

## HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

### PLAN FOR GOOD ROADS.

Linn Supervisors Will Work Together on a Common Plan.

Albany.—Pursuant to the call of Judge Palmer, the road supervisors of the county met with the county court, now in session, and the question of general road improvement was discussed in all its phases. The discussion was perfectly informal, and the methods in use in the various districts of the county were compared, both as to amounts of money expended and results obtained. There were 27 road supervisors present, being all the supervisors in the county except one. The members of the court and two road masters were also present.

As a result of the meeting a uniform system of road building and improvement was adopted for use all over the county. The grades will be of a uniform width, the gravel covering of uniform depth, etc. More money will be expended on road improvement than in years gone by. Linn county has received from the state this year money to the amount of \$2,146, representing this county's share of the money received by the state of Oregon from the sale of government lands. It has been decided to devote this money to the improvement of the public roads in Linn county. The money will be expended in those districts which are willing to help themselves.

Every district will be given \$75 of this money at the start, provided the district contributes a like sum. In this way it is thought the people of every district will be encouraged to spend some time and money in the improvement of their roads, and that gradually an interest will be aroused in the good roads movement which will result in passable highways over the entire county.

### SIGNATURES ARE ALL COUNTED.

Local Option Petition Had 8,816 Names Direct Primaries, \$746.

Salem.—Secretary of State Dunbar has finished counting the signatures on the initiative petitions and finds that there are 8,816 names on the local option petition and 8,746 on that for the direct primary law. The equal suffrage amendment petitions were not filed. A few petitions were sent in from independent sources, but the large number of petitions prepared under the direction of the leaders of the equal suffrage movement were not presented to the secretary of state.

The secretary of state has officially notified the governor that the petitions have been filed and the governor will issue a proclamation setting forth the substance of the proposed laws and notifying the voters that the measures will be submitted at the June election. The proclamation will be published in one newspaper in each judicial district.

### Creamery for La Grande.

La Grande.—Arrangements have been perfected for a creamery in La Grande, which will be in operation about the middle of March. The machinery has been sent for and a car load will arrive here March 1. Harper & Smith, who are so successfully operating creameries at the Cove and at Union, are the promoters of the enterprise here, and will run it under the name of Harper, Smith & Co. In a recent partial canvass Mr. Harper was able to secure the product of 250 cows, and the number will be greatly increased when the creamery is started. The business men and the farmers are encouraging the project.

### Biggest Spruce on Earth.

Astoria.—W. S. Linkhart, of Nehalem City, has discovered what is believed to be the largest spruce tree in the world. The monster tree is located in God's valley, on the south fork of the Nehalem river, about 12 miles from Nehalem City. The tree measures 21 feet in diameter and 63 feet in circumference. Its height was not measured, but Linkhart expresses the belief that it is easily monarch of the northern forests in this respect as well as in others. God's valley is the location of the largest trees ever discovered in Northwestern Oregon.

### Strike Big Ledge of Cinnabar.

Cottage Grove.—Three pioneer prospectors of Bohemia, Ed Jenks, Ben Curry and George Kerns, while out from Bohemia for a vacation, heard of a large ledge of some character up Mosby creek, some five miles east of here. Upon investigation they discovered a strong and well defined ledge of cinnabar. They began at once to run a surface crosscut and so far found the ledge to be 50 feet in width and from the pinnings show a good prospect of quicksilver, and some native quicksilver can be seen in the ore.

### Coming Events.

Oregon Christian Endeavor convention, Pendleton, February 19-22.  
College oratorical contest, Pacific university, Forest Grove, March 13.  
Dog show, Portland, April 26-28.  
State convention, Knights of the Maccabees, Portland, March 22.

### CATTLE STARVING ON RANGES.

Forehanded Ranchers Alone are Saving Stock by Dry Feed.

Eugene.—Stockraisers in this county are beginning to realize that winter feeding is necessary even in an unusually mild winter like the present. This month and next are the months when the greatest losses occur on the ranges, and from all reports the losses will be almost as great this winter as in those winters when we have had snow and freezing weather.

Until a few weeks past cattle have been getting along fairly well without dry feed, but now feeding is general, except in cases where the farmers have no reserve supply, and in such cases stock is being lost. In some sections of the county quite a number of cattle have died from exposure and insufficient nourishment, the pastures being eaten down to the roots and no hay to pitch to the hungry brutes.

This is only a beginning, and before the end of March many of the stacks of hay will be exhausted, and stockmen realize that considerable losses will be sustained. Cattle which have been running in the foothills of the Cascades, and which did well until a month ago, have now been driven down to the valley by the snows, and they are dependent on dry feed.

Even if grass were to grow now it would only be slight help, as the first grass of the spring possesses little nourishment.

### Enter Large Body of Base Ore.

Cottage Grove.—The Vesuvius mining company, of Bohemia, reports that an immense body of ore has just been entered in the lower working tunnel. The ore body is several feet wide and of a base character, carrying copper, lead and iron. This tunnel is in 160 feet, and when the proper distance is attained will top this property at a vertical depth of 100 feet from the apex of the mountain. The Vesuvius property has several thousand feet of tunnels, consisting of drifts and upraises above this level.

### Look to the Rogue River.

Jacksonville.—Indications are that the year 1904 will witness the largest immigration ever known to the Rogue river valley. More immigrants have come in this winter than is usual for the time of the year and houses are in demand in every town in the valley. The Jacksonville board of trade, as a result of some judicious advertising, is in receipt of a large number of letters of inquiry, letters coming from almost every state of the union.

### Cattle Deal at Pendleton.

Pendleton.—Max Jackson, a prominent cattle man of North Yakima, has just closed a deal with Receiver Taylor for C. B. Wade's cattle aggregating nearly 700. He pays an average price of about \$16 per head, making the deal one of about \$10,000. It is the largest cattle transaction made here in years.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 75c; blue stem, 80c; valley, 79c; 80c.  
Barley—Feed, \$20 per ton; brewing, \$20@20.50; rolled, \$21.

Flour—Valley, \$3.75@3.85 per barrel; hard wheat straight, \$3.90@4.10; clear, \$3.55@3.75; hard wheat patents, \$4.20@4.50; graham, \$3.75; whole wheat, \$4; rye flour, \$4.50@4.75.

Millet—Bran, \$18@18.50 per ton; middlings, \$26; shorts, \$19.50@20; chop, \$18; linseed, dairy food, \$19.  
Hay—Timothy, \$15@16 per ton; clover, \$12@13; grain, \$12@13; cheat, \$12@13.

Butter—Sweet cream butter, 32% per pound; fancy creamery, 30c; choice creamery, 25@27% per c; dairy, 20@22% per c; store, 12@14c.

Butter Fat—Sweet cream, 31c; sour cream, 29c.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 11% per pound; springs, small, 13@14c; hens, 12@12% per c; turkeys, live, 15@16c; dressed, 18@20c; ducks, \$8@9 per dozen; geese, five, 8c per pound.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 14c; Young America, 15c.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 26c per dozen.

Vegetables—Turnips, 80c per sack; carrots, 80c; beets, \$1; parsnips, \$1; parsley, per dozen, 25c; tomatoes, \$1.50@2 per crate; celery, 65@75c per dozen; pumpkins, 1c per pound; onions, Yellow Danvers, \$1.35@1.50 per sack.

Honey—\$3@3.50 per case.

Potatoes—Fancy, 75@80c per sack; common, 60@75c; sweets, 2% in sacks; 2% in crates.

Apples—Fancy Baldwins and Spitzengbergs, \$1.50 per box; cooking, 75c @ \$1.

Hops—Choice, 27@29c per pound; prime, 25c; medium, 24c.

Wool—Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 32@35c.

Beef—Dressed, 6@7% per pound.

Mutton—Dressed, 6@7% per c; lambs, 7%.

Veal—Dressed, small, 8@9c; large, 5@6%.

Pork—Dressed, 6% @ 7c.

### SUNK BY JAPAN.

Russian Ship Lost at Chemulpo—Another One Is Fired.

Tokio, Feb. 10.—It is reported here that the Japanese fleet engaged and defeated two Russian warships, whose names have not yet been learned, at Chemulpo yesterday. It is said the engagement began at 11 A. M. and continued until 3 P. M. The smaller Russian vessel is reported to have been sunk and the larger one was fired and hopelessly destroyed. A part of the crews are reported to have escaped to the shore and to have been captured. The Japanese ships are reported to be slightly damaged. Official confirmation of the battle is unobtainable.

### Japanese Start for Seoul.

London, Feb. 10.—In a dispatch from Tien Tsin dated February 9, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says it is reported there that the Russian cruisers Varyag and Korietz hauled down their flags without firing a shot and that 8,000 Japanese immediately landed at Chemulpo and the march to Seoul commenced.

It appears, the correspondent continues, that the Russian warships at Vladivostok are icebound.

Another correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs from Port Arthur under date of February 9 that the Russian advance has commenced. General Krastelinsky will leave Liaoyang tomorrow for the Yalu river at the head of the Third brigade of artillery, consisting of 24 guns and three regiments of infantry. The Third, Fourth and Fifth infantry brigades are entrenched along the railroad at a distance of 40 miles from Haicheng, and three batteries of the Fifth brigade are at Kinchow. The greatest activity prevails here and ammunition is being served out lavishly at an average of 150 cartridges per man. New recruits are being enrolled with feverish haste, drilling being dispensed with in favor of incessant target practice.

### BALTIMORE PARALYZED.

Aftermath of Terrific Fire Shows Appalling Conditions.

Baltimore, Feb. 11.—The people of this unfortunate city are dumbfounded.

Baltimore is beginning to realize the immeasurable magnitude of her loss. The weather has taken a wintry chill which adds to the grief. Workers who are idle know they will probably be compelled to leave for other cities. All estimates of the total loss vary from \$150,000,000 to twice that vast amount, but it will be months before it can be adjusted, as the task is a gigantic one.

Insurance adjusters are dazed by the great work ahead of them. Special agents from all important companies went into a special session at 11 o'clock this morning as a loss committee.

When morning broke it would have been impossible to describe the scenes of devastation that met the eyes of the thousands who flocked to the scene of the great conflagration that raged from Sunday morning at 11 o'clock until late Monday night before it could be safely said that all danger of further destruction was passed. Even then no one could tell but a fresh wind might spring up and again fan the dying flames into renewed and vindictive vigor.

One hundred and forty acres lie in utter ruin. In this desolate territory stood the greatest and most costly buildings in Baltimore or the state of Maryland. Millions were represented by the great business concerns that occupied the stone, brick, iron and steel buildings and their loss is great; greater than can be estimated at the present. Insurance underwriters roughly and conservatively estimate the loss at \$200,000,000, and the amount of insurance involved at \$100,000,000. There must be added to this as a natural consequence the personal property loss that insurance men have no way of estimating.

The district swept by the fire is 75 blocks in extent and comprised nearly 2,500 buildings. It is within the territory bounded on the west by Liberty street, on the north by Lexington street, on the east by Jones Falls, and on the south by the Basin.

### Russia Is Excited.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11.—The news that Japan had duplicated her tactics at the opening of the China-Japanese war by a torpedo attack on the Russian ships off Port Arthur, created intense excitement. Details of the attack are anxiously awaited. Extra editions of the morning papers printed early in the forenoon, after the appearance of the Official Messenger, conveyed the intelligence to the population of the capital and dispelled any lingering hopes that war could be averted. All are eager to go to the front.

### Currency Undamaged.

Baltimore, Feb. 11.—The vaults of the Continental trust company building were opened at noon. Thousands of dollars in currency and bonds were found to be undamaged. The bank will do business despite the 10 holidays. Assistant United States Treasurer Dryden, after communicating with Secretary Shaw today opened the subtreasury making \$12,000,000 available for the local banks if wanted.

## WAR HAS BEGUN

### JAPAN ATTACKS RUSSIAN SQUADRON AT PORT ARTHUR.

Two Battleships and a Cruiser Badly Damaged—Mikado's Forces Escaped Unharmed—Several Russian Merchantmen Also Seized—Both Nations Sending Troops to Corea.

Berlin, Feb. 9.—A special telegram from St. Petersburg says three Russian ships at Port Arthur were severely damaged last night by torpedoes discharged from Japanese torpedo boats while the latter were passing the harbor. Subsequently a large fleet of Japanese battleships and cruisers appeared before the port.

### Martial Law Proclaimed.

Port Arthur, Feb. 9.—In consequence of the attack by the Japanese torpedo boats, martial law has been proclaimed here.

### Japan Seizes Russian Ships.

London, Feb. 9.—In a dispatch dated Nagasaki, February 6, and which was delayed by the censor, a correspondent of the Daily Telegraph asserts that Russia deliberately precipitated the crisis by secretly dispatching, a few days ago from Port Arthur, transports loaded with a full division of troops and escorted by a fleet and landing them near the Yalu river, thus occupying Northern Corea.

Japanese patience became exhausted, and today Japan moved her ships and took unresisted possession of certain merchant vessels, including the Shilka and Manchuria, the correspondent continues.

"Two other Russian vessels were seized and escorted to Sasebo, Japan." The Daily Telegraph says it supposes the foregoing seizures occurred at Masampho, but that the censor suppressed the location.

A special dispatch says a strong fleet of Japanese warships, reported to be on the way to Chemulpo, has seized several Russian trading vessels.

In a dispatch from Tokio, a correspondent of the Daily Mail says the Jiji Shimpo has received a telegram from Fusan, Corea, declaring that the firing of guns was heard to the east of Koje island.

### FAIR BILL PASSES.

Senate Votes to Extend Aid to Lewis and Clark Exposition.

Washington, Feb. 9.—Without a dissenting vote the Lewis and Clark exposition bill passed the senate at 5:30 yesterday afternoon, carrying an aggregate appropriation of \$1,775,000. Section 16 of the bill, providing for the construction of a memorial building was stricken out; the number of national commissioners was reduced from seven to three; an amendment was attached absolutely closing the exposition and grounds on Sunday, and the franking privilege denied to the national and state commissions. Aside from these changes, the bill was passed in substantially the shape in which it recently came from the senate committee.

The Lewis and Clark bill came up unexpectedly at 3:15. The attendance at this time was slight, but as the debate proceeded, senators returned to the chamber, until, at the time the bill was passed, there was a fair average attendance. Twice during the afternoon it looked as if the bill would have to go over until some future time. Senator Platt, of Connecticut, made a rather vicious attack upon the large amount carried by the bill, and threatened to force a fight, which might have been temporarily disastrous.

Later Senator Allison became critical of the phraseology of the bill, and but for the intervention of Senator Fulton would have forced the senate to adjourn without taking action on the bill. The committee amendments were mostly adopted without discussion, but the last committee amendment, relating to Sunday closing, provoked a protracted debate, and in the end resulted in the adoption of an amendment offered by Senator Platt, of Connecticut, closing both buildings and grounds on Sundays.

### Japan Cuts Cable to Corea.

Paris, Feb. 9.—The French foreign office was advised this afternoon that the Japanese have cut the cable connecting Japan and Corea. The object of this action is believed to prevent news of the operations of the Japanese reaching the Russians, which was possible, no matter how closely censored the dispatches sent might be. Following the breaking off of relations between Russia and Japan and the cutting of the cable is regarded here as significant of the purpose of the Japanese to begin hostilities.

### Executive Ability Counted.

Washington, Feb. 10.—It is said at the war department that Cameron Forbes, of Boston, who has been tendered the position of Philippine commissioner, was selected principally because of his executive ability and technical knowledge of engineering matters.

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| DEPART                                              | TIME SCHEDULES Portland, Or.                                                   | ARRIVE      |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Chicago Portland Special 9:30 a. m. via Huntington. | Salt Lake, Denver, Ft. Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago and East. | 4:30 p. m.  |
| Atlantic Express 8:15 p. m. via Huntington.         | St. Paul Fast Mail.                                                            | 10:30 a. m. |
| St. Paul Fast Mail 8:00 p. m. via Spokane.          | Atlantic Express.                                                              | 7:35 a. m.  |

### OCEAN AND RIVER SCHEDULE FROM PORTLAND.

|                                                 |                                                                          |                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 6:30 p. m.                                      | All sailing dates subject to change For San Francisco—Sail every 6 days. | 6:00 p. m.                                   |
| Daily Ex. Sunday 8:00 p. m. Saturday 9:00 p. m. | Columbia River Steamers. To Astoria and Way Landings.                    | 5:30 p. m. Ex. Sunday                        |
| 6:45 a. m. Mon., Wed. and Fri.                  | Willamette River. Salem, Independence, Corvallis and way landings.       | 3:30 p. m. Tues., Thu., Sat.                 |
| 7:00 a. m. Tues., Thur. and Sat.                | Yamhill River. Oregon City, Dayton and way landings.                     | 4:30 p. m. Mon., Wed. and Fri.               |
| Lv. Riparia 4:05 a. m. Daily except Saturday    | Snoke River. Riparia to Lewiston                                         | Lv. Lewiston 8:00 a. m. Daily except Friday. |

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No. 1 returning:  
Leaves Yaquina.....6:45 a. m.  
" Corvallis.....11:30 a. m.  
Arrive Albany.....12:15 p. m.  
No. 3 for Detroit:  
Leaves Albany.....7:00 a. m.  
Arrives Detroit.....12:20 a. m.  
No. 4 from Detroit:  
Leaves Detroit.....1:00 p. m.  
Arrives Albany.....5:55 p. m.

Train No. 1 arrives in Albany in time to connect with the S. P. south bound train, as well as giving two or three hours in Albany before the departure of the S. P. north bound train.

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