

PUMPS FOR GRANT

WORK CAN NOW PROCEED ON DREDGE WITHOUT DELAY.

Few Weeks Should See the Change Completed—Operations on the Mouth of the Columbia Will No Doubt Begin Early Next Month—Engineers Show That Haste Has Been Made.

Washington, Sept. 23.—A telegram was received by the chief of engineers today stating that the pumping machinery for the converted dredge Grant has been received at the navy yard, and will at once be placed in position on the ship. From this it is inferred that recent predictions will be fulfilled and the Grant will be ready for operations on the Columbia river early in October.

Today's mails brought to the department notification of the criticism that has been passed upon the engineers for taking so long in equipping the Grant. To show that instead of delay the Grant has really been converted in a comparatively short time, the acting chief of engineers called attention to the progress of work on a number of sea dredges now being built for use on the principal harbors of the coast. He said arrangements were made for converting the transport Grant into a dredge about February 1 and on September 1 the work was 88 per cent completed.

Two sea dredges to have pumps the size of those supplied the Grant for use in New York harbor, which were authorized December 13, are not yet 10 per cent completed. There has been no actual work on a dredge for Lake Michigan authorized March 18, while the Southwest Pass dredge, begun February 26, is only 15 per cent completed, and a dredge for the Mississippi river, contracted for September 1, 1901, is but 73 per cent completed. A dredge for Charleston, S. C., will be ready for action next month, but it was authorized December 23, 1900, nearly three years ago. In the case of these dredges the work is all new.

WEALTH OF ALASKA.

Coal and Oil in Abundance, and Agricultural Riches Also.

Portland, Sept. 23.—After spending the summer in Alaska surveying and locating coal and oil lands and a couple of homesteads on Kachenak Bay, a railroad eight miles long across the head of this bay, and locations for fish salteries on Halibut Cove, John A. McQuinn has returned to Portland for the winter. He is favorably impressed with that region, in which layers of sandstone and coal alternate to a considerable depth, below which it is supposed oil will be found. The beach is littered with coal, which has fallen from veins between the layers of sandstone on the bluff shores. It is considered quite certain that oil will be found by boring to some depth, and machinery for this will be on the ground next spring.

The company of New York capitalists in whose employ Mr. McQuinn has been proposed to locate colonies of Finns and Swedes on the lands it has had surveyed, and to establish fish salteries on a large scale. Fish of many kinds are abundant in the waters there.

Mr. McQuinn says that when he left Alaska the last of August the peninsula between Kachenak and Cook's Inlet, some 50 miles long and about as wide, was covered with wild red-top grass nine feet in height. The summer is short, but it is warmer than any other place in Alaska, and vegetation grows rapidly, radishes, lettuce, etc., being ready for use in four weeks from the time the seed is sown. The company is going about the development of this region cautiously and is bound to make a success of the scheme, Mr. McQuinn thinks. When the colonies of Finns and Swedes are located and the fisheries and mines fairly opened, a vast amount of wealth will be developed.

Powder Magazine Burglarized.

Helena, Mont., Sept. 23.—Officials of the A. M. Holter hardware company today discovered that their powder house and magazine, located just outside of the city limits, had been broken into and 1,250 pounds of dynamite had been stolen. The value of the powder amounts to \$350. Today word was received from Blossburg that a quantity of dynamite was found cached along the tracks of the Northern Pacific railroad. It is not yet known whether the powder found at Blossburg is part of that stolen.

Pay for Insult to Premier.

New York, Sept. 23.—Two Italians, Picolo and Dachino, charged with having thrown a tomato at Premier Combe, at Marseilles, have been sentenced, says a World's special from Paris, to six months' imprisonment. Although Mr. Combe was traveling simply as a private individual, the court held that the insult was directed against his official position.

TREATY IS DEAD.

Panama Canal Held Up by Colombia Until Time Expires.

Washington, Sept. 23.—When the state department closed yesterday at 4 o'clock it was agreed that the Panama canal treaty was dead, although eight hours yet remained within which the Colombian congress might take affirmative action upon it. Nothing, however, had been received during the day, either from Minister Beaupre at Bogota or from Mr. Herran, the Colombian charge here, which gave the slightest hope of a favorable issue.

A report is current here that the Colombian congress, in secret session, has clothed President Marroquin with full power to negotiate a treaty. If this report should turn out to be true, President Marroquin, who is counted a friend of the treaty, could proceed untrammelled by the fear of future reckoning with his congress.

In any event, President Roosevelt must now take the next step. He can elect to proceed under the Spooner act and take up the Nicaraguan route, or he can allow the matter to drift for the present in the hope that a way may yet be found to straighten out the present difficulty in the path of the Panama route.

Contrary to his custom during the summer, Acting Secretary of the State Department Odell remained in the city yesterday in order to be on hand to act promptly on any information which might come from Mr. Beaupre regarding canal matters at Bogota. Up to 9:30 o'clock, however, nothing had been received. Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge, also waited anxiously for news from his government, but likewise was disappointed. Colombia, it is known, is anxious to keep alive the canal negotiations.

One interesting feature in connection with the legislative situation in Colombia is the fact that the terms of one-third of the members in the senate, numbering nine, will expire on the 20th of next July, when the life of the present congress will end. These nine senators, it is said, are averse to the canal treaty. The hope of the advocates of the treaty will be to elect senators in their places who are favorable to the convention.

TRAIN IS HELD UP.

Masked Men Blow Open Safe But Get Little Bootie.

St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 24.—Four masked men, at 10 o'clock tonight, held up west bound Burlington & Missouri River train No. 41, five miles north of this city. The safe in the express car was dynamited and the car wrecked. Officials of the road say the safe contained but little money. Other reports say it contained \$5,000 to \$10,000 in money. Everything in the safe was taken and the men escaped in the darkness with horses. A posse was organized and is in pursuit of the bandits. Not a single shot was fired.

The train was stopped by means of a red light. The engine and express car were uncoupled from the remainder of the train and backed half a mile further on where it was dynamited. The train was in charge of Conductor Harvey, who hurried to the city and gave the alarm. The officers lost no time in organizing and making a start. It was necessary for the entire train to be brought back to the city and a new train made up which left at 1 o'clock.

According to the messenger reports received from the scene of the hold up at midnight, the instant the train was stopped, two of the robbers climbed into the engine, and with drawn weapons compelled the engineer and fireman to obey orders. One of the men uncoupled the engine and express car from the remainder of the train. The party then climbed into the cab and the engine and car were run up the track. The explosion followed. As soon as the safe was dynamited, the men dashed to the wrecked car. It is asserted that they did not get a cent as a result. The train was loaded with passengers for the West and the hold up created a panic.

As soon as the conductor saw the robbers, he ran back down the track and secured a hand car on which he came to St. Joseph and notified the officers.

Turkey Moving to Avert War.

London, Sept. 24.—Turkey is showing signs of yielding to the Bulgarian demands, and it is evident from the daily meetings of the council of ministers at Yildiz Kiosk that some sort of negotiations are in progress with the object of avoiding war. According to a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Constantinople, these councils concern two possibilities—either to make an arrangement satisfactory to the Macedonians or obtain from the great powers promises of neutrality if it is found impossible to avoid a war.

Frank People Flee.

Nelson, B. C., Sept. 24.—Passengers arriving tonight over the Crow's Nest report that another immense slide occurred this morning at Turtle mountain, near Frank, Alberta. As far as known, no lives were lost, but all the people of Frank have deserted the town again, being taken on to Blairmore and other towns.

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

MODERN PRUNE GRADING.

Great Progress Has Been Made in the Industry.

The great progress that has been made in the prune industry in this state in the last few years is indicated by the machinery which has been put in operation at the Willamette Valley Prune Association's warehouse in Salem. In one corner of the warehouse stands an old-fashioned hand prune grader, of the back-breaking type. It was capable of handling tons of fruit a day if a gang of men could keep it going steadily. In the center of the warehouse is a massive power grader, 42 feet long and ten feet high, the most up-to-date machine for that kind of work. Its capacity is 100 tons a day. In former years the prunes were loaded on trucks, taken up to the second floor on an elevator and emptied into the grader by men who lifted the sacks of prunes to the hopper. Now the grader stands on the third floor. A continuous chain carrying cups runs from the basement to the top of the grader. On any floor prunes may be dumped into a hopper and they are carried up to the grader without further effort.

From the grader the prunes run through a steam process from which they emerge into another hopper and from this they drop into boxes already ready for packing. From start to finish manual labor is reduced to a minimum and nearly all the work is done by machinery. During the passage of the prunes through the grader and processor they are cleaned of all dirt, are made uniform in moisture and are placed in the boxes bright and clean.

WHEAT TRADE AT STANDSTILL.

No Sales on the Pendleton Market and No Shipments to Coast.

The wheat market of Pendleton and vicinity is at a complete standstill. No sales have been made for nearly a week and no shipments of moment are being made to the coast.

This state of affairs was caused by the sudden decline in prices. Club is quoted at 67 cents per bushel, while bluestem is selling at 70 cents. This is a drop of 5 cents per bushel on both classes of wheat.

The mills had boosted the price. They were just out of wheat, and if they had not paid high prices they would have been forced to shut down. Some of the mills south of here had to suspend operations because they did not care to pay such a fancy price. The mills are now well supplied and are buying but little, only in cases where there is storage room.

The export buyer seems out of the market. The farmers will not sell at the present quotations, and the buyers will not offer higher money. There are about 900,000 bushels of unsold wheat in the county.

Never was there such keen activity among farmers in storing wheat. The buyers say that about 2000 sacks are arriving in Pendleton daily, which is 1000 sacks above the average daily delivery. This rush of wheat to the warehouses is due to farmers fearing a wet season, and also to get this work off their hands so fall seeding can be started. By the middle of next week all the grain of the country will have been placed under shelter. The weather is ideal for the finishing of harvest. Most of the grain which was standing when the recent rains came will not be threshed, but will be cut for feed.

Installing Mining Machinery.

The Crystal Consolidated Mining company is at the present time energetically placing machinery that has been contracted for some time. They are now installing a 50-horse power boiler and engine and sawmill. They have also placed an order with the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, for a stamp mill. This will soon be completed and will be on the ground early next month. The company is also building a wagon road from the new Champion Creek road to the Mountain Lion claim, a distance of 7500 feet. The cost of this road will be about \$4000. This company has a large amount of ore in sight and will run the mill continuously during the winter months.

State Veterinary Board.

The members of the Oregon state veterinary board, created at the last session of the Oregon legislature, will be named by Governor Chamberlain in a few days. The board will consist of five competent practitioners of veterinary medicine and surgery. Two of the men to be appointed will serve for a term of two years and three for a term of four years and after the first two years the term of office of all members will be four years. The members serve without compensation, but receive their traveling and other expenses.

Slaughter of Pheasants.

There is urgent need for vigorous enforcement of the game laws of the state, so far as they are designed for the preservation of the Chinese pheasant. For the past five weeks these birds have been killed in countless numbers in the Willamette valley, although the season for killing of this game does not open until Thursday, October 1.

A BIG SHEEP CENTER.

Thousands are Loaded at Pendleton for All Parts of the West.

Pendleton is one of the greatest sheep shipping centers of the Pacific slope, railroad men say. About 100,000 sheep have been shipped from and through that point this season. A great many more will be shipped before the winter season comes on, as the fall movement has just become established.

The O. R. & N. reports that 300 cars had been shipped from and through that point, while it was ascertained that the W. & C. R. had handled 200 cars. The cars, as a rule, are loaded with about 240 sheep each.

These shipments are much heavier now than they were last year at this time. The shipments of the entire country will greatly exceed the shipments of last season, for the reason that there are more sheep in the country, and feed is exceptionally scarce and sheep raisers are forced to sell. The season is now fairly opened and heavy shipments will continue for the next month or so.

Most of the sheep have been shipped to Portland on the coast and Seattle and other Sound points. Some have been shipped as far east as St. Paul. Heavy shipments have been made to California points. No reason is assigned for this extraordinary activity, beyond the fact that a scarcity of mutton prevails in the Utah section. Many sheep of Montana, this year, have been killed by severe storms, and there is not the usual supply there.

THROWS THE LAND OPEN.

Effect of Ruling Relating to Timber and Stone Entries.

The ruling by the department to construe strictly the testimony taken in timber and stone entries in regard to speculation will have the effect of throwing open again a greater part of the timber land which has been entered upon under the act of June 3, 1878, and for which patents have not been issued. There would be no possible way to enter the land then except by those who have forest reserve lien land script to place, and this would have the effect of throwing the best lands of the public domain into the hands of corporations which have bought up all available scrip to use for good timber lands. This is the exact result congress most desired to avoid. Only a small percentage of the entries under this act have been made by adjacent homesteaders, who enter such lands to reserve to themselves and successors woodland for the future.

Pokegma a Village of Tents.

Southeastern Oregon can boast of a city built entirely of tents. Pokegma is the name of this unique village, which is located among the towering pines near the summit of a mountain range. It is the terminus of the Klamath River railroad, a branch of the Southern Pacific. The branch is constructed for a distance of 25 miles and was laid for the purpose of tapping the timber belt of this section. People have rushed in to secure land and many timber locations have already been made. In fact all the best of the land has been taken.

At State Agricultural College.

Registration has been in progress at the Agricultural college today. The total has reached 250. The total at the close of the first day last year was 327. There is a vast contingent of new students, and it is certain now that the freshman class will be larger than usual.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 74c; bluestem, 78c; valley, 78c.

Flour—Valley, \$3.65@3.85 per barrel; hard wheat straights, \$3.75@4.10; hard wheat, patents, \$4.20@4.50; graham, \$3.35@3.75; whole wheat, \$3.55@4.00; rye wheat, \$4.50.

Barley—Feed, \$19.00@20.00 per ton; brewing, \$21; rolled, \$21@21.50.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10; gray, \$1.05@1.10 per cental.

Millet—Bran, \$21 per ton; middlings, \$25; shorts, \$21; chop, \$18; limed dairy food, \$19.

Hay—Timothy, \$14.00 per ton; clover, nominal; grain, \$10; chest, nominal.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 25@27 1/2c per pound; dairy, 15@20c; store, 15@16c.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, 12@12 1/2c per pound; spring, 14@14 1/2c; hens, 12@13c; broilers, \$2.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@12c per pound; dressed, 14@15c; ducks, \$4@4.50 per dozen; geese, \$5@6.50.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 24c.

Potatoes—Oregon, 65@75c per sack; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2c per pound.

Wheat Sacks—In lots of 100, 5 1/2c.

Beef—Gross steers, \$3.75@4.25; dressed, 6@7c per pound.

Veal—8 1/2c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, \$3; dressed, 5@5 1/2c; lambs, gross, \$3.50; dressed, 6c.

Hogs—Gross, \$5.50@5.75; dressed, 8c.

Hops—1902 crop, 21c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 17@18c; Eastern Oregon, 12@15c; mohair, 25@37 1/2c.

PALMA ON CUBAN TOUR.

President of Republic Urges on People Necessity for Civil Comity.

Santiago De Cuba, Sept. 23.—Speaking today at the village of El Caney, close to the scene of the battle between the Americans and the Spaniards, President Palma urged the Cuban people to guard the ideals they had obtained by means of intervention.

The presidential party were enthusiastically received on their arrival at El Caney. The Alcalde having remarked that the gathering was composed of veterans, President Palma assured them that he wanted to pay the army as badly as anybody, because the payment was not only an act of justice, but was necessary to the reconstruction of the country. Nobody loved Cuban independence more than himself, continued the president.

The only way to sacrifice the republic would be to bring about a civil war. He believed there was not one veteran in a thousand who would not prefer to maintain the honor of Cuba, even to the extent of forfeiting his soldier's pay. The Cubans, having accepted United States intervention as a means of ending their troubles, were under an obligation to follow those ideals and prove themselves a peaceable people.

Speaking of the appearance of the band of insurrectionists near Santiago, President Palma condemned the hidden instigators of the uprising. The Alcalde declared that no one within two leagues of El Caney had joined the band.

ODD FELLOWS MEET.

Sovereign Grand Lodge Opens at Baltimore With Large Attendance.

Baltimore, Sept. 23.—The opening exercises of the annual convention of the sovereign grand lodge of Oddfellows began here at 9 o'clock this morning, in Ford's opera house.

The condition of the order at the close of 1902 is shown by returns as follows: Subordinate lodge membership, December 31, 1902, 1,069,906; encampment membership, 145,190; Rebekah membership, brothers 151,195, sisters 259,850; Patriarchs Militant membership, 17,754.

The total membership of the order, which includes the subordinate lodge membership and the sisters only of the Rebekah lodge membership, is 1,329,956. The encampment membership and the brothers of the Rebekah lodges are not included in this total, as they are subordinate lodge members.

Revenue, relief and invested funds are indicated as follows: Revenues or receipts in 1902: Subordinate lodges, \$10,214,000; encampments, \$712,522; Rebekah lodges, \$626,743; total revenue, \$11,553,905, an increase of \$771,343 over the preceding year.

Relief expended in 1902: Relief by lodges, \$3,559,794; relief by encampments, \$265,617; relief by Rebekah lodges, \$67,808; total relief, \$3,893,220.

Total relief, as shown by records since 1830 to 1902, inclusive, \$96,468,425.

AMERICA URGED TO ACT.

Strong Pressure Is Being Brought to Bear on State Department.

Washington, Sept. 23.—Communications have reached the state department urging the government to say or do something that will put a stop to the atrocities in Turkey. It is stated that this pressure does not emanate from the missionaries. Officials at the state department are reticent about the probability of the United States giving expression to the feeling with which the alleged atrocities in Turkey are viewed by the people of the United States, but they said that reports from Turkey show that the deeds daily perpetrated in sections of that country are of such a character as to shock civilization and necessarily are of deep concern to the United States.

The state department today received a cablegram from Minister Lushman at Constantinople, but nothing was given out regarding it except that it contained no alarming news and was partly concerned with routine business.

Withdrawal of the American squadron at Beirut, it is said, has not yet been determined upon, and no indication has been received from Oyster Bay as to the president's intentions in the matter.

Test of the Dredge Grant.

San Francisco, Sept. 23.—The dredge Grant is in drydock at Mare Island for the last touches. The date for sailing north is not fixed, but is soon. A unique test of the large steel debris bin on the Grant was made the other day. While on keel blocks the gates for releasing the material pumped into vessels while dredging were shored up, water tight, from the bottom of the dock. Between 2000 and 3000 tons of water was then pumped into the debris bin for a test to discover leaky places. No leaks were found.

High Speed on Electric Line.

Berlin, Sept. 23.—A burst of speed at the rate of 114 miles an hour, was reached Saturday on the Zossen electric line, but over what distance is not disclosed. The length is 18 miles.