

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

ASK REPEAL OF EDDY LAW.

Movement on Foot Amongst Mining Men of Eastern Oregon.

Baker City.—There is a movement among the mining men of this section of the state to bring about the repeal of the Eddy corporation law. A petition is being circulated asking the legislature to repeal the law. If it is not possible to secure the repeal of the law then it is hoped the legislature will so amend the present law as to reduce the fees charged mining corporations. The mining men also object to the annual tax to the state, which ranges from \$125 to \$200. It is pointed out that often a mining company is obliged to incorporate for a large sum and await the sale of stock before the work of development can be pushed. Mining men say that it not infrequently happens that a mine is incorporated and several years elapse before it becomes a producing mine, yet under the present law the corporation is obliged to pay an annual tax to the state which in some instances becomes a heavy burden, especially to the poor prospector.

The petitioners argue that an exception should be made in favor of mining corporations for the reason that it is necessary to incorporate undeveloped claims in order to raise money to exploit them. A strong lobby will doubtless be sent from all the mining districts to work for the repeal or amending of the present law.

EAGLE POINT SURVEY.

Surveyor McCall Leaves Ashland in Charge of Party.

Medford.—Surveyor J. A. McCall, of Ashland, and party have left for Butte Creek Falls to make the final survey of the proposed railroad from the Butte Falls Milling Company's plant to Eagle Point, a distance of 15 miles. Preliminary survey has already been made between these two points and a permanent survey will be made in order to get everything ready for grading, which will begin when the survey is completed.

Construction work will commence about April 1 next. There are two feasible routes from Eagle Point to the Southern Pacific railroad, but so far as known the choice has not yet been made. The route from Eagle Point to Medford is probably three or four miles longer than to Central Point, but the fact that Medford is the commercial center of the Rogue river valley and Jackson county will go far toward making it the terminal of this road.

Lane Court Gives Fair Money.

Eugene.—The matter of an exhibit of Lane county products has been definitely settled by the county court making an appropriation of \$500 to be expended in preparing a suitable display. This action was taken after an argument by a committee from the Eugene Commercial club, who appealed strongly for a proper display from the county in order to show the public its resources. It is now the intention to make an exhibit that will surpass any. This in addition to the mining exhibit from the Blue river mines, now being prepared, will certainly make Lane county's display attractive.

Suit Over Valuable Tailings.

La Grande.—County Judge Eakin heard a motion to dissolve an injunction obtained from the county court of Baker county to Union county on behalf of the Virtue Mines Development Company, against Earnest Dale Owen, of Chicago. Owen bought all the tailings on the property of the old Virtue mine. Some of these had been made by an old mill before the concentrates were saved. These tailings proved to be very valuable, far more so than was supposed, and the company is trying to stop the purchasers from taking them.

Clackamas at the Fair.

Oregon City.—The Clackamas county court has appropriated \$1000 to be expended under the direction of the court in gathering and installing an exhibit of Clackamas county products at the Lewis and Clark fair. By cooperating with the members of the general and executive committee on the Clackamas county 1905 fair exhibit, the members of the court expect to arrange a display that will be second to none other.

Aids in Hop Display Exhibit.

Salem.—Walter L. Tooge, who has charge of the hop display in the Marion county exhibit at the Lewis and Clark fair, has appointed W. H. Egan, Julius Wolf, H. J. Ottenheimer and T. A. Livesley to aid in the work of that department.

Seeding at Weston.

Weston.—Seeding has been under way for the past two weeks in this section, and already the wheat is beginning to appear above the ground. Although it is a little dry, the work is being hurried to completion.

LAND ORIGINALLY A SWAMP.

Testimony of ex-Surveyor General in Warren Valley Case.

Salem.—The deposition of ex-Surveyor General W. H. Byars was taken before Frank Lovell, assistant secretary of state, in the suit brought by the State of Oregon against the Warren Valley Stock Company, to cancel patents issued to that company which were alleged to have been issued upon the fraudulent representation that they were swamp lands.

Mr. Byars testified that he surveyed the township in which the greater part of the land is situated, as United States department surveyor in August, 1879; that at that time the land was so wet and swampy that he could not run the survey across it and he was compelled to meander it and return the land as marsh; that he tried to run the lines further into the swamp, but had to back out, owing to the swampy character of the land; that he ran the meander line practically along the edge of the marsh; that the land in controversy, at the time this survey was made, had the appearance of being a permanent marsh and was covered with a heavy growth of tall swamp grass and flags.

MASKED MEN SHOOT SHEEP.

Fed Between Rival Interests on a Range in Crook County.

Prineville.—Two hundred sheep were shot down by a band of mounted masked men 28 miles east of this city October 15. U. S. Cowles, of Hay creek, was the sufferer at the hands of the unknown men. The range is in an isolated section of Crook county and the news of the depredation has just reached this place.

The herder says that late on the afternoon of October 15 a dozen masked men rode up to the band of 4000 sheep and, after ordering him away, began a fusillade on the animals. When Cowles with a number of his neighbors rode to the rescue the next morning he found about 200 muttons stretched out on the ground and the rest of the band scattered far and wide. The stragglers were collected with great difficulty.

Great apprehension is felt both by the cattle and sheep interests at this renewed outbreak of hostilities. Thousands of dollars' worth of stock hay and fences have been destroyed in the struggle this spring and summer for control of grazing lands in Crook county.

Pilch of Wood for Salem.

Salem.—That there will be plenty of wood for fuel in Salem next year, is indicated by the bids now being received for furnishing wood for the state institutions. Though the state boards will receive bids for a week yet, there are already more offers on hand than were received altogether last year. As all the state institutions here are controlled by practically the same state officers, the bids for fuel for all the institutions are received at one time. The state uses 8000 cords of wood a year at Salem.

Kept Sweet Three Years.

Corvallis.—Prune juice kept in bottles in the bacteriological department at the Oregon Agricultural college is exactly the same now as the day it was put up. Bottles of it recently opened were found to have the same flavor, freshness and sweetness as when it was squeezed from the prunes and put away, more than three years ago, by Professor Pernot. A low-temperature process of sterilization was used, and the experiment makes it certain that there is a wide field for a profitable industry in Oregon in preserving sweet cider.

Better Prices for Cattle.

Baker City.—There is a decided improvement in prices offered for cattle over those of a month ago. A number of sales have been made the past 10 days to M. McDonald of Walla Walla and to Portland and Seattle packers. With the departure of the cattle now bargained for, there appears to be plenty of feed to carry the remaining herds of this county through an ordinary winter.

Prize Ram Goes to Polk.

Monmouth.—By express J. H. Hawley, who owns a large farm at McCoy, has just received a fine ram of the Lincoln breed of sheep. This ram was purchased at St. Louis, where he took the sweepstake prize over all competitors.

Receipts of Land Office.

Salem.—The receipts of the state land office for October amounted to \$26,928.54. This sum is a little below the average monthly receipts.

Wheat Market.

Portland — Walla Walla, 82c; bluestem, 85c; valley, 86@87c; Tacoma — Bluestem, 80½c; club, 85½c. Colfax — Club, 73c; bluestem, 75c.

PORT IS WELL PROTECTED.

Vladivostok Fortification Has Been In Progress for Months.

Chefoo, Nov. 9.—As the result of months of preparation, Vladivostok is now strongly protected, according to Captain Halvorsen, of the Norwegian steamer Tungus, which arrived here five days out from that port. She carried 700 Chinese refugees, who were unable to live at Vladivostok any longer, owing to the high price of food and other necessities, due to the war. Captain Halvorsen says that the Vladivostok system of fortifications begins many miles outside of the city proper, and grows stronger as the city is approached. Ships laden with food, cannon, ammunition and all sorts of military supplies frequently arrive at Vladivostok, according to Captain Halvorsen, who says that five ships engaged in unloading their cargoes were in port when the Tungus sailed. The captain is unable to estimate the strength of the garrison, but he says that everybody at Vladivostok seems to be either an officer or an ordinary soldier.

The European residents of Vladivostok show their confidence in the security of the city by evidencing an unwillingness to leave it. If the Japanese make an attempt to capture Vladivostok it is the belief of Captain Halvorsen that they will find it to be a second Port Arthur.

The captain says he believes that submarine boats have arrived at Vladivostok, but adds that he is not positive in this belief, for the reason that at present the Russian naval secrets are being most closely guarded. The harbor of Vladivostok, he says, has been mined for a distance of some seven miles. In four miles of this area contact mines have been laid, while in the remaining three miles electric mines have been planted. Mail trains arrive at and depart from Vladivostok every day, and there is now stored there an immense supply of coal taken from mines in the neighborhood of the city.

MAKING THEIR FRONT STRONG.

Japanese Are Expected to Make Advance Soon.

Mukden, Nov. 9.—Quiet continues here. The Japanese are still working hard entrenching their front, which begins to look like a continuous fort. It is believed they are preparing seriously to advance, making their front strong, possibly in order that it may be held by a small force, while the heavier force engages in flanking movements.

The Japanese have learned by bitter experience not to expect much by a frontal attack. They are obliged, however, to maintain a strong front to prevent General Kuropatkin from breaking through their line and carrying the fight to their rear.

There is considerable evidence to indicate that the Japanese will make every effort to force the Russians out of Mukden, not only for the moral effect on Europe, but on the Chinese as well. Mukden is extremely important to them as winter quarters. The Japanese continue to receive reinforcements.

RUSSIA PROVOKED REGICIDE.

Sensational Charges Made by a Belgrade Newspaper.

Belgrade, Nov. 9.—A great sensation has been caused by the statement of the newspaper Narodni List that it has proofs to the effect that the regicides and conspirators are spreading among the people the assertion that it was Russia which desired the removal of the Autrophile Obrenovich dynasty. It is alleged by the paper that a Russian official frequently had a confidential conference with the principal actors of the tragedy.

It is pointed out by the paper that every one of the regicides has received the Star of Kasargorge, and the statement is now made that they are soon to receive some distinction from the czar of Russia. The editor of the paper challenges the Serbian government to start action against him, as he says he is prepared to prove his statements in court.

Program of Irrigation Congress.

El Paso, Tex., Nov. 9.—The executive committee of the 12th National Irrigation congress has mailed to all delegates an advance program of the proceedings of the coming session of the congress to be held in this city November 15 to 18. On the subjects of forestry, engineering and mechanics, production by irrigation, climatology and rural settlement, the program includes addresses and papers by 87 of the most prominent experts in their respective departments.

Hero Meets Death in Fire.

New York, Nov. 9.—Joseph Capper a hotel keeper of Chauncey, Westchester county, after saving his aged mother, and father and three children from his burning hotel, lost his own life early today by rushing into the flames when he learned that his wife had not escaped. The bodies of Capper and his wife were found later in the cellar lying side by side, burned beyond recognition.

NEW '05 PLANS

Government Is to Have Only Four Buildings.

MEANS A SAVING OF \$12,000

That for Forestry and Irrigation Is Eliminated—Money Needed for Lighting and Incidentals.

Washington, Nov. 7.—It has been determined that the government will erect only four buildings at the Lewis and Clark exposition instead of five, as originally planned. It was found that the acceptance of the lowest bid, that of J. E. Bennett, of Portland, would leave only \$15,000 for wiring and lighting the government buildings and for incidental expenses, etc. This amount, in the opinion of Supervising Architect Taylor, is not sufficient.

The supervising architect declares it is necessary either to eliminate one building or reduce the size of the main building and alter the plans. Chairman Hills, of the government board, and the members of the executive board in this city, today concluded the best thing to do would be to abandon the separate building which was to have been erected for forestry and irrigation, saving \$12,000. As this building was to have been hidden by the main building, its elimination will not alter the general appearance of the group on the peninsula. The board is of the opinion that with this building eliminated there will still be sufficient space remaining for all purposes.

TO SELECT ALASKA EXHIBIT.

Committee Named by Hitchcock Will Begin Work Immediately.

St. Louis, Nov. 7.—The members of the committee selected by the Interior department to select the exhibits from the Alaskan building for the Lewis and Clark Centennial exposition in Portland next year are expected to arrive at the Alaskan building and begin their labors today. The committee is composed of the following: Assistant Secretary of the Interior Judge Thomas Ryan, Edward M. Dawson, chief clerk of the Department of Interior, B. F. Peters, chief clerk of the Navy department, and S. R. Burcha.

In addition to selecting the exhibits, the committee will also determine the amount of space to be allotted to Alaska. It has been stated that the citizens of the various cities and towns in Alaska are being awakened to the fact that the United States government is doing everything in its power to aid them in the development of the territory and to induce people to go to Alaska and locate, and they will do everything in their power to aid the committee by forming clubs and exposition societies to make a concentrated effort to display the advantages of Alaska at Portland in the very best possible manner.

HELD UP IN HOTEL.

San Francisco Man and His Wife Lose \$2,500 Worth of Jewelry.

San Francisco, Nov. 7.—Arnold Gundelfinger, a retired merchant, and his wife were held up in their apartments at the Hotel Dorchester tonight and robbed of jewelry valued at \$2,500. According to Mr. Gundelfinger's story, he and his wife were dressing in their room. He heard a knock on the door and, answering it, he discovered a former bell boy of the hotel, James Gates, at the door. Gates said he had been sent up to look at the plumbing. He was told that Mrs. Gundelfinger was dressing and that he could not come in. He insisted and was allowed to enter the room. He then drew a revolver and demanded that Mrs. Gundelfinger surrender her jewels. Mrs. Gundelfinger said they were in another room, and at the pistol's point Gates compelled Gundelfinger and his wife to go into the other room. Mrs. Gundelfinger then handed over a bag containing the jewels. Gates then made his escape.

Experts Do Not Expect Battle.

Berlin, Nov. 7.—The Lokal Anzeiger's Mukden correspondent claims the most trustworthy authority for the statement that 34,000 sick and wounded Russian soldiers were sent away after the last engagement. Colonel Baed'e, the Tageblatt's correspondent with the Russian army, telegraphs that the Russian positions on the Shakhe river are daily becoming stronger. The possibility of a Japanese attack, he says, is constantly diminishing, and many experts do not expect a decisive engagement before spring.

Fined for Bringing in Consumptive.

San Francisco, Nov. 7.—Secretary Victor H. Metcalf, of the department of commerce and labor, today imposed a fine of \$100 upon the Pacific Coast steamship company for bringing to this port on September 28, as a passenger on the steamer Umatilla, from Victoria, B. C., a consumptive.

HINT OF PLOT.

Russia Said To Have Intercepted Japanese Message.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 8.—The Associated Press has obtained official confirmation of the sensational report that an intercepted dispatch from the Japanese minister at The Hague would be produced in the court of inquiry into the recent North sea affair to prove the existence of a plot to destroy the Russian Baltic fleet. There is said to be good ground for believing the report to be true, and there are many indications that the Russian government has been long in possession of strong evidence of a Japanese plan to intercept all of Admiral Rojestvensky's warships.

This explains the willingness of Russia to submit the case to international arbitration. She would scarcely have proposed this course unless convinced she had a strong case.

It also develops that Emperor Nicholas during an audience with British Ambassador Hardinge declared in the most positive terms that there were Japanese torpedo boats in the North sea. Apparently, Denmark was impressed by the same belief. The Russian dowager empress, who was then in Copenhagen, naturally did not fail to communicate to her father the communication received by her from St. Petersburg. This would account for the extraordinary precautions adopted by the Danish government in detailing warships to escort the Baltic squadron through Danish waters.

Another remarkable story is current in well informed circles to the effect that two balloons were seen hovering over the Skagerrack while the Russian fleet entered the North sea. These were said to have been manned by Japanese, with the object of watching the Russians and possibly dropping explosives.

No hint of suspicion is expected in any responsible quarter that the British government was in the slightest degree or in any way responsible for the alleged machinations of the Japanese agents. On the contrary, officials circles express the highest praise for the conduct of the British government throughout the North sea incident.

It is thoroughly appreciated here that the activity of the British fleet was necessitated by public opinion and was in no wise intended to coerce Russia.

CARS CRASH IN A FOG.

Nearly One Hundred People on Los Angeles Cars.

Los Angeles, Cal., Nov. 8.—In a terrific rear end collision on the Long Beach electric road today, in a dense fog, nearly 100 persons were injured or badly shaken up. That many persons were not killed outright is astonishing. A car loaded down with Mexican workmen, while running at a speed of more than 40 miles an hour crashed into a standing passenger coach, which had stopped to take on a passenger, knocking it 200 feet along the rails, and wrecking both coaches.

The terrible impact hurled the passengers and laborers into heaps amid flying timbers, iron and glass. Fifteen persons were rendered unconscious, but miraculously none is reported fatally hurt, unless it be the motorman who was operating the work car.

When his car burst from the fog and bore down upon the standing passenger coach, he threw off the power and put on the air at the time shrieking a warning to those ahead. Although the crash was inevitable, he stuck to his post and went down amid crushed timbers.

The cause of the accident was the dense fog and the fact that the passenger coach was about ten minutes late.

A car bound to this city from Long Beach was stopped opposite the wreck and many of the injured were placed aboard of it. While standing there, a work car which had been following it through the fog bumped into it, and more people were injured, some of those who had received injuries in the first collision being again injured in the second one. Both cars in the first collision were smashed to kindling wood, and the passenger car, which received the impact of the second accident, was badly shattered, but was run to the city.

Bids for Drydock Too High.

Washington, Nov. 8.—The bureau of yards and docks probably will reject all the bids that were received for the completion of the big drydock at the Mare Island navy yard. The bids are considered an excessive, and if the contract were made on the basis of those figures the cost of the dock would far exceed the original estimate and the amount available for the work. It is probably that this work will be carried on by yard labor, except in certain parts, such as furnishing the electrical material and building the caisson.

Difficulty Not with the Gun.

Washington, Nov. 8.—As a result of an investigation into the defect in the 12-inch shell used on United States war vessels, noted during the recent target practices of the North Atlantic fleet, it has been reported by the board of experts that the difficulty was entirely with the steel bands on the projectile, and not with the gun, as was apprehended. This defect can easily be remedied.