

WARNING IS ISSUED

State Department Tells Missionaries of Danger in China.

WILL GIVE EVERY PROTECTION

Says They Should Leave Interior—Assistant Secretary Bacon Admits Cause for Anxiety.

Cincinnati, Feb. 24.—In answer to a letter from F. M. Rains, corresponding secretary for the Foreign Christian Missionary society, to the State department at Washington regarding the situation in China, Acting Secretary of State Robert Bacon sent the following letter to Mr. Rains:

"The condition of affairs in China is causing this government much anxiety, and, while nothing is known here which would justify the immediate withdrawal of missionaries from the interior, it would appear prudent to the department for the heads of the missions to warn all outlying stations of the apprehension caused by their exposed condition and to advise them to take early steps to remove to places of safety at the first cause of alarm, even if it should appear insignificant and the danger not imminent.

"This government is disposed to afford every protection in its power to its citizens in China, but in case of an outbreak such protection would be much facilitated if American citizens were congregated in accessible localities."

COMMERCE STILL INCREASES.

Large Advance in Exports and Imports for Fiscal Year.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The foreign commerce of the United States during the first seven months of the fiscal year 1906 amounted to \$1,752,421,330, according to a bulletin issued by the department of Commerce and Labor. This shows a considerable increase in both imports and exports, but more especially in exports over the corresponding months of 1905.

In the seven months ending with January, imports have increased \$70,000,000, and exports have increased \$155,000,000. Imports during the seven months ended with January, 1906, were \$699,744,566, and exports were \$1,052,676,764. The increase in importations occurs chiefly in manufactures, materials and finished manufactures, while the increase in exports occurs chiefly in agricultural products and manufactures.

WANTS TO IRRIGATE EGYPT.

American's Claim to Slice of Desert Held Up.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The State department has been informed, through Consul-General Gittings, at Cairo, with regard to the claim of Cope Whitehouse to a vast tract of land in the Egyptian desert, that the application filed by Whitehouse was regular.

Whitehouse has made extensive explorations in Africa and Egypt. He discovered what he believed to be the site of an ancient city in the Egyptian desert, and took steps to secure title to a large area of land including this place. His purpose was to reclaim and develop the arid land by means of irrigation. He has not yet been able to take possession of the land and he alleges that his claim has been held up in the Egyptian foreign office on technical grounds without any right.

Power From the Colorado.

Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 24.—According to the Times, the energy of the Colorado river is to be transmitted to Los Angeles, according to plans now being matured by local and Philadelphia capitalists. First the power is to be distributed among the mining camps on the Nevada and Arizona border and ultimately brought here. It is said that between the Grand canyon of the Colorado and the black canyon it is possible to take advantage of certain sites and develop electrical energy equal to 500,000 horse power.

Local Option in Ohio.

Columbus, O., Feb. 24.—The house this afternoon by a vote of 91 to 16 passed the Jones bill, backed by the Ohio Anti-Saloon league, which provides for municipal local option by petition instead of by election, leaving the initiative exclusively in the hands of the temperance people, and it is claimed by the Anti-Saloon league that it will enable the people to drive saloons from all the residence districts of the cities of Ohio.

Investigate Rates on Oil.

Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 24.—John T. Marchland, of Washington, secret agent of the Interstate Commerce commission, arrived here today to investigate illegal rates on oil. The resolution under which Mr. Marchland is working was introduced in congress Monday by Congressman Campbell, of Kansas.

SEALERS MAY SUE UNCLE SAM.

Bill Allowing Courts to Adjust Claims for Compensation.

Washington, Feb. 23.—A favorable report was made today on Senator Fulton's bill which permits owners of sealing vessels seized for pelagic sealing in Behring sea to go into the Circuit court for the Ninth circuit to recover from the government an amount equal to the loss they sustained through the seizure of their vessels.

Years ago, when Behring sea was held to be a closed sea, the United States claimed jurisdiction over the east half and Russia over the remainder, and sealing was prohibited. Many sealing vessels were captured by the two governments. The Supreme court subsequently held Behring sea to be an open sea and denied the jurisdiction of this government beyond the three marine leagues limit.

Following this, British sealers whose vessels were taken by American revenue cutters sued and recovered from the United States, and owners of American ships taken by Russians recovered from that government. But this government has never paid the claims of American sealers whose vessels were illegally seized by the American government. It is to pay these claims that the bill is pressed. In the aggregate it is not believed the claims will exceed \$1,000,000.

'TWIXT HOPE AND FEAR.

Morocco Delegates Doubtful of Success of Conference.

Algiers, Feb. 23.—Although the Franco-German deadlock remains unbroken, the opinion of the delegates to the Moroccan conference fluctuates as to the results, the view today being rather more hopeful that some solution is possible. This is due largely to the German attitude that an adjustment eventually will be reached. The American delegates also continue confident, despite the French and British pessimism. Some of the delegates express the view that some conciliatory movement will be made directly from Berlin.

At the afternoon session the conference settled a few minor points on the bank question, including the adoption of a gold basis.

The Italian delegates are discussing the possibility of the appointment of a number of the conferees as arbitrators for the settlement of the controversial points of the French and German projects, should agreement relative to the majority of the details be attained.

Ambassador White persists in his optimistic view of the ultimate result of the conference.

RUSSIA WILL BRAND COWARDS.

Officers Who Surrendered Without Cause To Be Disgraced.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—Unprecedented regulations to purge the army of officers accused of cowardice and surrendering during the war for no reasonable cause were announced today by the military organ, the *Rosky Invalid*. Captive officers returning from Japan will, unless they were wounded when captured, be tried before courts of honor, and unless reinstated by the unanimous decision of their fellow officers, will be dismissed in disgrace. "Contusions," a frequent excuse for surrender, will not be accepted. The higher officers who were responsible for the surrender of their organizations must secure a vindication from a court of honor and the minister of war. Such cases will be submitted to the emperor individually.

The troops which composed the garrison at Port Arthur are exempt from these provisions, the responsibility for the surrender of that fortress falling upon General Stoessel.

Men Won't Let Women Talk.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Discord in the congress for uniform divorce laws became so great this afternoon that Miss Fannie Leake Cummings, the sole representative of Washington state, withdrew and left for her home. Her reason was "the men won't let the women talk." Of these offenders, she said, ministers were the worst. It was earlier in the day, while she was making a speech on the "Real Causes of Divorce," that C. Larue Munson, of Philadelphia, asked her to cease, because he considered her remarks "nauseating."

Drydock Dewey Adrift.

New York, Feb. 23.—According to a dispatch to the *Herald* from Las Palmas, Canary islands, the drydock Dewey broke adrift three times and was picked up with difficulty by the fleet which is towing it. This is reported, the dispatch says, by the tug *Potomac*, which recently reached Las Palmas. The fleet and drydock are now 480 miles west of the Canaries, the dispatch says, and everything is going well.

Condemns Export Tax on Coal.

London, Feb. 23.—The British export tax on coal apparently is slated for removal in the forthcoming budget of Chancellor of the Exchequer Asquith. Mr. Asquith informed a deputation today that, while he declined to make any declaration in regard to the taxation until he presented the budget, he considers the coal tax vicious and unnecessarily injurious to an important industry. He said that the members of the deputation would find him anxious to remove it.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

LAW WILL NOT STAND.

Bill to Restrict Giving of Free Rides by Railways Not Properly Drawn.

Salem.—The anti-pass law initiated by the People's Power league is minus an enacting clause, and is therefore void.

The constitution expressly provides that all laws initiated by the people shall contain the enacting clause, "Be it enacted by the people of the state of Oregon." The copy of the bill filed with the secretary of state has no such clause.

The discovery was made when Secretary Dunbar sent the bill to the state printer, preparatory to having 100,000 copies printed for distribution among the voters of the state.

Attorney General Crawford says the secretary of state cannot permit any one to correct this defect, because each of the 8,000 or more petitioners signed the bill in its present form. He rules that the secretary has no authority to change it or to allow any one else to amend it, but that he must submit it as it came to him from the petitioners.

The supreme court has held in the case of the state vs. Wright, 14th Oregon, page 375, that the deliberate omission of an enacting clause is a fatal defect.

The discovery of this error brought to light the fact that there is no enacting clause or formal declaration of any kind on any of the bills for amendments to the state constitution, for which petitions are on file. This applies to the woman's suffrage amendment, as well as to the amendments submitted by the People's Power league. It has not been determined whether this omission makes the amendments void or not.

The officials are looking up authorities. No authority has been found to allow the secretary of state to refuse to submit a measure to a vote of the people, even though it may contain defects which make it void on its face, provided the bill or amendment comes to him with the proper number of signatures.

Land for Reservoir Site.

Washington.—The secretary of the interior has finally withdrawn land for the Cold Spring reservoir site in connection with the Umatilla irrigation project in Eastern Oregon, the land lying in townships 4 and 5 north, ranges 29 and 30 east. Persons who have made entry of any land embraced in this reservoir site prior to the preliminary withdrawal, August 16 last, and have not acquired vested rights, will lose their land through the cancellation of their entries. The government, however, will pay for any improvements they may have made.

Will Show How Alfalfa Grows.

McMinnville.—H. E. Lounsbury, traveling freight agent of the Southern Pacific company, has purchased for the company five acres near McMinnville, to be used as an experiment for growing alfalfa, with the hope of promoting dairying interests. Numerous other tracts of land throughout the valley have been purchased by the Southern Pacific for the same purpose. The company will furnish the seed together with a supply of land plaster and inoculated soil from successful alfalfa fields in other parts of the state.

Will Start in 60 Days.

Eugene.—The deeds transferring the Eugene Woolen mill from Wilbur & Wright, of Union, Or., to the Salem company, headed by T. B. Kay, which recently acquired the property, have been signed in Salem and Emil Koppe, who is to be the resident manager of the plant, has arrived. Manager Koppe has already begun to make improvements at the mill, and expects to have it in operation in 60 days. A new brick and concrete picker house will be constructed immediately.

Big Crops in Umatilla.

Pendleton.—Umatilla county farmers are looking forward to an unusually good yield of wheat this year. It is reported from the country near Helix that the indications in that country could scarcely be very much better. The grain is in better shape now than for several years at this season. The ground has plenty of moisture, and a frost would not do any great amount of damage should the temperature take another drop.

To Develop Coal Mines.

Eugene.—The Spencer Butte Coal & Petroleum company has been incorporated here, with \$100,000 capital. The incorporators are: J. W. Zimmerman, C. F. Mitchell, W. J. Williams and S. E. Stevens, of Eugene, and I. W. Love, of Portland. The company has a coal prospect ten miles southwest of Eugene, which it will at once begin to develop on an extensive scale. Later on oil prospects will be bored.

Appropriations for Chemawa.

Washington.—The Indian appropriation bill about to be reported will carry \$116,200 for the Chemawa Indian school, including \$4,000 for a new bakery and \$10,000 for a viaduct to cross the railroad tracks, which run through the school grounds. The latter improvement is intended to insure the safety of pupils in passing the railroad.

MANY CLAIM WATER.

Numerous Filings on Oregon Streams Recorded at Salem.

Salem.—The numerous filings that have been made on the waters of rivers and mountain streams for power purposes in this state during the past year, have awakened interest in the question of the electrical possibilities of Oregon.

Many of the power projects have good financial backing. The majority of the recent filings, indeed, are said to emanate from the same source.

The doctrine of beneficial use which it is desired to apply to the waters in all streams of Oregon is responsible for much of the activity displayed of late. As the law stands, any one can file on water for power purposes, and by doing a small amount of work each year can prevent any one else from appropriating or using the water. This rule applies to irrigation and a movement is on foot to change the law so that no man can appropriate more water for irrigation purposes than he can put to good use. State regulation of the flow and distribution of all waters is fast becoming a principle of law in all the arid land states. To regulate abuses and prevent their repetition, the leading waterusers are preparing to urge numerous changes in the law, so that the ownership of the waters in all streams and lakes shall vest in the state, for the use and benefit of the people.

If this is done, it will be necessary to make careful surveys and measure the flow of all streams that the water may be equitably distributed.

Ask for Pool in Wool.

McMinnville.—The Yamhill Livestock association has elected the following officers: President, William Dilbert; vice president, John Redmond; secretary, M. B. Hendrick; treasurer, W. S. Link; directors, William Gunnison, John Eboral, R. O. Jones, Amos Nelson and D. A. Walker. At the last meeting of the association a resolution was passed recommending that the trustees set April 7 as the date for selling the mohair pool. It was also recommended that a wool pool be formed by the Yamhill growers.

Cost for Month \$664.

Portland.—It cost \$664.29 to conduct the Boys' and Girls' Aid society in January, and the bills were ordered paid at the February meeting of the board of trustees. Superintendent Gardner reported that 26 children were received and 33 disposed of during the month. The number of children in the society's care February 1 was 46. One family living in Tillamook county took three children, brothers and sister. The family is well to do.

Indians Want Lands.

Pendleton.—About 25 Indians, members of the Columbia river tribe, have made formal application to join the Umatillas and share in the allotments of the reservation, claiming that they are of the same tribe and failed to come in with them when the allotments were made several years ago, preferring to stay with the Columbia river tribe.

Much Freight From Dallas.

Dallas.—Twenty cars of lumber were billed out of Dallas in a single day recently, besides several cars of spars and piling. The mills here and at Falls City have a combined output of from 10 to 20 cars daily. The freight service on alternate days will soon give way, as the Southern Pacific has promised a daily freight train.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 60c; bluestem, 70c; red, 66c; valley, 72c.
Oats—No. 1 white, feed, \$28@29; gray, \$27.50@28.50 per ton.
Barley—Feed, \$23.50@24 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50; rolled, \$24@25.
Buckwheat—\$2.25 per cental.
Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$13 @14 per ton; valley timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7.50@8; cheat, \$6@7; grain hay, \$7@8.
Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.50 per box; cranberries, \$12.50@14.50 per barrel.
Vegetables—Cabbage, 1 1/2 @2 1/2 per pound; cauliflower, \$1.90@2 per crate; celery, 44 per crate; sprouts, 6 1/2 @7c per pound; squash, 1 1/2 @1 1/4c per pound; turnips, 90c@1 a sack; carrots, 65@75c per sack; beets, 85c@1 per sack.
Onions—Oregon, No. 1, 65@70c a sack; No. 2, nominal.
Potatoes—Fancy graded Barhams, 60@65c per hundred; ordinary, nominal; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2 @2 3/4c per pound.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 27 1/2 @30c per pound.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 16@17c per dozen.
Poultry—Average old hens, 13@14c per pound; mixed chickens, 12@12 1/2c; broilers, 19@20c; young roosters, 12c; old roosters, 10 @10 1/2c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 16@17c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 18@20c; geese, live, 9c; geese, dressed, 12@14c; ducks, 16@18c.
Hops—Oregon, 1905, choice, 10@10 1/2c; prime, 8 1/2 @9c; medium, 7@8c; olds, 5@7c.
Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 16@21c; valley, 24@26c per pound; mohair, choice, 30c per pound.
Beef—Dressed bulls, 2 1/2 @3c per pound; cows, 3 1/2 @4 1/2c per pound; country steers, 4@5c.
Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8 1/2 @9c per pound; ordinary, 4@5c; lambs, 8 @9 1/2c.
Veal—Dressed, 3 1/2 @3 1/4c per pound.
Pork—Dressed, 6@8c per pound.

GERMANY REBUFFS FRANCE.

Proposes Terms With Regard to Morocco Which Ignore Her Claims.

Algiers, Feb. 21.—France's and Germany's projects for the creation of a state bank in Morocco were submitted to the conference today. Germany's proposal created even a worse impression among the French and British delegates than did last night's rejection of the French project relative to police. Both the French and British delegates consider that the German proposition shows an absolute disregard of France's position as the largest and privileged creditor of Morocco, and that France should be given every power controlling capacity of the administrative body without reference to preferential claims relative to existing loans.

Other points with regard to control of the finances of Morocco also aroused objections. Count von Tattenbach, the junior German delegate, has repeatedly expressed the view that the settlement of the bank question was merely delayed by the necessity of first dealing with the police, and this has led the French and British delegates to the belief that Germany was willing to effect a compromise on the financial controversy in return for French moderation regarding police. They consider that France's consent to entertain Germany's demand in the police matter proves her desire for the success of the conference, and therefore the uncompromising nature of the German proposal is very disappointing to them.

Many of the delegates of the other powers also take a pessimistic view of the situation; but Henry White, the head of the American delegation, is still inclined to believe that there is a possibility of an eventual agreement.

PREPARE FOR TRIAL.

Alleged Instigators of Steunenberg Outrage to Have Hearing.

Boise, Idaho, Feb. 21.—For the first time in the history of the troubles of the Western Federation of Miners, its officers will be brought into court and placed on trial for one of the many dastardly crimes charged against that association. This morning President Moyer, Secretary Heywood and George A. Pettibone, and perhaps Steve Adams, who was arrested at Haines, will be taken to Caldwell. Attorney E. T. Richardson, of Denver, who arrived at Boise yesterday, will appear for the prisoners. The prisoners will be taken before Judge Frank J. Smith, and a time will be set for the preliminary hearing.

The plans for taking the prisoners into court were made by J. H. Hawley, who has been especially employed by Governor Gooding to prosecute the officials of the Federation and all those who have been and are to be arrested. While at Caldwell Attorney Hawley had an order for a special grand jury issued, and Saturday the grand jury which will hear the evidence against the prisoners will be organized.

In spite of the repeated denials of the Orchard confession from Detective McParland and others in authority, it is almost a certainty that such a confession is in the hands of the Idaho officials. Governor Gooding stated last night over the long distance telephone from Nampa, where he had gone to attend a banquet, that as soon as all of the men wanted are arrested, he will have Attorney Hawley prepare a statement covering the entire case. This statement, it is believed, will be of a most sensational character, and will expose the workings of the "inner circle" which has flourished for 18 years.

Railroad Threat Effective.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The Heyburn bill permitting shipment of livestock for periods not exceeding 36 consecutive hours is to be amended so as to eliminate that provision requiring railroads to maintain an average speed of 16 hours on stock trains. The railroads had raised considerable opposition to this feature of the bill and threatened to defeat it. Rather than run this risk, the stockmen have urged that this provision be stricken out and Thursday, when he calls the bill up for consideration, Mr. Heyburn will offer an amendment to this effect.

All Quiet at Peking.

Pekin, Feb. 21.—Foreigners here are receiving telegrams from relatives indicating that there is a feeling of alarm abroad over the possibility of an outbreak of Chinese hostility. No disquiet whatever is felt at Peking. All the foreign ministers agree that the Chinese here, both officials and people, were never more friendly towards foreigners, personally, although following an independent line politically. There is no anti-foreign movement in North China likely to lead to hostilities. The troubles elsewhere are not felt here.

Laid Waste by Tidal Wave.

Panama, Feb. 21.—Advises received here from Colombia state that on February 5 President Reyes was informed that Telemil, Cauca, and neighboring towns suffered terribly by the tidal wave of January 31. The water rose over 30 feet, and 52 families disappeared in the flood. Great underground disturbances were felt and the temperature rose more rapidly than has ever been known. When the tide receded the coast was covered with dead birds.

Makes Two-Cent Rate Minimum.

Chicago, Feb. 21.—All forms of transportation except the regular 2-cent rate provided by law will be cut off by the railroads in Ohio. The action contemplated will deprive Ohioans of all reduced transportation for conventions, of the 1000 mile, books of charity business, and of all round trip rates and clergymen's rates.

MAY VETO RATE BILL

Committee Free to Amend, But Given Fair Warning.

POSITION OF PRESIDENT SHOWN

Announcement Made to Senators Who Have the Measure in Charge—One Change Likely.

Washington, Feb. 22.—When the senate committee on interstate commerce meets on Friday to vote on a rate bill, the announcement will be made authoritatively that President Roosevelt will not attempt to prevent amendment of the Hepburn bill; that he will leave the committee free to exercise its best judgment, and if possible compromise its differences; that, if a reported which does not meet his approval and in that form is passed by congress, he will content himself to exercise his veto power. This announcement will be made as the result of a conference here today between the most active persons supporting the house bill without amendment, but will be delivered to the committee by a senator who has supported an amendment providing for judicial review of orders of the Interstate Commerce commission.

Conservative members of the committee assert that they have the necessary votes to amend the Hepburn bill, if they are left free to exercise their individual judgment, so that they will not be put in the position of opposing the president's policy. Under these conditions, it is said that Senators Elkins, Foraker, Crane, Keam, Aldrich, Carmack, Foster and McClaurin will vote for an amendment providing for judicial review. Seven votes is a majority of the committee. Messrs. Cullum and Carmack will not be present when the committee meets on Friday, but as Mr. Cullum is opposed to amendment, this will not affect the result. An informal meeting of the committee will be held today.

PURE FOOD BILL.

Provisions of the Measure as Passed by the Senate.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The pure food bill as passed by the senate makes it a misdemeanor to manufacture or sell adulterated or misbranded foods, drugs, medicines or liquors in the District of Columbia, the territories and the insular possessions of the United States and prohibits the shipment of such goods from one state to another or to a foreign country. It also prohibits the receipt of such goods. Punishment by fine of \$500 or by imprisonment for one year or both is prescribed. In the case of corporations, officials in charge are made responsible. The Treasury department and the departments of Agriculture and of Commerce and Labor are required to agree upon regulations for collection and examination of the articles covered by the bill, but no specific provision is made for investigation except by the department of Agriculture. The investigations by that department are placed in the hands of the chief of the bureau of chemistry and, if he finds that the law has been violated, the secretary of agriculture is required to report the facts to the United States district attorney, who in turn is required to institute proceedings in the Federal courts. The bill also defines foods, drugs, medicines and liquors and also defines the standards for them. There is an exemption for dealers who furnish guarantees against adulterating and misbranding.

Jarvis Has First Claim.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The Alaska governorship is still in the air. D. H. Jarvis, of Seattle, who was offered the position, has not yet made known his wishes, but it is believed he will accept if he can get out of certain business contracts which are now binding him. In case Captain Jarvis declines, it is a free field. Senator Flint, of California, today presented to the president John P. Clum, recently appointed postmaster at Fairbanks, and urged his appointment. As postoffice inspector Mr. Clum has been all Alaska.

Ask Roosevelt to Settle.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 22.—An official news agency dispatch from Paris, which bears strong marks of inspiration, suggests the possibility of intervention by President Roosevelt, as to reconcile the diametrically opposite views of France and Germany, "in the general hope that an entente may be reached." In diplomatic circles confidence is felt that failure of the conference will not lead to war.

Discovery of Ancient Frescoes.

Venice, Feb. 22.—While workmen were engaged in renovating the church of Santa Maria Gloriosa de Frari, some ancient frescoes were disclosed behind the monument of Doge Nicolo Tron. One of the frescoes represented a panoply with the coat of arms of Doge Tron, and another consisted of decorative bands with figures of the evangelists.

Will Preserve Cliff Dwellings.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The senate committee on public lands today authorized favorable reports on three bills concerning National parks. Among these is the bill creating Mesa Verde National park, in Colorado, to preserve the ruins and relics of the prehistoric cliff dwellers.