

DEFENSE OF PACIFIC

Conference is Called by Secretary of War Department.

ADJUTANT GENERALS WILL GO

Manning of Coast Fortifications by State Reserves to Be Subject of Council at Capital.

Portland, Jan. 2.—Adjutant generals of the three Pacific states—Oregon, Washington and California—have been invited by the War department to go to Washington, D. C., for a conference at the earliest possible date on the subject of coast defense. Adjutant General W. E. Finzer, of Oregon, and General J. B. Lauck, of California, are leaving for the capital tomorrow, while General Otis Hamilton, of Washington, will start East Saturday.

The request from the War department for this conference is regarded as peculiarly significant, indicating the government's determination to prepare for any emergencies that may arise from the West. The principal topic of consideration at the conference will be that of training volunteer coast artillery reserves to man Oregon, Washington and California fortifications. The subject of perfecting the infantry regiments of the three states in coast defense operations will likewise be taken up. It is assured that the meeting will result in assignment of National Guard troops to coast artillery work. The three adjutant generals will very likely return with the task ahead of recruiting new coast companies for this service.

For several months General Oliver has been in communication with Generals Finzer, Lauck and Hamilton on the subject of coast defense. Only a few days ago he submitted memoranda from the chief of artillery recommending assignment of the Oregon troops to coast defense maneuvers in May, as well as the permanent setting aside of certain infantry companies for heavy artillery training.

This plan was not regarded by the three coast adjutant generals as feasible. There appeared to be a disinclination among infantry commanders to apportion their companies for artillery work. Concerted objection was also made to the month of May for maneuvers, as it is difficult for the average guardsman to leave his business or work at the busy time of the spring rush.

It is known, however, that the War department will find it necessary to offer more than a plan of coast defense. The carrying out of such a plan will be attended by more or less expense. That the states should foot the bills does not seem just. It is believed that the government will be asked flatly what aid can be given in the organization of reserves or the assignment of infantry already organized.

VICTIMS OF JAP MOB.

Three Firemen Badly Injured at Vancouver, B. C.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 2.—Allan Anderson, fireman, is dying and two other young men, also members of the city fire department, are badly wounded and in the hospital as the result of a fight they had early this morning in the Japanese quarter with an overwhelming number of the subjects of the mikado. The fight was the worst in the city since the September riots, and indicates that the Japanese are at all times ready for trouble and eager to fight with their long knives that have blades keen as razors.

Anderson, accompanied by J. Frost and T. McDonald, was passing a Japanese store, when Frost stumbled and fell hard against the plate-glass window front. The glass smashed and the fragments were still rolling on the sidewalk when a score of Japanese appeared from the inside and rushed at the trio of whites. The firemen were in uniform, with brass buttons and official caps, but the Japanese knifed them furiously.

Steal Chest of Nickels.

Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Two men stole a chest containing \$2,559 from a street car standing in front of the Main street East car barns at 6:25 o'clock this morning and got safely away with it in an automobile. The stolen money represented the earnings of the Rochester Railway company yesterday on what is known as the Eastern division. It was being transferred according to custom from the Federal street car barns to the State street office to be counted when the robbery occurred. Officers are in pursuit.

Torpedo Boats in Paris.

Paris, Brazil, Jan. 2.—The torpedo boat *Sotilla* which is preceding the battleship fleet to the Pacific, arrived here today from Port of Spain, Trinidad. The *Sotilla*, which had a rough voyage, encountering head seas, was delayed one day on the run by bad weather.

FEELING IS BITTER.

Vancouver is Aroused by Latest Attack of Japanese.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 3.—While at no stage did the fight between the three city firemen and the Japanese reach anything like the dimensions of the September riots, the incident has revived the bitterest feeling. After all the explanations and apologies that have been made, both civic and governmental, citizens of Vancouver did not believe it possible that an attack such as occurred could be made.

All three victims are still alive, though at least two are disabled for life. Young Frost, a fine-looking athlete, had his nose sliced off by one of the sword-like knives of the Japanese. The other men, though fearfully injured, are recovering. McDonald was removed to his home, while Anderson is still in the hospital with Frost.

The most serious feature in the popular view is that the Japanese section is practically an armed camp against the whites of Vancouver. Two thousand men live together there, ready to murder any one who makes the slightest disturbance. The present instance is regarded as particularly flagrant, because the young men were in uniform, with firemen's caps, and for all they knew the Japs might have been assaulting policemen.

The truth is simply being forced home to the entire city that the Japanese here are barbarians enough to murder on the slightest provocation. Vancouver has been a little ashamed of herself since the night of the September riots, but the frightful attack is just now being regarded in some quarters as showing complete justification.

MAY SUE HARRIMAN.

Bonaparte Soon to Issue Statement on Railroad Merger.

Washington, Jan. 3.—"Within a week or ten days the department of justice will issue a statement regarding the ownership by the Union Pacific of stock of the Southern Pacific," said Attorney General Bonaparte. "It had been contemplated to issue the statement earlier, but the absence in Europe of special counsel employed by the government has caused the delay."

While the attorney general will not admit at this time that the statement will be the announcement of proceedings against the Union Pacific for violation of the law prohibiting restraint of trade, there is excellent authority for the statement that it will be. The department of justice, according to one of its high officials, has reached the conclusion arrived at by the Interstate Commerce commission that the control which the Union Pacific has obtained over the Southern Pacific by the purchase of stock is in violation of the law and amounts in substance to the merging of two competing railways.

Not only will the government proceed for a dissolution of the merger and a restoration of the competition which prevailed before the Union Pacific bought Southern Pacific stock, but the courts will be asked, it is stated by an official of the department, to break up the combine under which the two railroads are alleged to operate their steamships.

NIGHT RIDERS FIRE A TOWN.

Burns Tobacco Warehouses in Russellville and Wounds Men.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 3.—A long distance telephone message to the American from Russellville, Ky., says that night riders visited that town at 12:45 o'clock this morning. The tobacco warehouse of H. G. Work & Company and the American Snuff company were dynamited and burned. The planing mill of Roberts & Brown and three other smaller houses were more or less damaged.

Many shots were fired, and it is reported that two men, one of them a commercial traveler, were wounded.

Russellville is a town of about 4,000 inhabitants and it is the county seat of Logan county, which borders on the Tennessee line. It is in the heart of the dark tobacco district and but one county, Todd county, separates it from Christian and Trigg counties, the scene of the recent depredations in and around Hopkinsville. Further details were not obtainable at 3 o'clock this morning.

Smelters Are Closed Down.

Helena, Mont., Jan. 3.—The American Smelting & Refining company, it is authoritatively announced here tonight, will shortly close down several of its smelting plants because of the depression in the lead market. At the East Helena plant today the company reduced its force 100 men and tomorrow a 10 per cent reduction in wages will be posted for the 250 men who are retained. Manager Frank M. Smith, of the local plant, received notice several days ago from officials of the company that the smelter would be closed.

Growth of New York Values.

New York, Jan. 3.—Controller Metz, in a review yesterday on the growth of the city in the ten years since consolidation said that the assessed valuations of real estate owned by the people had advanced from \$2,632,416,819 in 1898 to \$6,240,486,802 in 1907.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

ASK TIME ON RANGE TAX.

Wallawa Sheepmen Don't Want to Pay \$14,000 Until Next August.

Enterprise—At a meeting of the Wallawa County Woolgrowers, in this city, resolutions were adopted requesting the government to defer collection of range dues until after shearing, or about August 1. The sheepmen of Wallawa pay about \$14,000 for rent of ranges, and this would be hard to raise under the present scarcity of money.

It was recommended that the present county bounty of \$1.50 a head on coyotes be continued, and 1½ cents a head tax on sheep be levied to pay for it. There are 146,000 sheep being fed in Wallawa county this winter. Twenty-two sheepmen joined the state association and with the \$2 yearly dues and \$2 assessment on each 1,000 sheep sheared last June, the sum of \$257 was collected and sent to the state body.

ALBANY GOING A-BOOSTING.

Plans Forming for Excursion into Southern California.

Albany—Plans are progressing favorably for Albany's "boosting" excursion to Los Angeles. M. H. Gibbons, who is arranging the trip, stated that practically enough business men had signed their intention of going to assure the excursion. The party will leave Albany probably Feb. 10, in a special car, which will be decorated with appropriate banners, and everywhere in California literature will be distributed advertising Albany and Linn county. The party will make stops at Red Bluff, Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose, Bakersfield and Los Angeles and receptions will be arranged for it at each point. At Los Angeles the party will disband and its members will return whenever they desire.

Signs of Oil at Bonanza.

Bonanza—The possibilities of developing oil wells in this immediate vicinity are now more encouraging than at any previous time. In boring a well for a new livey stable in this town a strata of black oil sandstone was struck and specialists have pronounced it an unmistakable sign of the existence of oil. Several other places in Klamath county, especially in that portion surrounding Bonanza, show signs of oil. The prospects are good and the development of the same may result in the discovery of one of the richest oil regions on this coast.

Warnings to Entrymen.

Lakewview—The numerous decisions rendered the commissioner of the general land office no longer leave any doubt in the minds of homesteaders as to what they must do if they expect to hold the lands in the Southern Oregon pine belt. In every case of contest where it was shown that the homesteader had failed to comply with the law in any particular, no matter how trivial, the decision has gone to the contestant and the homestead entry has been ordered cancelled.

Gold Cane for Calbreath.

Salem—The medical staff of the Oregon state insane asylum last week presented Superintendent J. F. Calbreath with a fine gold-headed cane as a token of their esteem. Dr. Calbreath has served eight years as superintendent and has enjoyed very harmonious relations with his subordinates and with the board of trustees. His second term ended January 1, when he was succeeded by Dr. E. L. Swiner.

Colonizer at Klamath.

Klamath Falls—George L. McDonald, colonization agent of the Union Pacific railway, who is expected to arrive in Klamath Falls next week, is now at MacDoel, the new Dunkard town on the California Northeastern railway in Butte valley. He comes to Klamath Falls to become familiar with colonizing possibilities here. He will be accompanied by a Dunkard elder, D. C. Campbell, of Colfax, Wash.

Eugene Invites Visitors.

Eugene—The promotion department of the Eugene Commercial club has had notices printed and will hang them in every depot in the state, to the effect that strangers will be made welcome at the rooms of the club, and inviting any visitors to visit the city of Eugene. The cards state that the club has nothing to sell, but in anxious to be of any service it can to strangers.

Sawmill in Christmas Stock.

Marshfield—The new office building of the big planing plant of the C. A. Smith Lumber & Manufacturing company was opened and dedicated Christmas Eve. Festivities were held and many citizens attended. The office building is now completed and in use. The mill proper will be finished and ready for operation in February.

Wheat Moving Again.

Pendleton—Now that wheat has gone up 70 cents in the local wheat market some of the growers are selling. For a time the price was down to 66 cents, and very little was being sold.

APPLE SHIPMENTS INCREASE

Railroads Give Out Figures Showing Oregon's Sale of Fruits.

Portland—More than twice as many apples were shipped out of this state during 1907 than in 1906, according to reports compiled by the railroads. The Southern Pacific and O. R. & N. lines have completed figures showing the cars of apples shipped from every point on the allied lines, and the total number of cars is a surprise.

"Nearly all these apples were bought f. o. b. at the station nearest the orchards," said General Freight Agent Miller, of the Harriman lines. "This shows the fruit is in demand, and Eastern buyers come here in search of it. The prices this season are better than ever before. One station on our lines that never shipped an apple before this year sent away 40 cars to the East a short time ago. This indicates how the apple industry is going ahead. I predict it will only be a few years before apple growing will be one of the biggest activities of Oregon people."

Can't Use Wood.

Burns—The forest rangers of the Blue mountain forest reserve have fined several Harney citizens for cutting timber in the reserve without permits from the forest guards. The largest fine imposed was on B. A. Dickenson, who operates a sawmill about eight miles from Harney. He was caught taking timber from government land and fined \$300 for about 17 trees. The sawmill men have been making this a practice for years before the reserve was created, and thought it no harm to continue the practice. Last fall was the first time a forest guard has been stationed here to give permits for cutting timber for wood and other purposes. There has always been plenty of timber outside the reserve for wood and timber for building purposes until lately, when it was all secured by outside people, to be transferred in time to large timber companies.

Board Raises Teachers' Pay.

Oregon City—The teachers of the city schools will receive a substantial increase in salaries next year. This was assured at the annual meeting of the local district, at which a special tax of 3½ mills was levied. The levy is 1 million excess of the recommendations of the board of directors, and the excess will be added to the salaries of the teachers, making the amount expended next year about \$10,000, in comparison with \$8,000 for the year just closed. The annual report of the directors shows the schools to be in a flourishing condition, and the financial report shows that the floating indebtedness is \$900 less than last year.

Clyde Sayne Acting President.

Salem—The executive committee of the state normal schools has selected C. E. Payne, of the department of science at Ashland normal, to serve as acting president for the remainder of this year in the place of B. F. Mulkey, resigned.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 35@37½¢ per pound.
Veal—75 to 125 pounds, 8½@9¢; 125 to 150 pounds, 7¢; 150 to 200 pounds, 5@6½¢.
Poultry—Average old hens, 12¢ per pound; mixed chickens, 11½¢; spring chickens, 11@12¢; roosters, 8¢; dressed chickens, 14¢; turkeys, live, 15¢; dressed, choice, 18@20¢; geese, live, 15¢; ducks, 14¢; pigeons, 11@15¢; squabs, 12@13¢.
Eggs—Fresh ranch, candled, 32½@35¢ per dozen.
Pork—Block, 75 to 150 pounds, 6@6½¢; packers, 6@6½¢.
Wheat—Club, 83¢; bluestem, 85¢; valley, 83¢; red, 81¢.
Oats—No. 1 white, 25¢; gray, 23¢.
Barley—Feed, \$27 per ton; brewing, \$31; rolled, \$30.
Corn—Whole, 32¢; cracked, 33¢.
Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$16 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$22@23; clover, \$15; chest, \$15; grain hay, \$15 @16; alfalfa, \$15; vetch, \$14.
Fruits—Apples, 75¢@82¢ per box; peaches, 75¢@81¢ per crate; pears, \$1.25 @1.75 per box; cranberries, \$9.50@12 per barrel.
Vegetables—Turnips, 75¢ per sack; carrots, 65¢ per sack; beets \$1 per sack; beans, 7@9¢ per sack; cabbage, 1¢ per pound; cauliflower, 75¢@81¢ per dozen; celery, \$3.25@3.50 per crate; onions, 15@20¢ per dozen; parsley, 20¢ per dozen; peas, 11¢ per pound; peppers, 8@17¢ per pound; pumpkins, 1@1½¢ per pound; radishes, 20¢ per dozen; spinach 6¢ per pound; sprouts, 8¢ per pound; squash, 1@1½¢ per pound; tomatoes, \$1.50 per box.
Onions—\$1.75@1.85 per hundred.
Potatoes—50@65¢ per hundred, delivered Portland; sweet potatoes, \$2.75 per cwt.
Hops—1907, prime and choice, 5@7½¢ per pound; 1906, 1@2¢ per pound.
Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 18@20¢ per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 18@20¢, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 20@30¢ per pound.

LADD WILL PAY.

Agrees to Meet Account of Busted Bank in Three Years.

Portland, Jan. 1.—W. M. Ladd has agreed to take over the assets of the Ross bank and pay all its deposits within three years.

Details of the plan were arranged yesterday in a conference between a committee of depositors, agents of Mr. Ladd, John Manning, district attorney, and W. C. Bristol, special counsel for the state, and for the American Surety company.

Mr. Ladd will not be prosecuted, but officers of the bank, Mr. Manning says, will be indicted next Monday.

Investigations of the smashed bank's accounts will be continued, in order to gather evidence for prosecution. Officers involved are J. Thorburn Ross, George H. Hill, T. T. Burkhardt, J. E. Aitchison and F. M. Warren.

Experts continue to dig up sensations in the bank's accounts, and to confirm the knowledge that its dealings were the most scandalous Portland has ever seen.

Committee of depositors will insist on payment of interest by Mr. Ladd until claims are fully met.

Whether the receivership will be continued has not been decided, but if it shall be, C. E. Mears may be superseded by a receiver of Mr. Ladd's selection.

Mr. Ladd will succeed to whatever claims the bank may hold against the \$202,000 property of Ross.

The bank continually ran behind in its earnings, but Ross had a happy faculty of marking up assets with "enhanced value" to make up the deficiency, and entered it in a mysterious account called "expense earnings," which is full of puzzles for the experts.

UPPER HAND OF PLAGUE.

Dying Out in San Francisco—Seven Cases in December.

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—With only seven cases of bubonic plague reported during the month of December and but three cases remaining under treatment at the isolation hospital, the plague in San Francisco is almost eradicated. More than \$600,000 has been expended in the sanitary campaign, of which the Federal government is paying three-fourths. It is estimated that approximately 130,000 rats have been destroyed during the past four months. Thirty-five thousand, six hundred and forty-two rats were brought to the laboratory of the health department. Of this number, 11,391 were examined by bacteriologists for plague and 106 found to be infected.

"The situation is greatly improved," said Dr. Blue today, "despite the apathetic attitude of the people of San Francisco, some of whom have been inclined to hostility toward us for the work that we are doing for their benefit."

The total number of cases reported to date is 136; deaths 73; cured 60; remaining under treatment 3; suspected cases 15.

RUSSIA GIVING UP ALL HOPE

Japan Slowly Strangling Foreign Investors in Manchuria.

Peking, Jan. 1.—Ivan Shipoff, agent of the Russian finance ministry, has concluded a three-months' investigation of the serious conditions which confront the China Eastern railway, and as a result he has recommended that expenditure be reduced in every direction possible. This action is construed here as a reflection of the hopelessness of Russia's position in Manchuria. The railroad was isolated during the Russo-Japanese war and Japan's policy since then has practically strangled it. It is believed that the deficit of the Chinese Eastern railway for 1908 will amount to \$15,000,000. Traffic over the line is declining, particularly at Harbin.

Japan has forbidden China to extend the Hein Min Tun railroad in the direction of Tsitsihar. This step has aroused exasperation among the Englishmen who have capital invested in the line, and it is characterized as another evidence of the monopolistic attitude of Japan in Manchuria.

New Road Finished.

Portland, Jan. 1.—The first electric car operated over the Oregon Electric railway between Portland and Salem traveled over the new line Monday, reaching Fulton Park at 5:40 p. m. The car was run through under the direction of R. L. Donald, on behalf of Barstow & Company, the construction company, of which Mr. Donald is resident engineer. The operation of this car completes the contract of Barstow & Company, which calls for the operation of the road by December 30. The trip was made without a hitch.

Calls Extra Session.

Carson, Nev., Jan. 1.—Governor Sarks yesterday afternoon called an extra session of the legislature to convene January 4, 1908. For the last 24 hours the governor has been deluged with dispatches from all over the state and many places outside Nevada, urging the calling of the extra session to settle labor troubles.

BIG LINER MISSING

Mount Royal With 400 Passengers Long Overdue.

OWNERS ABANDON ALL HOPE

Called December 7 From Antwerp for St. John, N. B., and Not Heard From Since.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 4.—A private dispatch from Toronto says the C. P. R. has given up hope for the steamer *Mount Royal* overdue from Antwerp with 400 passengers.

No Word Received.

St. John, N. B., Jan. 4.—No word has yet been received here of the Canadian Pacific line steamer *Mount Royal*, which left Antwerp on December 7 for St. John, having on board 304 immigrants, mostly Italians and Jews, besides a crew numbering more than 100 men.

The Canadian Pacific officials in this city, while expressing anxiety regarding the vessel, stated today that they believed the steamer probably had met with some accident to her machinery which had caused her to drift far out of her course, and that she would be heard from in due time at some other port.

May Have Gone to Rescue.

London, Jan. 4.—The non-arrival of the Allan line steamer *Hungarian*, which sailed from Greenock, Scotland, December 14, and is now a week overdue at Portland, Me., leads shipping men to believe that she has fallen in with the Canadian Pacific liner *Mount Royal*, which is now long overdue at St. John, N. B.

BOYCOTT THE EXPOSITION.

Seattle Unions Disgruntled at Action of Committee.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 4.—At a meeting of the Building Trades council last night, the members voted to call upon labor organizations everywhere in the country to lend support to opposition to the 1909 fair. Action was taken after the executive committee of the exposition had refused to incorporate in the building contracts a clause specifying that only union men be employed. J. E. Chitberg, president of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, says: "After considering the demands of the union, the executive committee decided it could not discriminate. Money subscribed for the exposition came from all people. We do not object to union nor union men. We refuse to play favorites."

By the declaration of the open-shop policy, notices of which went into effect yesterday, causing the walking out of 160 employes in the metal works of this city, Seattle is facing a general strike which means that at least 5,000 men will become involved, and at least \$1,000,000 in building will be retarded before a settlement is reached.

INFLUX OF JAPS.

Fifteen Hundred Coming to Vancouver From Honolulu.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 4.—The unexplained arrival of 300 Japanese in Vancouver yesterday and the prospect of an influx of another 1,200 within the next month from Honolulu are the features of the Oriental situation in Vancouver. Why the 300 Japs came to Vancouver yesterday is a mystery. All the morning they poured into town from the coast logging camps, and some even from the American side of the boundary line. The boarding house keepers of Japtown had a busy time housing them. Last night there was the usual crop of rumors that they came in view of possible trouble, and officers of the Asiatic Exclusion league are much perturbed over the event.

Yesterday it was announced that at least 1,000 Japanese would come from Hawaii during the next three weeks.

Cost of New Year Celebration.

New York, Jan. 4.—Men who are fond of figures say that New York's New Year celebration cost \$1,750,000. At one restaurant that night receipts were over \$20,000, 2,000 quarts of champagne being drunk. It is estimated that the diners around town made away with 42,000 quarts of champagne and 66,000 quarts of claret, not to mention the barrels of other drinkables consumed. Souvenir hunters were out in force and every hotel and restaurant lost great quantities of glass and other ware.

All Lost Except Three

City of Mexico, Jan. 4.—Ramon Portas, second officer of the steamer *Ibero*, has arrived at Vera Cruz and reported that the vessel sank in a storm on the night of December 2, and all on board were lost except three.