

NEWS OF THE WEEK

From All Parts of the New World
and the Old.

OF INTEREST TO OUR MANY READERS

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week in a
Condensed Form.

There may be a few Filipinos in the legislative council.

Kitchener is arranging to replace stale by fresh troops.

California oil experts have bonded 4000 acres near the Dalles.

The striking dock laborers at Marcellus have resumed work.

National railway employees' union will investigate Portland trouble.

Assurances of support from British Columbia for Portland's 1905 fair.

Earl Li says no more hitches are probable in negotiations with powers.

It daily becomes more evident that the Boers intend to fight to a finish.

The United States armored cruiser New York has left Algiers for Manila.

Augustus Byram, a pioneer mining man of California and Colorado, is dead.

B. F. Murphy brought from California to answer to a charge of bigamy.

Captain H. K. Steele, of the British ship Khyber, was arrested for kidnapping.

Young Women's Christian Association has begun Sunday afternoon services.

United States commission makes recommendations for civil government to be established July 1.

The largest steamer ever built has just been launched at Belfast. She is over 680 feet in length.

Lawyer Patrick, also accused of murder of Millionaire Rice, says Valet Jones' confession is not true.

Oregon will have to buy wood from men who have supply cornered, says principal factor in transaction.

The czar of Russia has given 2900 roubles toward the building of a new Greek orthodox church in New York City.

Official in charge of American legation wires that Russia will not receive official communications from China.

L. S. J. Hunt creates a sensation by returning to Seattle, and paying heavy outland debts. He will found a newspaper.

American officials are much perplexed over Russia's refusal to receive official communications from China.

Burglars wrecked a safe at Frankfort, Ind. They were pursued by the proprietor and one of them fatally wounded.

The revenue collector of the second district of New York recently received an order for \$557,413.84 worth of revenue stamps.

The Japanese minister at Washington says the rumors of hostilities between Japan and Russia are greatly exaggerated.

High water at Richmond, Quebec, carried away a steel bridge which cost \$46,000. The inhabitants have fled to the high hills near the town.

High official of the ordinance department will inspect the armament of the forts at Fort Stevens and Fort Columbia, and also superintend repairs.

Three old temples in Japan burned recently.

A snow storm in Pittsburgh caused a heavy loss.

The army frauds at Manila are not as bad as first reported.

Russia contemplates a permanent occupation of Manchuria.

Olympia has presented Sylvester Park for capitol grounds.

The Franco-Italian fete at Toulon are expected to mark a new era.

The ministers at Peking are making good progress with the negotiations.

China formally notifies Russia she will not sign the Manchurian treaty.

A peaceable settlement of the Chinese trouble is considered impossible.

Washington & Oregon will be running trains into Vancouver in September.

Agualando wants to come to America, then return home and retire to private life.

The law of the state of Washington creating the office of fire marshal will remain inoperative.

A strip of Washington county was inadvertently added by the Oregon legislature to Columbia.

At the Mare island navy yard 450 women have been discharged on account of lack of funds.

An oil well at Beaumont, Tex., caught fire. The flames are shooting 150 feet above ground.

The Alaska Steamship Association, at a recent meeting, fixed rates to Alaska points. To Skagway the fare will be \$25 first class, \$16 second class; to Dawson, first class, \$100; second class, \$50.

The "Edinburgh Castle" public house, situated in the Strand, London, is to be hauled down, and the London county council has to pay £22,500 as compensation.

Probably the smallest monarch in the world reigns over the Hindu vassal state of Bhopal, and governs a people of more than a million souls. This dwarf is a woman, Diji-Begum by name, but although she is about 50 years old, she does not appear larger than a child of 10.

CUBANS SATISFIED.

General Wood Explains the Platt Amendment.

HAVANA, April 6.—The so-called radical element in the Cuban constitutional convention, including Juan Gomez, Portuondo, Alman and Manuley, had a conference today with Governor General Wood regarding the Platt amendment.

General Wood said that the United States government intended to deal justly with the Cubans, and had no desire to retain possession of the island. He pointed out that the Platt amendment was drawn primarily with the view to protecting a weak nation against outsiders, as well as against internal strife, and would not interfere with Cuban independence. He explained that the Washington conference of 1898, which the United States claimed the right to intervene solely for the purpose of preserving the independence of the island, maintaining an adequate force to protect life, property and individual liberty, and completing the obligations imposed by the treaty of Paris upon the United States. He expressed the opinion that in drawing up a treaty many points in the future relations of Cuba with the United States might be explained to meet present objections.

The delegates retired apparently pleased with the interview. Senator Portuondo said he thought everything would be settled satisfactorily. He was in favor of the appointment of a commission to go to Washington, and expects favorable results from such a step.

Orders were issued today directing the holding of municipal elections throughout Cuba June 1. There will be 15 days for registration, beginning April 15.

REDUCING OUR FLEET.

Warships to Be Withdrawn From the Asiatic Station.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The prospective reduction of the United States naval force on the Asiatic station is beginning to assume definite form, but thus far the matter has not been considered by the president, nor has Secretary Long had an opportunity to confer with Rear Admiral Remey. But the naval bureau of navigation, which has charge of the assignment of ships to the various stations in the far East. It is said, however, that the North Atlantic squadron will be augmented by at least one or two ships, while the Pacific and Asiatic squadrons will be reduced. Quite a number of ships will have to go out of commission, as they have seen long service in tropical waters and will need a pretty general overhauling.

NEWS FROM ALASKA.

Peculiar complication at Skagway in regard to bonded goods.

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., April 5.—According to advices from Alaska, brought by the steamer Dolphin to today, a peculiar complication in the customs business at Skagway has come up relative to bonded goods passing through Skagway.

Three Atlantic and Pacific river steamers belonging to the White Pass and Yukon Company arrived at Skagway in bond. They were entered as British bottoms without cargo. They are billed to White Horse, and are being dismantled for shipment over the railroad, piece by piece. An American and a British custom officer are stationed on each boat. The owners of the boats will not break up the hulls nor ship mail, as portions are injured in dismantling, and the custom officer at Skagway is trying to find out what to do with what is left and whether he can collect duty on portions of vessels not shipped.

The company says it will burn what is left of the vessels, but that does not satisfy Collector Andrews, and he has written the department for instructions.

Discovery of coal in Klondike has brought forth an order from Ottawa that royalty must be paid on coal the same as on gold. This order was recently received at Dawson, and caused a general protest, as consumers say the price of fuel is already sufficiently high without the addition of royalty.

Bids for a New Cruiser.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—Bids were opened in the office of the secretary of the navy today for the contract to build the protected cruiser Milwaukee, otherwise known as protected cruiser No. 21. Secretary Long announced before the opening of the bids that should any related bid reach the department which is proved to have been held up on account of the storms in the West, it will be considered along with those opened today. There were two bidders and three bids, the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, and Cramps & Son, of Philadelphia, the latter firm submitting two separate proposals.

New Washington Sawmill.

South Bend, Wash., April 6.—The frame is up for a new sawmill at Frances, in which O. A. Custer is moving spirit. The machinery is expected daily, and it is thought the mill will be running by May 1. It will have a daily capacity of 20,000 feet. It will take the place of Mr. Custer's mill, which had to be closed down on account of its cedar land being tied up in a contest. A spur will be built to the mill from the Northern Pacific track.

Overcome by Gas.

Chicago, April 6.—Five persons were overcome by gas in a residence at 340 North State street this evening, and except for a woman's efforts probably would have met death from asphyxiation. The rescuer, Mrs. Mary Kearney, who also was affected by the gas, although slightly, managed to carry the five unconscious women and children into the yard. A physician was summoned, and after several hours' hard work, he said all would recover, although two were still in a serious condition.

OREGON STATE NEWS

Items of Interest From All Parts of the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL HAPPENINGS

A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth.

Forest Grove.—Six inches of snow fell near Forest Grove on April 5.

The Dalles.—The Dalles canal has ordered six more fire plugs to be installed immediately.

Nysa.—The citizens of Nysa demand that the railroad company build a depot at that point.

Galls Creek.—Operations have been resumed at Kuhl & Co.'s quartz mine, in Galls creek district.

Western.—This town will issue \$5000 worth of bonds to raise money to improve its water supply.

Eugene.—Boy tramps are reported as being more numerous in Eugene than ever before known.

Dusty.—The school at Dusty has been closed again on account of a fresh outbreak of diphtheria.

Lincoln County.—The Lincoln County Farmers' Association has decided to hold a county fair next fall.

Grants Pass.—Work has commenced on the Grants Pass-Williams telephone line, and will soon be in operation.

Baker City.—During March, 98 coyote scalps were turned in at Baker City at the office of the county clerk.

Baker City.—Negotiations are now pending at Baker City for sale of the Pacific brewery to an Eastern buyer for \$40,000.

Eugene.—The board of directors of Eugene school district have accepted plans for a new school building, to cost about \$15,000.

Wendling.—Smallpox is very prevalent at this place, and county authorities have been appealed to. So far it is only in a mild form.

Corvallis.—Benton county has issued a call for all warrants outstanding up to August 10, 1900, and same will be paid upon presentation.

Brownsville.—There are now two brass bands in Brownsville. A new one has just been organized, known as the Brownsville independent band.

Glendale.—There have been 41 cases of smallpox in and about this place, but no deaths as yet. Several cases are now in a very critical condition.

Goble.—The Goble & Nehalem Railway Company is operating six donkeys at its Goble camps and expect to install four additional donkeys about September.

Lebanon.—The Electric Light and Water Company of Lebanon has let the contract for construction of a new water tower. The tower will be thirty-five feet high.

Athens.—A man arrived at Athens on a new bicycle and was immediately arrested by request of Pendleton authorities. He had stolen the wheel from a store at that place.

Medford.—A pioneer butcher of this place has been convicted of selling diseased meat. His employees testified that they had orders to kill any sick animal that was likely to die.

Klamath.—Captain O. C. Applegate, agent at Klamath Indian agency, is making arrangements for extensive improvements at the agency, for which provision was made at the last session of congress.

Ione.—A well is being sunk at Ione near the depot for the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Company. The road will have its main line above town moved to the new well, the old being insufficient to supply the engines with water during the summer.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 57c; Valley, nominal; bulkless, 56c per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, \$2.70 to \$3.40 per barrel; Graham, \$2.60.

Oats—White, \$1.25 per cental; gray, \$1.20 to \$1.22½ per cental.

Barley—Feed, \$16.50 to \$17; brewing, \$16.50 to \$17 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$16 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$17.50; chop, \$16.

Hay—Timothy, \$12 to \$12.50; clover, \$7 to \$9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6 to \$7 per ton.

Hops—12 to 14c per pound; 1899 crop, 6 to 7c.

Wool—Valley, 13 to 14c; Eastern Oregon, 9 to 12c; mohair, 20 to 21c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 20 to 22½c; dairy, 15 to 18c; store, 10 to 12½c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 13 to 13½c per dozen.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50 to \$5; hens, \$3.50; dressed, 11 to 12c per pound; springs, \$4 to \$5 per dozen; ducks, \$5 to \$6; geese, \$5 to \$6 per dozen; turkeys, live, 11 to 12c; dressed, 13 to 14c per pound.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13 to 13½c; Young America, 13½ to 14c per pound.

Potatoes—45 to 55c per sack.

Mutton—Lamb, 12½c per pound gross; best sheep, ewes, \$5; ewes \$4.50; dressed, 7½ to 7¾c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, heavy, \$5.75 to \$6; light, \$4.75 to \$5; dressed, 7c per pound.

Veal—Large, 7 to 7½c per pound; small, 8½ to 9c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$5 to \$5.25; cows and heifers, \$4.50 to \$5; dressed beef, 7 to 8½c per pound.

In 1890 Sweden had a population of 2,350,000, and at the present time, in spite of the large emigration which has given 1,000,000 people to the United States, the population is 5,150,000.

But one person is alive who sat in the house of commons when Queen Victoria came to the throne. It is Earl Fitzwilliam, who, when Viscount Milton, was elected a few months before William IV died. At the Diamond Jubilee there were several survivors of pre-Victorian parliaments.

INTERVIEW WITH KRUGER.

Opinion of Transvaal ex-President on the Situation.

NEW YORK, April 8.—A dispatch to the Herald from Paris says:

An interview with Mr. Kruger appears in the Matin. The ex-president of the Transvaal was seen in a modest little inn at Utrecht, where he is staying for the moment. His eyes have been very much improved by recent operations, and he can now dispense with spectacles. Sitting in front of a table with a Bible under his left hand, Mr. Kruger delivered himself of an important statement, to which further significance was given by the presence of the Orange Free State delegate, Herr Fischer.

Mr. Kruger began by announcing that Saturday next he proposes retiring into the country for a couple of days. The little village of Hilbersum, not far from Utrecht, has been selected for his abode. Nothing has yet been decided regarding his trip to America. Mr. Kruger will undertake the journey if his strength permits, and if there is any hope of gaining advantage for the Boer cause.

Pointing to Herr Fischer, the aged president declared that the two republics are indissolubly united.

"Herr Fischer," he said, "is fighting for the same cause as my heroic friend President Steyn. The two presidents and the two commanding generals, Botha and Dewet, will share the same fate."

On being questioned regarding the reliance he placed on the Boer official telegrams and statements in parliament, Mr. Kruger, half rising from his arm chair, declared:

"The British government, British telegraph and the British press all say they make this much"—and he measured his little finger—"look like this much"—and he extended both arms.

"I am persuaded everything is going well there precisely because our enemies continue to dissimulate and to refuse to listen. We do not fight, except for peace. We are not conquerors, but, although General Botha listened to the British proposals, he never uttered a word of equivocation on the subject of independence. Independence is the only treasure we cherish, even if we have to sacrifice all others. It is for this reason our citizens forsake their farms and sacrifice their lives, and our women and children now suffer temporary servitude in the enemy's camp."

TO PREVENT ARMY FRAUDS.

Regulations Concerning the Transportation of Supplies.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—The war department has received a copy of a regulation to carry into effect an act of the Philippine commission amending a section of the provisional customs regulations which is of interest in view of the recently reported frauds in the commissary department in the islands. It shows the precautions ordered to be taken to guard against any misappropriation of government supplies. These regulations provide briefly that where supplies for the army or navy in the Philippines come on other than government regulated vessels, which is of interest, a certificate from the chief of department charged with their custody certifying that the goods are exclusively for the army or the navy or the insular government, and that no other person is to have access to them, is required. The regulations also set forth that prompt notice must be given the collector of customs for the islands in case of the nonacceptance of any consignment of goods or cancellation of sale. Goods purchased in the Philippines after importation must be accompanied by an affidavit of the seller affirming that an absolute sale has been made by him, and that the goods are not of any kind or character in interest of such goods.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH BOERS.

More of the Kitchener-Botha Correspondence Made Public.

LONDON, April 8.—The letter of General Botha, the Boer Commander-in-Chief, to Lord Kitchener, commanding the British forces in South Africa, preliminary to the recent peace meeting, casual reference was made in Lieutenant-General Kitchener's report of the negotiations and from which the opponents of Colonial Secretary Chamberlain hoped to obtain some clew of the reason for the failure of the conference, was published as a preliminary paper this morning. This letter is dated at the Commandant-General's camp, February 13, and commences with a reference to "the verbal message from your excellency." Continuing, the letter says:

"I have the honor to inform your excellency that no one desires more than I to bring this bloody strife to an end, I would also very much like to meet your excellency for the purpose of mutual discussion to see if it is not possible to discover terms under which this can be done."

PURSUED BY PLUMER.

Boer Seat of Government Is Again Shifted.

LONDON, April 8.—Lord Kitchener reports as follows to the war office: "Colonel Plumer has advanced 20 miles beyond Nylstroom, unopposed on the way, toward Pietersburg."

According to the Pretoria correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, the Boers have shifted their seat of government from Pietersburg to a point 35 miles northeast.

All the Guns Accounted For.

LONDON, April 8.—Lord Kitchener, reporting to the war office the finding of an abandoned and destroyed pom-pom, near Vrhfeld, says: "This accounts for all the enemy's guns known to be in the southern district."

Cape Town, April 8.—General French continues to press the Boers at Vrhfeld, Transvaal colony. The Boers abandoned a pom-pom, which the British found in a small shed at the bottom of a precipice.

CHINA WILL NOT SIGN

Rejects Manchurian Treaty and So Informs Russia.

WANTS TO CONTINUE ON GOOD TERMS

But Says This Action Was Made Necessary by Pressure from Other Powers—Earl Li Was in Favor of the Treaty.

PEKIN, April 5.—The Chinese government has formally notified Russia that, owing to the attitude of the powers, it is not able to sign the Manchurian convention.

"If it is China's desire," says the official notification, "to keep on friendly terms with all nations. At present she is going through a period which is the most perilous in the empire's history, and it is necessary that she should have the friendship of all. However much she might be willing to grant any special privilege to one power, when others object it is impossible for the sake making one nation friendly, that she should alienate the sympathies of all others."

Li Hung Chang says this letter settles the matter definitely, and that Russia was unjustly notified to the same effect March 29. Prince Ching says that every Chinaman except Li Hung Chang was against signing the convention.

AGREED TO BY COLOMBIA.

Will Lease Canal Territory to the United States.

NEW YORK, April 5.—A special to the Herald from Washington says:

Official denials greeted the published report that J. Pierpont Morgan, having discovered a gold mine on the Panama canal route, would head a syndicate to build a canal, and had secured President McKinley's cooperation and the aid of Colombia. Denials came from the white house, the state department, the Colombian legation and the French embassy. Most of those who denied the report declared that it was started to make difficult the negotiation of canal treaties by the United States.

The big news development in the canal situation is that Minister Silva, who is also Colombian minister of foreign affairs, in his memorandum to Secretary Hay, has formally agreed on behalf of his government to grant the United States a long lease of the territory through which the canal passes. He states emphatically, however, that his government will not cede sovereignty.

The lease is to be granted on these terms:

The United States shall pay to Colombia, in half-yearly installments, during the first 25 years after the opening of the canal to the public service, a share amounting to 5 per cent of its gross receipts, and a second period of 25 years, 6 per cent; during a third, 7 per cent, and during a fourth, 8 per cent. This is on the basis of a 99-year lease. The United States shall guarantee that this share shall be in no case less than \$250,000 annually. In case of the issuance of stock, Colombia is to receive a share based upon that given it by the Panama Canal company, amounting to one-thirteenth of the number of shares issued. Colombia is to receive \$250,000 annually for the use of the railroad. Colombia mails, troops and effects belonging to the republic, and emigrants to the country, up to a number of 2000 must receive railroad transportation free of charge. Colombian vessels are to be allowed free use of the canal. Finally, Colombia binds herself to permit the French Canal Company to negotiate with the United States for the sale of its concession. The concession absolutely forbids the company to cede or mortgage its rights under any consideration whatever to any other nation or foreign government, under penalty of forfeiture."

TRAINS IN THE FALL.

Washington & Oregon in Vancouver in September.

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 5.—Edmund Rice, Jr., secretary and manager of the Washington & Oregon Railroad Company, which recently purchased the right of way of the Portland & Puget Sound Railway Company, from this city to Kalama, said tonight that the company is making arrangements to commence building the line at once. The company expects to advertise for bids April 15, and to have the line completed ready to run into Vancouver by September, in time to move this season's fruit crop. Double crews of surveyors are setting grade stakes and cross-sectioning, and it is the intention to have the work finished this week. Chief Engineer O'Neill is preparing plans for construction, and bids will be asked soon.

The line from Vancouver to Kalama will be little over 30 miles long. The grade, Mr. Rice says, is in very good condition, only requiring to be leveled in places and culverts and bridges built. The remainder of the line, north out of Seattle into British Columbia, is by a deal effective April 1, merged into the Northern Pacific, which company will continue its operation. G. B. Cliff, who as master of transportation of the old concern, has been promoted to division superintendent of the Northern Pacific, comprising the old Seattle & International and Northern Pacific terminals in Seattle.

Part of Northern Pacific.

Seattle, April 5.—The Seattle & International Railroad, which reached north out of Seattle into British Columbia, is by a deal effective April 1, merged into the Northern Pacific, which company will continue its operation. G. B. Cliff, who as master of transportation of the old concern, has been promoted to division superintendent of the Northern Pacific, comprising the old Seattle & International and Northern Pacific terminals in Seattle.

ATE THEIR FELLOWS.

Shipwrecked Men on Raft Forty Days Two Out of Twelve Survive.

LONDON, April 9.—The Singapore correspondent of the Daily Express wires a story of cannibalism at sea brought to Singapore by two survivors of the Nova Scotian bark Angola, which was wrecked six days after last. The correspondent says:

"The survivors, Johnstone, a Swede, and Marticomu, a Spaniard—assert that the Angola struck a reef. Two rafts were built. The smaller, bearing fifteen men, disappeared. The other, with 12 men, drifted for 42 days. The sailors ate barnacles, seaweed, and finally their boots, and on the 25th day two became insane and killed themselves. On the 26th a Frenchman killed the mate with an ax, drank his blood and tried to eat his brains, but was prevented by the others. Next day the Frenchman was killed while attempting to murder the captain. The survivors, all of whom were now in the hands of the Frenchman's body, cannibalism continued until only Johnson and Marticomu remained. On the 42d day the raft stranded on Subi, or Flat island, in the Natuna group, north-west of Borneo. Johnson and Marticomu were awfully emaciated. Friendly Malays sent them by junk to Singapore."

AGREED TO BY CANADA.

Will Examine all Cattle Destined for United States.

WASHINGTON, April 9.—As a result of negotiations between Secretary of Agriculture Wilson and the Canadian minister of agriculture, an agreement has been reached between the two administrations by which Canada is to have a first-class veterinarian stationed in England to test for tuberculosis all British cattle shipped to this country via Canada. The Canadian administration wanted cattle to be admitted from Canada without tests at the border by American experts. The department at Washington would not agree to this. Secretary Wilson said, however, that if Canada would send to England an agent who should have sufficient expert knowledge of the subject, the United States would admit cattle upon his certificate that the cattle had been tested and found free of tuberculosis. This was agreed to by the Canadian minister. It is officially explained that about 10 per cent of the livestock in the United States and about 40 per cent in Great Britain have tuberculosis. The cattle on the continent of Europe are so diseased that this government will not permit the admission of any animals from there.

CLEARING THE HARBOR.

Collier Merrimac Is Being Blown Out of the Way.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, April 9.—Fifty hundred pounds of dynamite were used yesterday afternoon in blowing up the forward superstructure of the sunken United States collier Merrimac, which has long impeded the entrance to the harbor. The explosion was heard plainly in the city, five miles away. Divers immediately descended and found 40 feet of clear water over the forward portion of the wreck. Port Captain Irving will begin tomorrow to place mines aft, which he expects to explode in a week, thus completely clearing the harbor entrance.

Reduction of Money Order Rates.

Washington, April 8.—In addition to the arrangement with Canada, it is expected that a reduction of postal money order rates between the United States and both the Philippines and Cuba will be put in operation on July 15, next. The arrangement just signed between the postal administrations of the United States and Canada will take effect on that day, and negotiations are now in progress with the islands mentioned which are expected to be consummated in time for the same arrangements to be effective simultaneously. This means a reduction on all money orders issued between the United States, Canada, Cuba and the Philippines of 1 per cent, the international rate which now applies, to three-fourths of 1 per cent, which is the domestic rate.

Fatal Train Wreck.

Kansas City, Mo., April 9.—By the derailing of the engine and a number of empty freight cars being brought