

WEEK'S DOINGS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

The czar has decorated Alexieff with the order of St. George, third degree.

The American Federation of Labor has re-elected Samuel Gompers as president.

Japanese diplomats contend that Great Britain is supplying coal too freely to Russia.

The Russians at Mukden have defeated the Japanese in strategy and a winter campaign now seems improbable.

The Russian supreme court finds the seizure of the British ship Cheltenham, taken early in July by the Vladivostok squadron, was legal.

It is stated that if Secretary Hitchcock resigns, William Richards, commissioner of the general land office, will be offered the position of secretary of the interior.

Fire in the Queens county court house, New York, caused damage estimated at \$100,000, and for a time threatened the jail in which more than 100 persons were confined.

The rail and steel mills of the Illinois Steel company, of Chicago, have closed down for an indefinite period, owing to a lack of business. Three thousand men are thrown out of employment.

Russians are finding the water problem at Mukden a serious one.

The government '05 fair board has begun the selection of exhibits at St. Louis.

The war has cut off Poland's market in Siberia and thousands of people are idle as a result.

A son-in-law of Marquis Ito declares that the apparent delay of Oyama is for strategic reasons.

The Prussian army budget for the coming year is estimated at \$118,000,000, an increase of \$11,250,000.

Commissioner Richards, of the General land office, is coming to Portland to testify in the land fraud case.

General Chaffee recommends that the Vancouver, Wash., military reservation be enlarged, and estimates the cost of land at \$30,000.

Charles J. Bonaparte, a leading lawyer of Maryland, is mentioned as a possible selection for a place in Roosevelt's new cabinet as secretary of the interior.

The location of the Vladivostok harbor defense mines is uncertain and as a result a torpedo boat has been sunk and a German steamer badly damaged.

The need of officers for the navy is very pressing.

Anarchy prevails in Macedonia and Christians are slain daily.

Robbers blew up the safe of a La Plata, Md., bank and secured \$3,000 cash.

Five submarine torpedo boats built for Japan in America have arrived at Yokohama.

Cuban health officers challenge American marine corps to prove that yellow fever has appeared in that country.

By the explosion of a boiler in the suburbs of Vicksburg, Miss., two men were killed and a number injured, two seriously.

The vessels of the Baltic fleet have arrived at Port Said. Every precaution has been taken to insure a safe passage through the canal.

The permanent location of the Wyoming state capital was not settled at the last election. Cheyenne led in the contest, but did not receive the necessary two-thirds. It will, however, remain at Cheyenne until the matter is settled, which will not probably be for many years.

Snow is reported throughout the United Kingdom and there is great misery in London.

The secretary of the interior has temporarily withdrawn from all entry about 9,000 acres of land in Idaho for the Tekoa reservoir site, in connection with the Palouse irrigation project in Washington.

Minister Barrett reports that all is again quiet in Panama.

Land Commissioner Richards urges that no more forest reserves be created until experts have reported.

The case of Senator Burton, of Kansas, accused of accepting a bribe, will come to trial in a few days.

Both armies in Manchuria occupy such strongly fortified positions that neither appear inclined to attack unless possessing a preponderance of numbers. The Japanese probably have more available troops.

From a report just issued by the department of commerce and labor, showing amounts deposited in savings banks throughout the world, it is found that the United States, with less than 9 1/2 per cent of the total population considered, contributes over 29 per cent of the total savings deposits recorded. The deposits in the United States total \$3,060,179,000.

The Red Star line steamer Kronland, reported lost, has arrived in New York.

DEWEY MAY BE SENT.

United States Government Has Not Been Officially Informed.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Gratified by the spirit which has animated the contracting parties in agreeing to intrust to a commission the ascertainment of the questions of fact connected with the North sea incident, the United States government will cordially cooperate in the naming of the commission by the designation of one of its high naval officers as a member of that body. The outcome is especially pleasing to the administration, following as it does so closely on President Roosevelt's invitation to the powers of the world for a second Hague conference.

The popular impression has been all along that Admiral George Dewey, the ranking officer in the American navy, would be asked to be the American representative on the commission, although other names have also been mentioned in connection with the appointment. A decision will be reached promptly after the formal invitation has been received from the Russian and British governments as to who shall be designated.

This formal invitation has not yet been received, the two governments in the negotiations which have been in progress between them acting entirely on the presumption that the United States would cheerfully give its assistance and detail a naval officer.

JAPANESE OVER THE HUN.

Rivers Will Soon Bear the Weight of Transport Wagons.

Tokio, Nov. 30.—News received from the region of the Shakhe indicates that the Japanese have been across the Hun river. Further reports are to the effect that the Russian outposts on the right bank of the Shakhe were within 300 yards of the Japanese picket line. Frequent exchange of gun fire occurred and minor attacks are quite everyday affairs. The rivers will soon be frozen sufficiently to bear the weight of the heavy transport wagons. The following report has been received from Field Marshal Oyama:

"From the night of the 25th to the morning of the 26th bodies of the enemy's infantry attacked us in the vicinity of Signlute, Fageig and Shaotukau. All these attacks were repulsed. In the afternoon of the 26th the enemy's artillery east of Tasha hotly cannonaded us, but we suffered no injury.

"The greater part of the village of Changtsaimun has been burned by the Russians."

BUBONIC PLAGUE IN CHILE.

Consul Winans Charged with Giving Improper Bills of Health.

Lima, Peru, Nov. 30.—It is reported here that Senor Martinez, the Chilean minister to the United States, will request the State department at Washington to cancel the authorization of Charles S. Winans, American consul at Iquique, to take charge ad interim of the Peruvian consul at that place. The request, it is said, will be founded on a charge that Mr. Winans has given improper bills of health to steamers leaving Iquique.

While the prevalence of bubonic plague has not been officially declared in Chile, it is said that there are cases that the Chilean government daily conceals in order that steamers may not omit touching at ports at which there are no sanitary regulations. This alleged action is considered a great peril to the Peruvian coast, Panama and the entire country bordering on the South Pacific ocean.

Sultan Greatly Alarmed.

Salonica, European Turkey, Nov. 30.—The Bulgarian revolutionary movement has recently assumed such alarming proportions that the sultan is sending Nazir Pasha to Salonica as special envoy with instructions to take all measures necessary to suppress the Bulgarian movements by the quickest possible methods. Ten battalions from Albania are expected here soon and the Redifs will be probably mobilized in order to afford effective military protection in every village of Macedonia.

Agree on Ampic Supplies.

Tokio, Nov. 30.—The two principal political parties have issued manifestos unanimously declaring in favor of ample supplies to carry on the war to the end. But whereas the language of the manifesto of the Seiyunai party suggests unreserved support of the cabinet's budget, the progressives suggest a modification of the taxation schemes. Both insist on a strong policy toward Korea, whose fate closely concerns Japan a national interest. The progressives are outspoken in condemning the inefficiency of the latest convention.

Students Ceasing Their Rioting.

Budapest, Nov. 30.—As a result of the order of the director of the university forbidding students to participate in political demonstrations, which yesterday culminated in a riot in which several students were injured, it was feared that there should be further trouble today, but the big meeting of the opposing parties was held and dispersed quietly after speeches had been made by Francis Kossuth, Count Apponyi and others.

Russia Will Copy America.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 30.—A project for applying the American scheme of free land for settlers in Siberia in order to attract colonization from the congested districts in European Russia is attracting much favorable comment. The plan as proposed follows closely the American homestead system.

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

BETTER THAN WHEAT.

Eastern Oregon Farmer Raises 40 Acres of Potatoes.

Pendleton—John Ferguson, who raised a crop of potatoes on his land adjoining the city limits on the south side of Pendleton, has drawn the conclusion that potato raising is much more profitable than raising wheat.

On 40 acres of land Mr. Ferguson this season raised 40 sacks to the acre, or 1,600 sacks. As the market price has been on an average of at least \$1.25 a sack since the beginning of the potato season up to the present time, he estimates that his crop has brought him in the neighborhood of \$2,000, without a great deal of labor. This land was in wheat last season, growing about 30 bushels to the acre. At the same ratio had it been in wheat he would have had 1,200 bushels, and at the market price of 75 cents a bushel, would total \$900. Besides the crop of potatoes the land, as a result of the cultivation, is more benefited than had it been sown last year.

The potatoes grown in soil of the nature of this field are of the best quality. Being large, smooth and free from clinging soil, they command a premium of from 25 to 50 cents a sack in California markets, in direct competition with California potatoes.

The whole of Umatilla county has the same soil as this particular field, and instead of summer following the entire wheat area, it has been demonstrated time and again that a crop of potatoes or corn can be grown with profit and to better advantage for the soil than the rest.

Electric Line Has Free Way.

La Grande—The La Grande city council, at a recent meeting, favorably considered the granting of a franchise for a right of way into the city limits of the Eastern Oregon Development company for an electric railway. As the Union county court and the towns of Union and Cove have granted a franchise, the company will now go on with the work of connecting all principal points in the valley with an electric line, including the Hot Lake sanatorium, Union to Cove, and from Cove to Summerville, Elgin, Island City and La Grande. The company has been given all necessary encouragement as to tonnage, and part of the road will be completed by October, 1905.

An Accommodating Raspberry Bush.

Albany—A raspberry bush on which there are ripe raspberries, green raspberries, buds and full blossoms stands in the door yard of the residence of George Wright, in this city. On one limb there are 12 ripe, fully developed berries and 15 green berries. Ripe raspberries and a raspberry bush in full bloom in the middle of November are both curiosities, and when the two are combined in one the circumstance is unusual. Mr. Wright selected a limb on which there were ripe and green berries, and also buds and blossoms and placed it on exhibition in the window of a local office.

Apples by Carloads.

La Grande—The apple crop of Union county is being picked and packed as rapidly as possible, and the Oregon Produce company, of La Grande, has already purchased 31 cars of the best varieties to ship out to the markets. From 12 to 15 cars have been shipped from the Cove district, and there are now about 25 cars awaiting shipment from there. The Oregon Produce company will build another large storage building in the near future at La Grande. Six hundred boxes are being packed a day. Many apples are being stored for the growers also by this company, awaiting better prices.

Land Prices are Higher.

Pendleton—County Assessor C. P. Strain has just completed making the real estate transfers to his assessment roll for the past year. They number nearly 1,000, not counting over 500 recorded on the books as described by deeds and bonds. The latter are principally the section in the vicinity of Milton and Frewater, where the land is cut into small tracts. Mr. Strain says the prices recorded on the land sales far exceed those of previous years. Several quarter sections are recorded as having been sold at \$9,500.

Chamber Offers Its Co-Operation.

Astoria—The chamber of commerce has directed the secretary to inform the county court that the chamber will co-operate with the court in arranging for a Clatsop county exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair. A communication was received from Major Langitt stating that soundings had been made at the point where a barge load of rock was recently dumped in the channel opposite the city, and 40 feet of water were found.

Looks for Eastern Appic Market.

La Grande—E. C. Carbine, one of the leading fruit growers in the Grand Ronde, has left for the East with two car loads of choice apples grown here, and will visit New York and other important cities to look up a market for the many apples that the growers wish to ship East. If the experiment meets with favor, many car loads will be sent out from here.

NEW WING FOR ASYLUM.

Recommendations to be Made to the Oregon Legislature.

Salem—Governor Chamberlain, Secretary of State Dunbar and State Treasurer Moore visited the state insane asylum a few days ago to investigate the need of an addition to accommodate the rapidly increasing number of patients. That more room will be needed is certain and the only question before the board was whether to recommend to the legislature the construction of a new closed cottage at the asylum farm or a new wing at the main building.

Because of the better facilities for water supply and sewerage at the main building it was decided to recommend the construction of a new wing. This addition will cost about \$40,000 and will provide room for 120 more patients.

The population at the asylum is increasing at the rate of 50 to 60 a year, or 100 to 120 in a biennial term. A new wing will therefore provide only for the increase in the next two years.

Lane's Display of Products.

Eugene—The committee from the Eugene Commercial club, which has been working for an exhibit of Lane county products at the Lewis and Clark exposition, has appointed E. M. Warren, an enthusiastic farmer of Coburg, to superintend the collection of agricultural and horticultural exhibits. Mr. Warren will take up the work at once and will devote his time and energies towards making an exhibit that will surpass anything of the kind ever before shown from this county. He has had valuable experience in making exhibits at state and county fairs, and already has a large assortment of grains, grasses, canned fruits, nuts, etc., and will add to this by securing the best that can be produced of all kinds of products before the opening of the exposition. The county has already made an appropriation to defray the expenses of collection.

Rich Ore of Bohemia.

Cottage Grove—Twelve tons of ore selected from the Bohemia mining district have been shipped to Portland for exhibit at the Lewis and Clark exposition. Three thousand pounds are already at Portland at the bureau of information. Another shipment will be made in the spring. When all the ore is assembled Bohemia will be represented by 20 tons of ore that cannot be exceeded. D. H. Weyatt, solicitor of minerals, has been here several days, assessing in the accumulation of these ores and announces that he is much gratified with this collection and the vigorous manner in which the miners of Bohemia collected these minerals.

Poultry Show at Albany.

Albany—The executive committee of the Central Willamette Poultry association met in this city and perfected arrangements for their third annual poultry show, which is to be held in Albany, January 18 to 21, inclusive. Prizes for the three best birds of each kind in each class will be given, as in the past. Three silver cups are to be offered as special premiums, one to be given to the best pen in the American class, another for the best pen in the Mediterranean class, and the other for the best collection of cock, cockerel, hen and pullet in the show.

Contract for 1,000-Foot Well.

La Grande—Senator A. McDonald, of Allice, has just made a contract with Mr. Hunt, an expert artisan well digger of California, providing for the sinking of a well 1,000 feet deep for the Union County Artesian Well company. The location of the well depends on which farmer in the vicinity of the well gives the most toward the expense. Thomas McConnell has a well down at this time to a depth of 514 feet and operations have been suspended until the arrival of 900 feet more of casing which has been ordered.

China Pheasants are Scarce.

Albany—China pheasants can now be legally sold. The law provides that in the last 15 days of the open season (November 15 to December 1) the birds may be sold, bartered or exchanged. None have appeared on the market in this city, however, as they are very scarce. The birds are so scarce, in fact, that practically no hunting is being done or has been done in the past two weeks, as the hunters cannot kill birds enough to pay.

Paper Mills Resume Operations.

Oregon City—After having been shut down for five weeks because of an unprecedented low stage of water in the river, the paper mills have resumed operation here. Resumption of work at these large institutions furnishes 425 men with regular employment and will materially add to the monthly payroll in this city.

Fine Display from Blue River.

Eugene—The ore for the Blue river exhibit at the Lewis and Clark exposition is now being hauled to Eugene and will be stored until such time as the exposition is in shape to receive it. The miners are all interested in the matter and will make a fine display.

Northwest Wheat Markets.

Portland—Walla Walla, 83c; bluestem, 88c; valley, 87 1/2c. Tacoma—Bluestem, 85c; club, 88c.

PREPARE TO DISMANTLE FAIR.

St. Louis Officials Will Begin Work Wednesday at Midnight.

St. Louis, Nov. 29.—Promptly at midnight next Wednesday, a force of 75 men employed by the General Service company of the Louisiana Purchase exposition, will shut 200 freight cars, loaded with empty packing cases, into the several exhibit palaces, and the work of dismantling the World's fair will begin.

Piled at different parts of the exposition grounds are 1,500 carloads of empty packing cases, while outside the grounds are others, aggregating 100 carloads more. These will be distributed as rapidly as possible, and the packing of exhibits will be rushed.

At daylight, December 2, another large force of men will begin to tear up the walks that conceal the tracks about the exposition grounds. They will also tear up the switches in the rear of the Stadium and lay tracks connecting the line with each of the exhibit buildings.

A bond has been filed with the United States government, through the Treasury department, by the World's Fair terminal railway company, making it a common carrier, which will facilitate the removal of the exhibits, as freight cars can be dispatched direct from the exposition grounds to their destinations.

With the exception of Germany, in which case special permission was secured, not a single exhibit has been withdrawn nor will be allowed to be withdrawn until the new month has begun. Only a few of the German exhibits have been taken away from the World's fair grounds, and they were shipped directly to the imperial palace at Potsdam.

P. E. Phemeger, of Seattle, has been appointed general superintendent of the General Service company, and declares that all exhibits will be out of the exposition grounds by March 1.

WATER NOT SURE.

Eastern Oregon Irrigation Project May be Blocked.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Just as the officials of the reclamation service were preparing to make contracts for the construction of the Malheur irrigation project in Malheur county, Oregon, after having completed negotiations with farmers whose lands will be reclaimed under the proposed canal, an unexpected obstacle arises which threatens to force the abandonment of this attractive reclamation scheme, the most promising now open to government adoption in Oregon.

The grant made to the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Military road company traverses the area proposed to be irrigated along Malheur river, and embodies about one-sixth of the total irrigable area. The government, after persistent efforts, procured signed agreements from all farmers owning lands in the irrigation area, by which they pledge themselves to pay their proportionate share of the cost of building this great project, namely, \$30 an acre.

It had been assumed that the Military Road people would be willing to enter into a like agreement, inasmuch as the construction of this irrigation project would greatly enhance the value of their lands and make them readily salable. At present the road company's lands are vacant, unimproved and practically valueless. It turns out that the assumption of the department was incorrect. The owners of Military road land, now residing in Paris, do not look with favor upon the government's proposition, and are unwilling to contribute anything towards building storage reservoirs and canals.

The officials of the reclamation service, who had banked so much on this project, and had expected to see it pressed to early completion, are very much disappointed at the turn affairs have taken. They are inclined to believe that the Military Road people who are opposing the government's plan are not doing it in a spirit of animosity, but because they do not understand what the government proposes to do.

Snow Storm in Manchuria.

Field Headquarters, General Kuroki's Army, Nov. 29.—A light snow storm yesterday left two inches of snow on the ground. Along the tops of the hills, which in many places form the advanced line of General Kuroki's army, the snow is deeper. The soldiers are living in earthen burrows and snug shelters, constructed of corn stalks, and are able to keep warm through the freezing nights. It is impossible to build campfires in the trenches within sight of the enemy.

Dredgemen Leave for Panama.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Two dredgemen, the first engaged for work on the Isthmian canal, have left Chicago for Panama. They are William Bats, dredge engineer, and Philip Bates, his brother, crane-man. They were engaged through the office of the International Brotherhood of Steam Shovel and Dredgemen, the members of which organization will be hired for the work. The engineers will receive \$190 and the crane men \$165 a month on the canal.

Firing on Fort.

Tokio, Nov. 29.—The general attack on Port Arthur is progressing, but the results are unknown. Generals Nakamura and Saito, leading specially trained bodies of swordsmen, charged into the Russian forts and engaged the Russians in a hand-to-hand and bloody encounter. The result of the charges has not been learned.

MUST ATTACK

Japanese Officials Insist Port Arthur Be Taken.

RUSSIA READY FOR BAD NEWS.

Certain That Stocssel Will Make the Assault One of the Costliest in World's History.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The Associated Press learns on excellent authority that the Japanese army has received orders to renew its attack on Port Arthur and to take the main fortifications at any cost.

Prepared for Bad News.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—There is a lack of news from the front today. The report that the Japanese are concentrating their energies for a desperate assault on Port Arthur, in view of the approach of the Baltic squadron, is quite generally credited in official quarters. Such a move has been expected to transpire as soon as the Japanese learned that the squadron's trip was a reality and no mere demonstration. The authorities are prepared to hear terrible reports of the projected assault. While not hazarding a guess whether the fortress can be carried, for the besiegers are utterly regardless of life, they are confident that General Stocssel will be able to make such an attack one of the costliest in history.

Russians Lack Ammunition.

London, Nov. 28.—The Post's Shanghai correspondent cables that, according to reliable information received there, the guns at Port Arthur have been silent for the past few days owing to lack of ammunition. This sudden turn for the worse in the condition of the defenders of the fortress has been caused by the recent blowing up of the most important magazine by Japanese shells.

STARVATION IS NEAR.

Sassans Population of Turkey is in a Terrible Condition.

Washington, Nov. 28.—A story of sickness, hunger and starvation has come to the state department from Mr. Norton, the American consul at Harpoot, in a report upon the condition of the Sassan population in Mush district. The consul says that of the 10,000 survivors of the recent massacre, few have saved anything but their lives. Nearly every house in the region was ransacked and burned.

Extracts from the report were made public at the state department today in the hope that the sad story may bring relief to the unfortunate Sassans.

"Worst of all," Mr. Norton says, "their flocks and herds, practically the only source of food, raiment and income, were swept away."

"These unfortunates, after receiving for a short time an allowance from the government of 1 cent per capita per day for subsistence, are now without food and without a prospect of food for the coming winter. The diseases usually following upon fright, exposure, exhaustion and insufficient food are rapidly becoming epidemic."

WOULD MAKE WAR IMPOSSIBLE.

Brifann Believed to Favor Re-Enactment of Olney-Pauncetote Treaty.

Glasgow, Nov. 28.—The Glasgow Herald comments on the fact that the mutual acceptance of the Anglo-American treaty was announced on November 9, but that it has not yet been signed. The paper conjectures that the delay may be due to the inclination of both governments to bring about a re-enactment of the Olney-Pauncetote treaty of 1897, there being unmistakable evidence that the advisability of such a course is being considered. While the treaty of 1897 may not fit present conditions in its entirety, it would be an easy matter, the paper says, to change it accordingly, retaining, however, those provisions which are largely in excess of the bonds created between the United States and other countries by the various treaties now pending. If this course were taken, the Herald says, war between the United States and Great Britain would be almost an impossibility.

Urges Russia Make Treaty.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 28.—The Bourse Gazette revives the question of a new commercial treaty with the United States. The paper says it notes with satisfaction that the negotiation of commercial treaties forms a part of President Roosevelt's program for the coming administration, and that the consummation is greatly to be desired between Russia and America. Commercial wars, the Gazette adds, are in the long run almost as costly and disastrous as armed hostilities, and equally useless and unnecessary.

Tribesmen Worry Russians.

Mukden, Nov. 28.—Much difficulty is being experienced with camp followers, mostly Circassians, Tartars and other tribesmen from the Caucasus. They swagger around in flocks and fur hats, with daggers at their belts, and have committed so many depredations that severe measures have been adopted to get rid of them. The general question of housing the people of Mukden is serious, as they flock in from all the surrounding country for the winter.

Switzerland for Peace Congress.

Berne, Nov. 28.—The president of the Swiss federation has informed the American minister that Switzerland accepts in principle President Roosevelt's invitation to be present at The Hague conference.