¢/12¢ per dozen; potatoes, 1¢/1.25 per 1.50 per pound; spinach, 4¢/5¢ per pound; squash, 1¢/1.25 per 1.50 per pound.

Onions—Oregon, 75¢/¢1 per hundred. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, fancy, 1¢/1.10; common, 75¢/85¢.

Wheat—Club, 65¢/66¢; bluestem, 67¢/68¢; valley, 66¢/67¢; red, 63¢.

Oats—No. 1 white, 25¢/26¢; gray, 24¢/25¢.

Barley—Feed, 21¢/21.50 per hundred; brewing, 22¢/22.50 per hundred; rolled, 22¢/24¢.

Rye—1¢/1.40¢/1.45 per cwt. Corn—Whole, 25¢; cracked, 27¢ per cwt.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, 41¢/42¢ per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, 11¢/16¢; clover, 7¢/8¢; cheat, 47¢/50¢/55¢; grain hay, 37¢/50¢/55¢; alfalfa, 11¢/50¢; vetch hay, 47¢/50¢.

Veal—Dressed, 5¢/6¢ per pound. Beef—Dressed bulls, 16¢/20¢ per pound; cows, 4¢/5¢; country steers, 6¢/5.5¢.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8¢/9¢ per pound; ordinary, 6¢/7¢.

Pork—Dressed, 6¢/7¢ per pound. Hops—11¢/15¢ per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 13¢/18¢, according to shrinkage; valley, 20¢/23¢, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 26¢/28¢.

SPRING MESSAGE

President Sends Communication to Congress on Jap Question.

The following communication has been transmitted to both houses of Congress by the President:

"I transmit herewith for your information the report made to me personally by Secretary Metcalf on the situation affecting the Japanese in San Francisco. The report deals with three matters of controversy: first, the exclusion of the Japanese children from the city, acts of violence committed against the Japanese, and the exclusion of the Japanese children from the city."

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The senate agreed to the holiday adjournment resolution and will be in recess from the end of the session Thursday next until January 3.

Resolutions were agreed to directing an investigation by the department of Commerce and Labor of the International Harvester company to ascertain whether it effects restraint of trade; also directing the senate of judiciary committee to report what authority congress may have under the commerce clause of the constitution to prevent interstate commerce in child-made goods.

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The pictorial feature of the message afforded an opportunity for good natured comment, the innovation of cuts in a state paper being looked on with favor. Messages from the president on public lands and the naval personnel were also read.

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The three congressmen from Washington voted for the increase. Binger Hermann benefited, but he did not want to be a beneficiary. French, of Idaho, was not present.

Representative Jones, of Washington, today introduced a bill proposing to increase by 20 percent the salaries of all civil service employees of the government on July 1 next.

The first salary increase of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill today was moved by Littauer, of New York, and was as follows:

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Let Officer Rise Faster.

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Accept President's Advice.

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SLOW AS OX TEAMS.

Freight Cars Travel but an Average of 23 Miles a Day.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—"Car shortage and traffic congestion are more serious now than they ever have been in the history of this country. Already a number of schools in the Northwest have been forced to close because shipments could not be had. Business all over the United States is being injured vitally by the existing conditions, and remedy must be had quickly, if chaos in commerce is to be prevented."

The foregoing statement was made by Interstate Commerce Commissioner Franklin Lane, who, with Commissioner James S. Harlan, arrived in Chicago over the Pennsylvania road from Washington on the way to Minneapolis, where a hearing will be given the railroad and shippers of Minnesota.

"When you come to think of the freight car problem," said Mr. Lane, "do you know that the average speed of freight cars is only 23 miles a day? Just think of it! With the big business interests out for more cars, the 'empties' are leisurely making their way across the country."

"Something is wrong, or this condition would not exist. If the average speed made by a freight car is only 23 miles a day, we might as well have the old wagon trains and oxen back. They made as good time as that, and there were no rates or reb