

# GOLD DUST STOLEN

## \$45,000 in Alaska Mails Disappears Without Clue.

### THIRD THEFT WITHIN A MONTH

#### Miners Ship Dust by Mail to Avoid Excessive Tariff Charged by Express Companies.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 22.—A Fairbanks, Alaska, special says: What is believed to be the biggest plot for robbing the United States mails ever discovered is now in operation in Alaska. Only yesterday word was received from the coast that the third pouch missing in a month had been reported at Skagway. The sack contained \$45,000 in gold dust addressed to Seattle banks.

Postoffice inspectors already in the North working on the two former robberies have taken up the latest loss. It is almost certain that the sacks were stolen while in transit on the Yukon river boats plying between this point and Dawson. Several men are under suspicion but no arrests have been made. Reliable clues are scarce.

Ever since gold dust shippers have decided to use the mails for sending out their metal, instead of patronizing the express companies, as they previously did, because of the increased tariff, the present trouble has existed. It will necessitate the employment of guards by the government to watch the gold shipments. As they have been practically unguarded up to date, robberies have been easy and it is believed that the thefts have resulted from systematic operations of bandits working with well-laid plans.

### PORTLAND BANK FAILS.

#### Unable to Meet Obligations and is Forced into Receivership.

Portland, Aug. 22.—The Oregon Trust & Savings bank closed its doors yesterday. Its liabilities were \$2,553,927.35. The value of assets depends upon what disposition can be made of the bank's holdings of independent telephone bonds, which aggregated about \$1,300,000.

President Walter H. Moore, of the bankrupt institution, said last night that some assets not counted upon when the bank closed its doors have been found, and he hopes to pay every depositor eventually in full. For example, the lease on the corner of Sixth and Washington streets is estimated to be worth \$50,000, and the fixtures of the bank, including the safety deposit vaults in the rear of the building, are valued at a like sum. This makes an additional \$100,000, which was not counted upon when it was decided to close the bank's doors.

### SEEK OTHER WORK.

#### Striking Telegraph Operators in Portland Prepare for Siege.

Portland, Aug. 22.—Striking telegraph operators in Portland are scattering in many different directions and are taking up other lines of work. The majority of those who went on strike have either left the city or have secured positions away from a telegraph key. Many will go to the hop fields, while others are away on vacations.

The men expect the strike to continue for some time, but they express confidence in the outcome and are standing firm. The watchword is "stick," at union headquarters. The strikers say the Western Union is out \$1,000,000 a day in excess of its usual expenses while the strike lasts, and the men believe they will win, no matter how long the telegraph companies resist the demands for the concessions sought.

Messenger boys on strike against the Western Union held a meeting yesterday and some broached the matter of going back to work. This was firmly opposed and upon a vote being taken, the poll showed 15 to 3 in favor of staying out.

### Sell Gems at Auction.

New York, Aug. 22.—The announcement was made today that almost all the diamonds belonging to the estate of the late widow of Leland Stanford have been quietly disposed of and the proceeds will be devoted to Stanford university in compliance with the owner's will. The sale was held at the wholesale house, Ligon, under the supervision of a committee. It is said only \$350,000 was realized, although experts appraised the gems at half a million, and regarded them as especially valuable, and have interesting histories.

### Stole Money Orders in Chicago.

Syracuse, N. Y., Aug. 22.—Julius F. Eller was arrested today for return to Alamosa, Colorado, where it is alleged he stole \$2,000 in money orders from the Rio Grande railroad. Eller declares he was duped by a friend and got none of the plunder.

### ANXIOUS FOR TRIAL.

#### Borah Will Do Nothing to Impede Legal Proceedings.

Boise, Idaho, Aug. 23.—The statement made by Attorney General Bonaparte that Senator Borah was to be given an immediate trial was shown to District Attorney Ruick, and he was asked if he had received any word from Attorney General Bonaparte respecting the trial of Senator Borah. He replied that he had nothing to say. When asked as to the date for the convening of court next month, he replied that the session would take up September 9. The matter referred to is the reported indictment of Senator Borah by the United States grand jury that sat here in March. No official statement on the subject had ever been made until the attorney general gave out the statement from Washington. The understanding is that an indictment was found charging the senator with having had some irregular connections with timber transactions under which the Barber Lumber company acquired title to certain timber lands. Great secrecy was maintained about the whole matter at the time the grand jury was in session and nothing whatever of an official character had been given to the public until the department of justice gave out the statement that an immediate trial was to be given the senator. That is the first official utterance indicating an indictment was found.

### IMBUED WITH HOPE.

#### Portland Operators Far From Discouraged Over Situation.

Portland, Aug. 23.—There was nothing in the countenances of the little group of telegraph operators gathered in the strike headquarters at the Esmond hotel last night that would indicate discouragement over the situation. They discussed with earnestness various phases of the progress of the strike. They say:

"We have the wires tied up all over the country in spite of reports to the contrary. Why, if a man puts a message on the wire, say, at Chicago for a coast point it is more than likely to go up into the air before fairly getting under way. He has no way to find out whether it got started, even, or not."

"We have daily reports from the chief officers in the East and letters in every mail and can say that Portland seems to have a better service today than any place in the country, and you know what we have here. The latest we have from Chicago is the dispatch received this evening stating that out of the 1,700 operators in that city we have not lost a man through desertion."

"We also hear that a strike has taken effect among the strikebreakers in that city. It seems that the company makes no distinction between first-class operators and novices in the matter of pay."

### MANNING WILL PROSECUTE.

#### District Attorney Will Investigate Failure of Portland Bank.

Portland, Aug. 23.—Two announcements stand out as the most important developments yesterday in the Oregon Trust & Savings bank failure: District Attorney Manning's statement that he would prosecute the officers and directors of the bank if his investigations warranted such action, and President W. H. Moore's assurance that the bank's assets would be able to pay the depositors dollar for dollar if he were given reasonable time, unhampered by criminal prosecution or Federal bankruptcy proceedings.

Sitting as a grand jury this morning, District Attorney Manning will hear the testimony of depositors who entrusted funds to the Oregon Trust & Savings bank on Tuesday, the last day of its existence. If this evidence shall be that officials of the bank accepted deposits after the institution was insolvent, active prosecution will be started and Mr. Manning promises to land the guilty in the penitentiary.

A complaint has been made out for the arrest of the officers of the bank and a Tuesday depositor will sign the complaint today, should Mr. Manning's investigation prove the truth of the accusations already made by late depositors.

### Specimen for Mining Congress.

Joplin, Mo., Aug. 23.—The production of lead and zinc in the Missouri-Kansas district this year will be larger than ever before. Last year the production amounted to more than \$15,000,000. During the 32 weeks of this year the district has produced almost \$12,000,000 worth. Great care is being taken to get fine ore specimens for the exhibit to be made at the American Mining congress which convenes here in November. Recently a piece of lead ore weighing 1,500 pounds was hoisted from a mine at Granby, Mo.

### Jews Yet to Conquer World.

The Hague, Aug. 23.—The close today of the eighth International Zionist congress, which has been in session in this city since August 14, was marked with great enthusiasm. Dr. David Wolff, of Cologne, delivered the closing speech. He said, among other things, that the Jewish people must yet conquer the world.

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### FAIL TO KEEP LAW.

#### Statute Requiring Killing of Weeds Disregarded in Marion

Salem—There is evidence that there has been a pretty general disregard of the provisions of the Barrett law, passed by the last legislature, providing for the extirpation of Russian, Canadian and Chinese thistles and other obnoxious weeds in this county, and if a strict enforcement of the act were to be insisted upon many of the road supervisors of the county, as well as a majority of municipalities, would be liable to the penalties imposed for neglect in observing its provisions, ranging from \$50 to \$500 fines for each offense.

This law, which is the repetition of old laws upon the subject, except that its provisions are made more stringent and its scope enlarged to embrace white mustard, cocklebur and silver salt bush, commonly called, requires the road supervisor of each district to make a tour of inspection of the properties within his territory and serve notice upon all property owners upon whose land any of the weeds mentioned in the list are found to destroy the same before they have bloomed and seeded, and a copy of the notice must be filed with the county court. If the landowner neglects, fails or refuses to comply with the law in this respect, the road supervisor has authority to employ men to destroy the weeds and charge the cost to the property owner, which applies as a lien upon the land.

### FIR BLOCKS ARE THE BEST.

#### Oregon Product Excels Other Woods for Switch Blocks.

Salem—Another instance of the superiority of fir wood over the harder varieties of forestry products for commercial and industrial purposes is illustrated in a communication to the railroad commission received from Manager E. Lyons, of the Northern Pacific Terminal company, of Portland, who states that fir wedges will be used in future for switch and frog blocks in place of hard wood blocks because it is superior adaptation to this use has been demonstrated fully by past experiments.

Mr. Lyons' letter is in reply to a notice from the commission calling attention to the dereliction of the company in permitting switch and frog blocks to remain out of place in the terminal yards, and Mr. Lyons assures the commission that this matter, the blame for which he attaches to the neglect of the track department, will be attended to more carefully in the future. He says that the hard wood blocks work out of place on the light track and under heavy traffic, while fir blocks remain securely wedged where driven.

### Good Coal in Lane County.

Eugene—There is no longer any doubt that coal exists in reasonably large quantities in Lane county and two months will see the commodity from the mine of the Spencer Butte Coal & Petroleum company on the local market. This concern has been developing its properties for several months past, and now knows definitely just what it has. The mine is ten miles west of Eugene, and includes 301 acres of land. Considerable of the land consists of a hill about 400 feet high, and large croppings show near the base of this hill, a six and one-half foot vein being an average of the croppings measured.

### Crops Are Good at Bly.

Bly—Owing to a heavy rainfall, haying is progressing slowly, though there is a good crop to harvest. There is little grain sowed through this district, though what there is is headed well and will make a very heavy crop. Alfalfa is being cut the second time. Other crops show up very favorably.

### New Instructor Arrives.

Ashland—Professor H. H. Wardrip, who will have charge of the new manual training department of the state normal and of the work in physical culture, has arrived at Ashland, and is superintending the installation of the equipment required for the new department.

### Cannery a Failure.

Milton—The cannery at Freewater has closed its doors. Inability to secure funds for running expenses is the cause of its action. A great deal of tomatoes, corn, berries, etc., which had been contracted for by outside parties will not be forthcoming owing to the shutdown.

### Clatsop Building New Road.

Astoria—Clatsop county is building a public highway along what is known as the coast route between this city and the Tillamook county line, the plan being to secure a good road as soon as possible to Tillamook city.

### ABANDONS SCHOOLS.

#### Board of Regents Will Let Drain and Monmouth Go Alone

Salem—The board of regents of Oregon state normal schools has rescinded its action of July 18, ordering that the Monmouth and Drain normals be operated this year and instead a resolution was adopted declaring that the schools shall not be operated unless donations are received and that "no donations shall be received without the express understanding and agreement that no claim will be made for repayment by the state or legislature."

The faculty already elected at Monmouth was discharged and the executive committee authorized to elect a new faculty when funds are available. No faculty has been elected by Drain normal. Ex-President Reesler, of Monmouth, says that his institution will meet the conditions imposed and that the school will run next year. Ex-President Briggs, of Drain, could not say what the friends of that institution will do.

### BIG PRUNE CROP.

#### Picking Will Begin About September 1 in Linn County.

Albany—Prunes are surely a bumper crop this year and the picking in most of the orchards hereabouts will begin about the first week in September. Growers are experiencing small difficulty in obtaining pickers on account of the high wages to be paid. The prevailing wages for pickers is 6 cents per bushel, this being an advance of 1 cent over the amount paid last year. It is said that a good picker can clear about \$3 per day and that children should be able to pick on an average of about 30 bushels per day and thus earn \$1.80.

It is an interesting fact that while the prune industry was considered a failure a few years ago, on account of the lack of a market, this condition has been eliminated and growers will receive on an average of 50 cents per bushel for all they can produce and bring into the market. The orchards that have been properly cared for will do better this year.

### Constructs Mill License Law.

Salem—Attorney General Crawford has construed the definition of what constitutes a mill, factory or workshop, for the purposes of inspection and levy of fees to include all institutions where machinery is operated for manufacturing purposes, whether conducted solely by the owner of the plant or not. Under this interpretation all little shops wherein articles of furniture, etc., are made, come within the meaning of the act and the owners will be required to pay the annual license fee of not less than \$5.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—(New crop)—Club, 78¢7/8; binestem, 80¢8/8; valley, 80¢; red, 76¢7/8.

Oats—(New crop)—No. 1 white, \$23.50; gray, \$23.

Barley—(New crop)—Feed, \$22@22.50 per ton; brewing, \$24@24.50.

Corn—Whole, \$28; cracked, \$29, per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$17@18 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@23; clover, \$9; cheat, \$9@10; grain hay, \$9@10; alfalfa, \$13@14.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 32¢@35¢ per pound.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13¢@13½¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 12½¢; spring chickens, 14¢@15¢; old roosters, 8¢@9¢; dressed chickens, 16¢@17¢; turkeys, live, 15¢@16¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, nominal; geese, live, 8¢@10¢; ducks, 10¢.

Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 25¢@26¢ per dozen.

Veal—Dressed, 6½¢@8½¢ per pound. Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 8¢@8½¢; packers, 7½¢@8¢.

Fruits—Apples, \$1@1.75 per box; cantaloupes, 65¢@1.10 per crate; peaches, 50¢@1 per crate; blackberries, 5¢@7¢ per pound; prunes, \$1.50@1.75 per crate; watermelons, 1¢@1½¢ per pound; plums, \$1.50@1.65 per box; pears, \$1.50 per box; apricots, \$1.50@2 per box; grapes, \$1.25@1.75 per box.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.75 per sack; carrots, \$2 per sack; beets, \$2 per sack; asparagus, 10¢ per pound; celery, \$1.25 per dozen; corn, 25¢@35¢ per dozen; cucumbers, 10¢@15¢ per dozen; lettuce, head, 25¢ per dozen; onions, 15¢@20¢ per dozen; peas, 4¢@5¢ per pound; pumpkins, 1½¢@2¢ per pound; rhubarb, 3½¢ per pound; beans, 3¢@5¢ per pound; cabbage, 2½¢ per pound; squash, 50¢@1 per box; tomatoes, 60¢@90¢ per crate; sweet potatoes, 5¢@5½¢ per pound.

Onions—\$2.25@2.50 per hundred.

Potatoes—New, \$1@1.25 per hundred.

Hops—4¢@6¢ per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 16¢@22¢ per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20¢@22¢, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 20¢@30¢ per pound.

### GET ALONG WITHOUT ZIMMER.

#### Haney Produces Damaging Testimony Against Louis Glass.

San Francisco, Aug. 21.—The breaking of Francis J. Haney's automobile yesterday morning delayed for nearly half an hour the resumption of the trial of Louis Glass for bribery. The assistant district attorney and Rudolf Spreckels completed on foot their journey to the court while Judge Lawlor and the jury waited.

John Krause, who was T. V. Halsey's assistant in the alleged bribing of supervisors in behalf of the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph company, was called. He told of approaching Supervisor Thomas F. Loneragan, showing him the company's plans, lurching him and suggesting to him the "inadvisability" of having a rival telephone system in this city.

Krause told of the visits of supervisors to an unfurnished suite of rooms in the Mills building temporarily rented by Halsey for the purpose, as alleged by the prosecution, of paying over bribe money. Krause acted as doorman and admitted the supervisors one at a time to an inner room, where Halsey was.

With the announced intent of showing that Glass, acting as president of the Pacific States company, during the absence from this city of John I. Sablin, in 1905, authorized the expenditure by Halsey of moneys in Oakland to defeat the Home Telephone company application for a franchise there, and that the expenses of the investigation trip of the Oakland city council to Los Angeles in that year were defrayed half and half by the two telephone companies.

### TO PREVENT INTERRUPTION.

#### Railway Telegraphers Send Men to Prevent Pulling of Plugs.

Portland, Aug. 21.—Local features of the telegraphers' strike yesterday were the sending of A. O. Sinks, executive member of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, out on the Southern Pacific line in Oregon to stop the pulling of plugs and other interruption of service by railway telegraphers; the desertion of Mrs. L. I. Dolphin from the strikers and her return to work at the Postal office, and the partial reorganization of the messenger force at the Western Union office.

Despite these circumstances, striking operators formerly employed by both companies are standing firm and make the statement that they are more confident of winning now than at any time since they walked out. It is said the strikebreakers are being worn out by the long strain and that the companies are unable to get any competent operators whatever.

Brokers' offices were silent yesterday, not a telegraph key clicking in either the offices of Overbeck & Cooke in the Couch building, or Downing & Hopkins in the Chamber of Commerce. Wire trouble south of Ashland is ascribed as the reason for the failure of the former company to receive quotations, while the latter is said to have refused the fragmentary service offered, the firm declining to carry on operations in the present demoralized condition of the stock market without complete information of conditions in Chicago and Wall street. Yesterday was the first day for years that Portland people who dabbled in stocks could not learn the state of the market.

### WARNS CHINA AGAINST JAPAN.

#### Diplomats Point Out Grave Danger of Further Incursions.

Victoria, B. C., Aug. 21.—Advice from Peking state that Prince Ching is warning the Chinese government of the menace of Japan. The interview with Viscount Hayashi, minister of foreign affairs for Japan at Seoul, in which he pointed out that China should take warning by Korea's fate lest some strong nation be moved to imitate events at Seoul and put her house in order, has created a sensation among Chinese officials. Chinese look with suspicion on the Franco-Japanese agreement as intended to cover aggression in China, and officials have pointed out in memorials to the government that while Japan's impetration into Manchuria is irreversible, any further incursion should be prevented, even if foreign assistance were invited to exclude Japan.

### Root Not in Sympathy.

Boston, Aug. 21.—The Boston News Bureau says: "Notwithstanding official denials, we have confirmatory advice again warranting the publication of the rumor that Elihu Root and Robert Bacon are likely to retire from the State department. They are not in sympathy with the recently published utterances of Attorney General Bonaparte, which appear to reflect the desire of the administration to use the power of the government to punish individuals rather than to secure the enforcement of the law."

### Arbitrate Fisheries Dispute.

London, Aug. 21.—Great Britain has accepted the proposition of the United States to submit the Newfoundland fisheries dispute to arbitration by the Hague tribunal. Meanwhile the modus vivendi will continue the same as last year.

# WONDERFUL POWDER

## United States Possess Secret of Deadly New Explosive.

### CAN TEAR ANY SHIP TO PIECES

#### Dunnite Proves Superior to Shimose. With Which Japan Won Her Great Naval Victories.

New York, Aug. 24.—The Times today says:

"The experiments at the Sandy Hook proving grounds with Dunnite, the high explosive invented by Major Dunn, of the Ordnance corps, U. S. A., have proved that the United States possesses in Dunnite the secret of an explosive perhaps more powerful and destructive than any other explosive ever invented. "Dunnite, army officers say, is more powerful than Shimose, the explosive with which the Japanese did such terrific execution in the naval battles off Port Arthur and Vladivostok and in the Sea of Japan. Shimose ordnance officers say the explosive is a compound of picric acid, the secret of which is known to the ordnance officers of all the first-class powers. On the other hand, the secret of Dunnite is in the exclusive possession of the United States government."

"In the recent tests of Dunnite at Sandy Hook it is said that the very best five and six-inch armor plates that could be obtained were used as targets. The result of every shot was the same. The armor plate was smashed into thousands of small pieces, it is said, by their impact. The impact of the Dunnite is also all that is necessary to accomplish the destruction of the target. Penetration is not necessary, the impact being such that the armor is shattered into countless pieces."

"The dropping of a Dunnite shell on the deck of a battleship, it is said by many ordnance officers, would mean the immediate sinking of that ship, not by penetration of its vital parts, but simply by racking the vessel until her seams opened and the rush of water sent her to the bottom. This, it is said by some ordnance officers, was the way that the Japanese put the Russian ship out of commission. They would drop the Shimose shells on the decks, and the destructive Shimose did the rest."

### SAILS NEXT DECEMBER.

#### Roosevelt Will Send Only Six Battleships to Pacific.

New York, Aug. 24.—Secretary Loeb announced tonight that a fleet of six battleships will start for the Pacific some time in December via the Straits of Magellan, touching at San Francisco, also probably at Puget sound.

A destroyer flotilla will leave for the Pacific about the same time, but will not accompany the battleships.

This is the first positive announcement of the date when the battleship fleet will sail for the Pacific coast. The first announcement was made by Secretary of the Navy Mitchell on July 4, and the details were given out the following day, but the date of departure was only given vaguely as some time in the fall.

It was stated in July that 16 battleships four cruisers and the gunboat Yorktown would come through Magellan Straits, but the above dispatch says only six battleships are coming. This may be an error in transmission, which it is impossible to have corrected in the present condition of the telegraph service. It is quite probable, however, that the number six is correct and that the number has been cut down, either because the government thought it unwise to so nearly denude the Atlantic coast of battleships or because it was desired to deprive the movement of any appearance of a hostile demonstration against Japan.

Assuming that the fleet starts on its voyage about the middle of December, it should arrive at San Francisco about the middle of February, 1908, as 60 days is considered ample time for the voyage.

### Sentence Postponed.

San Francisco, Aug. 24.—John A. Benson and Dr. Edward B. Perrin, convicted by a jury in the United States District court of conspiracy to defraud the government in securing 1,200 acres of land in Tehama county, were to have been sentenced today by Judge De Haven, but when the case was called at the bar for the defense asked for time in which to prepare a motion for a new trial. The prosecution did not object, and Judge De Haven granted a postponement of sentence until next Tuesday morning.

### Cholera Outbreak in China.

Berlin, Aug. 24.—A Shanghai special says that there is a cholera outbreak in China, and several Europeans have succumbed thereto. Preventive measures have been adopted in the foreign quarter. Several Chinese and Japanese towns are affected but a spread through ocean steamers is regarded improbable.