

# TO HELP WEST COAST

## Immediate Appropriations Necessary for Commerce.

### NEEDED TO SECURE CANAL TRADE

Congress Must Change Plans if Country is to Receive Any Marked Benefits of Work.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The Pacific Coast harbors need immediate appropriations from congress to deepen them and provide for commerce through the Panama canal. Portland, Tacoma, Seattle, Grays Harbor, San Diego, Los Angeles, Oakland and Eureka must be provided for more liberally in the future if the Western coast is to reap the full benefit of the great Isthmian cut now being made. The Sacramento and San Joaquin, the Columbia and Snake rivers on the western slope traverse a country that is developing too fast to wait for appropriations made in the old manner. They must receive larger amounts from congress if the country is to receive any marked benefits.

These are sentiments expressed by John A. Fox, special director of the National Rivers and Harbors congress, who has just completed a tour of the country, covering substantially the route followed by President Taft.

Mr. Fox, who is an engineer of distinction, having been connected with many of the big waterway projects of the country, is to make a report to the Rivers and Harbors congress at its next meeting in Washington on December 8, 9 and 10. In his report he will elaborate upon the idea above quoted, and will undertake to impress upon the congress, and through it upon the national congress, the importance of making large appropriations for immediate use in further improving the big harbors of the Pacific coast, so that they may, as he indicates, reap full benefits from the commerce that will seek the Pacific coast upon completion of the Panama canal.

On his recent tour Mr. Fox started from Washington, went down the Atlantic coast, through the southernmost tier of states, and northward along the Pacific coast from San Diego to Beilingham. He then retraced his steps to Portland and studied the situation on the Columbia and Snake rivers, and from there followed the Missouri from its headwaters to its mouth. He returned by way of the Great lakes and completed his tour with an inspection of the Ohio river.

### PRAIRIE FIRE RAGES.

Homes of South Dakota Claim Holders Are Swept Away.

Dallas, S. D., Oct. 30.—A prairie fire extending a distance of three miles from east to west is raging in Tripp county, in the southwestern part of the state.

Much loss to farm buildings and crops is reported and hundreds of men and women are out fighting the flames. The towns of Lamro and McNeely, threatened for a time, were saved after strenuous efforts.

The fire started in the Southern part of the county and was swept along by a high south wind. At one time Lamro was completely surrounded by flames, but at last reports the place was believed to have been saved. The entire population and the surrounding country went out to combat the flames and for hours worked desperately.

The town of McNeely suffered a similar experience and the flames were diverted only after heroic efforts.

Out on the open prairie, away from all help, the homes of many claim holders were destroyed.

No deaths have been reported.

The fire has burned over an area estimated at more than 60 square miles. The flames were checked today after they had destroyed farm and ranch property worth \$100,000. Several people had narrow escapes.

### Coreans Are Glad.

Seoul, Oct. 30.—It is evident from the attitude of a considerable section of the Korean population that the assassination of Prince Ito was not displeasing. Those comprising this element, which is now deprived of opportunities formerly offered here, are agitating for further violence. Viscount Sone, Japanese resident general, is much disturbed by the reports coming regarding the attitude of some officials and others who formerly were closely connected with the emperor's court.

### Wireless Picks Up Eureka.

San Francisco, Oct. 30.—The United Wireless here reported later that it had established communication with Eureka and that no serious damage had been done by the shock there beyond the wrecking of telegraph and telephone wires.

### ERA OF LOW MORTALITY.

It Has Been Reached by the Civilized World.

Washington, Oct. 29.—"The civilized world has indeed arrived at an era of low mortality."

This conclusion is stated in census bureau bulletin No. 104, on mortality statistics for 1908, prepared by Dr. Cressy L. Wilbur, chief statistician for vital statistics under Director Durand, who has transmitted it to Secretary Nagel, of the department of commerce and labor.

The death rate of the registration state in 1908 was 15.3 per 1,000 of population, which was slightly lower than that for the entire registration area, 15.4 per 1,000, and it is the lowest on record. Dr. Wilbur states it is probably the lowest death rate that has ever occurred in the United States.

The death rates of the rural portions of these states was still lower, being only 14 per 1,000, while that of the urban population was 16.5 per 1,000; the latter including all cities having a population of 8,000 or more inhabitants in 1900, and being, as usual, somewhat greater than the rural rate. Such rates would have seemed quite out of the question a few years ago.

Nearly one-fifth of all the deaths that occurred were those of infants under one year of age and over one-fourth are of children less than five years of age.

Nearly one-fourth of all deaths registered were those of persons born outside of the United States. The states having the largest proportion of native-born Americans of native stock are, Dr. Wilbur states, the ones in which it is the most difficult to secure the passage of effective registration laws. Therefore, the actual mortality of Americans of native parentage is not fully represented in the registration area, although over two-thirds of the deaths registered were of native-born persons and one-third were of native-born with native parents.

It appears that the month of maximum mortality in 1908 was January, with 67,763 deaths and that of minimum mortality was June, with 49,701 deaths.

### ZELAYA BOTTLED UP.

Insurgents Have Nicaraguan President in Tight Place.

New Orleans, Oct. 2.—Passengers arriving today on the steamer Imperator from Bluefields, Nicaragua, report that, when they left Bluefields three days ago, President Zelaya was virtually bottled up at Managua. A general advance by General Estrada is being checked by want of ammunition.

Several of the passengers on the Imperator stated that general news of the revolutionary movement was unreliable, as the revolutionists were inclined to exaggerate their successes. They said their own assertions regarding the serious situation faced by President Zelaya were based on their personal observations.

Captain John Pederson, master of the Imperator, said General Estrada had already established a provisional government over Grayton, Cape Gracias, Bluefields and Rama. The strict discipline was being maintained, all saloons were closed at nightfall and drunkenness and disorders were immediately suppressed.

Captain Pedersen confirmed the Associated Press dispatches from Port Cortes telling of the capture and holding of a launch sent by the revolutionary leaders to Port Barrios. The launch, he said, was to have brought a large supply of ammunition to the insurgents.

### Dummy Entries Claimed.

San Francisco, Oct. 2.—In the trial of Dr. G. W. Dwinell, Rex Dexter and John Gilpin before the United States district court here on a charge of subornation of perjury in connection with the dummy entry of timber land in Northern California, Benjamin French, one of the alleged dummy entrants, took the stand again today. He testified that he and his brother had entered claims in Siskiyou county as the result of a letter from Dr. Dwinell, promising them \$200 each for their holdings.

### De Lara Out on Bonds.

Los Angeles, Oct. 29.—L. Guitierrez de Lara, the Mexican attorney held by the United States immigration authorities on charges of being an anarchist and illegally in this country, was released from jail today on \$3,000 bond pending his hearing before Chief Inspector Ridgway, of the immigration service. De Lara's bond was signed by C. C. Reynolds, a prominent and wealthy hardware merchant, and Alfred M. Salyer, a well-known local business man.

### Epidemic Hits Academy.

Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 29.—Forty students of the Georgia Military Academy near here, were rushed to the city today suffering from an illness which has affected the school in epidemic form. They were distributed among several hospitals. The nature of their illness has not been learned.

# OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

### IRRIGATION IN MALHEUR.

Private Company Planning to Water 150,000 Acres.

Salem—According to advices received in the office of the state engineer at Salem, Trowbridge & Niver, a private reclamation company with a splendid record, is conducting a survey of a tract, including about 150,000 acres of arid land, some of which is in Malheur county in this state and some in Idaho. The object is to learn through the results of the surveys if it would be feasible to start a reclamation project covering this territory.

The land which is receiving the attention of the reclamation company's engineers lies between the Owyhee and Snake rivers. The water for irrigation will probably be taken from the Owyhee river. The project is in its incipient stage, and no definite information as to the plans of Trowbridge & Niver can be obtained.

According to State Engineer Lewis, the work done by Trowbridge & Niver, has proved highly satisfactory and in those districts in Idaho where the firm has already accomplished big results, the people of the state prefer the company's operations to the United States government's projects.

The day after Oregon's new water law went into effect last spring, Trowbridge & Niver sent a party of surveyors and engineers into the Owyhee river valley to take observations. The work has been continued until the present, which leads the state engineer to believe that the private company will shortly take up a large tract in this state for reclamation.

### TUNNEL THROUGH MOUNTAINS

Indications Point to Huge Undertaking by O. R. & N.

Pendleton—Rumors in local railroad circles here predict the greatest railroad undertaking that has taken place in this section of the state for years, of which the crew of surveyors which are now working on the Stanfield-Coyote cutoff are the vanguard. This undertaking includes, among other active changes and improvements, tunneling through the Blue mountains and the elimination of several bad grades for the purpose of shortening the time and distance between Chicago and Portland.

This tunnel, which of necessity would be from three to five miles in length, would accomplish much in the saving of time and power. By pushing up Butcher creek canyon and there entering the mountains, the worst part of the grade and many windings would be eliminated, and on the east side of the mountain the famous Kamela hill would be avoided and the distance from Huron to La Grande reduced to 12 miles.

Rumor also says that considerable work will be done on Tellocasset hill, between Union and Baker City. It is believed that surveying camps will be established at Duncan and Encina and at other points within the next few days. If these improvements are actually contemplated by the O. R. & N., it is evident that it is not the intention of the officials to divert freight or passenger business down the Snake river, as has been proposed.

### Will Prevent Floods.

Athens—A number of teams have been at work the past month straightening the part of Wild Horse that runs through the property of the Athens Land & Trust company, and through the city park. The creek has been changed in many places and made much wider and deeper. William Booher has charge of the work, and assures the land company and park commission that when it is finished it will be sufficient to carry all the flood waters that come down the in wet season and have heretofore flooded the valley.

### Own Valuable Gold Mine.

Albany—The directors of the Mexican mine, owned by Linn county men, have just received word and assays from their mine showing they have struck a vein which goes \$105.90 to the ton of free milling ore. The letter stated that the mine is one of the greatest in Old Mexico. Considerable stock in the enterprise is held by Albany people. Dr. J. L. Hill of this city, is the president, Fred Wars secretary and L. E. Blain one of the directors.

### Top Price for Peach Trees.

Talent—C. M. Lee has sold four acres of peach orchard to C. W. Hope for \$3,000. The tract is set in new varieties. Sixty trees of the Applegate variety are three years old; 80 trees two years old are of the Sooner variety. The rest are younger and of different varieties.

### Eastern Man Buys Orchard.

Hood River—Twenty acres of the Klemmer place on the west side have been sold for \$17,000. The trees are two and three year old Spitzenberg and Newtown trees. The purchaser is H. W. Rodamar, who recently came from Iowa.

### BIG SHEEP DEAL IS MADE.

Young Rancher Buys 2,500 Ewes at \$5.25 Each.

Heppner—One of the biggest sheep deals that has been made in this section this season has just been consummated. Jim Farley, one of the progressive young sheep men of this section, bought 2,500 head of 1 and 2-year-old ewes from Molahan & Bryne at \$5.25 per head. The deal involved an investment of about \$14,000 by Mr. Farley, but he figures that the increase and wool will make him a profit, although the price paid is about the top notch. With the present outlook for wool prices and the general upward tendency of the stock sheep market, the price paid by Mr. Farley is not considered too high.

Another sale involving over \$6,000 was made the latter part of last week by the purchase by Paul Hiesler of 2,000 lambs from Hansel Neel, of Lone Rock. This was a splendid band of lambs which will be fed by Mr. Hiesler at his Butter creek ranch. The price paid was \$3.15 per head.

### Start Roseburg-Coos Bay Survey.

Marshfield—That six or eight surveying forces will be put in the field within 10 days to survey the proposed electric line from Coos bay to Roseburg, is stated by J. H. Somers, who represents locally the promoters of the road, Messrs. Haas and Kuetner, of Portland. Mr. Somers left for Portland on business connected with the road. He states that the matter of the bond will be satisfactorily arranged and gives assurance that there will be no delay in the work of starting the survey.

### Good Roads Are Agitated.

Pendleton—That the good roads campaign inaugurated recently by the County Good Roads association is to be waged relentlessly in every part of the county was indicated at the last meeting of the association. A vice president was appointed for each precinct, and, aside from spreading the gospel of good roads, he will be expected to form subordinate organization in his neighborhood. This will be followed by routing meetings in which the entire county will participate.

### Car Shortage Affects Union.

La Grande—The car shortage of the Northwest is being keenly felt here, according to the statements of some of the large shippers from this section. Only two cars per day could be secured to ship the large quantity of hops from the Wallowa valley.

### PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1@1.03; club, 92c; red Russian, 90c; valley, 91c; life, 92c; Turkey red, 92c; 40-fold, 95c. Barley—Feed, \$26.50@27 per ton; brewing, \$27.50. Oats—No. 1 white, \$28@28.50 per ton. Corn—Whole, \$35 per ton; cracked, \$36. Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$14@17 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18@20; alfalfa, \$15@16; clover, \$14; cheat, \$13@14.50; grain hay, \$14@15. Butter—City creamery, extras, 36c per pound; fancy outside creamery, 33@36; store, 22@24c. Butter fat prices average 1 1/2c per pound under regular butter prices. Eggs—Oregon, 35@36c per dozen. Poultry—Hens, 15@15 1/2c; springs, 14 1/2@15c; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, 15@16c; geese, 10c; turkeys, 16 1/2@17 1/2c; squabs, \$1.75@2 per dozen. Pork—Fancy, 9@9 1/2c per pound. Veal—Extra, 10@11c per pound. Fruits—Apples, \$1@2 per box; pears, \$1@1.50; grapes, 8@11.25 per crate, 15c per basket; casabas, \$1.25@1.50 per dozen; quinces, \$1@1.25 per box; cranberries, \$8.50@9 per barrel. Potatoes—50@55c per sack, sweet potatoes, 1 1/2@2c per pound. Sack Vegetables—Turnips, 75@81 per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.25; rutabagas, \$1.10. Onions—Oregon, \$1@1.25 per sack. Vegetables—Artichokes, 80c per dozen; cabbage, 1/2@1c per pound; cauliflower, 40@90c per dozen; celery, 50@85c; corn, \$1@1.25 per sack; horseradish, 9@10c per dozen; peppers, 5@6c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1 1/2c; radishes, 15c per dozen; sprouts, 8@9c per pound; squash, \$1@1.10; tomatoes, 40@60c. Hops—1909 crop, 24@26c per pound; 1908 crop, 20c; 1907 crop, 12c; 1906 crop, 8c. Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c per pound; mohair, choice, 24c. Cattle—Best steers, \$4.75; fair to good, \$4@4.50; medium and feeders, \$3.25@3.75; best cows, \$3.50; fair to good, \$3@3.25; common, \$2.50@2.75; bulls, \$2@2.50; stags, \$2.50@3.50; calves, light, \$5.25@5.50; heavy, \$4@4.75. Hogs—Best, \$7.85@8.05; blockers, \$7.25@7.50; stockers, \$5@6. Sheep—Best wethers, \$4.25@4.50; fair to good, \$3.75@4; best ewes, \$3.75@4; fair to good, \$3.50@3.75; lambs, \$5@6.

### REVENGE THE CAUSE.

Assassin of Prince Ito Boasts Done for Corea.

Harbin, Oct. 27.—As Prince Hirobumi Ito, president of the Japanese privy council, alighted from his train and advanced across the platform, smiling and bowing, to meet M. Kokovoff, the Russian finance minister, half a dozen revolver shots were fired in quick succession by a Korean in the crowd. Three of them struck Prince Ito and at the second he fell unconscious. He died 20 minutes later.

A panic resulted from the fusillade and when it had subsided, it was found that Prince Ito's private secretary received a bullet, as did Japanese Consul General Kawakan and General Manager Tanaka, of the South Manchurian railway, who had moved closer to the prince as the firing began. It is thought that these three are not mortally wounded.

The assassin was not hard to locate, as he stood defiantly in the crowd, revolver in hand. He proved to be a Korean, and, with two companions of the same nationality, boasted of a conspiracy to take the life of the former resident general of Corea in satisfaction for the alleged tyranny of the prince over the Coreans.

Prince Ito had come to Harbin to meet M. Kokovoff, the Russian minister of finance, for what was believed to be an important conference. The conference was suggested by Prince Ito in his capacity as president of the privy council of Japan.

### SHIP STRIKES REEF.

Twenty Lives Lost in Wreck Off Coast of Maine.

Eastport, Me., Oct. 27.—Twenty lives and perhaps more were lost today in the destruction on shallow Seal cove of the steamer Hestia, bound from Glasgow for St. John and Baltimore. Four of the victims, young scotch boys, were passengers, and the others were members of the crew. Captain Newman and 20 or more of the crew were last seen in a ship's boat, tossing on the stormy sea.

Of the 40 persons who were aboard the steamer when she piled on the shoal early today only six are positively known to have been saved.

They were forced to cling to the wreck, shifting their precarious positions as the steamer was tossed by the sea. It was not until 3 p. m. that lifesavers were able to man their boats and reach the stranded vessel.

A northeasterly gale is said to have been responsible for the Hestia's fate, although it is partly due to the man at the wheel, who, believing he had seen Gannet Rock light, while really discerning the gleams of a lighthouse on Machias Seal island, several miles southwest, steered the ship many miles off her course.

### MURDER MAY ALTER POLICY.

Ito's Death is Likely to Draw Japan Nearer to America.

Washington, Oct. 27.—A probable result of Ito's assassination will be an indefinite postponement of the negotiations regarding railroad conditions in Manchuria. When these negotiations are resumed it may be that the Japanese government will find itself in a position to come into closer accord with the understanding of the powers, especially America, regarding the exact meaning of that part of the treaty of Portsmouth which declared against the cultivation of any special interests by Japan or Russian in Manchuria.

There is said to be a striking resemblance between Japan's claims to superiority in Manchuria and those of Russia to a dominant position in Manchuria, and this community of interest might have had important results had the meeting between Prince Ito and Minister of Finance Kokovoff taken place.

### General Howard Dead.

Burlington, Vt., Oct. 27.—General Oliver O. Howard, last of the Union commanders of the Civil war, died suddenly at his home here last night of heart disease. He was 79 years old. Last week General Howard was in Ontario delivering his lecture on "Abraham Lincoln." His last public appearance was at London Saturday night. On Monday he returned to his home here and apparently was in his usual good health. Last night he was attacked by heart trouble and was dead when a physician reached the house.

### Four Warships in Mississippi.

New Orleans, Oct. 27.—The United States warships Mississippi, North Carolina and New York arrived here today preparatory to the visit of President Taft to the Deep Waterways convention, beginning Saturday. This is the first time that more than one war vessel has braved the current of the Mississippi.

### Ito's Son Hears Bad News.

Genoa, Oct. 27.—Prince Ito's son, Hirokuni, arrived here tonight from London. He was met by the Japanese consul, who informed him of his father's death. The youth controlled himself by great effort and showed little of the grief he evidently suffered.

# DEEP RIVER NEEDED

## Commercial Advantages of Mississippi Sleep, Says Taft.

### POOR CHANNEL DELAYS PARTY

Vessels of Flotilla Are Unable to Keep Together and Much Loss of Time Results.

Helena, Ark., Oct. 28.—President Taft's river schedule went all to pieces yesterday, owing to the inability of the vessels following his flagship, the Oleander, to maintain the designated speed. The president tried to remain with the fleet as far as possible and delayed his arrival at Memphis three hours in order that the boat carrying the 26 governors and the 177 congressmen, as well as other vessels carrying delegates to the waterways convention in New Orleans, might land at the same time.

Leaving here nearly three hours late, the president will not reach Vicksburg until 6 o'clock or later tonight, that being his next stop. Even to make that city at 6 p. m., the president will have to leave the other vessels behind. It had been intended that the president should be welcomed once more to Arkansas by Governor Donaghey, but the governor's boat was an hour behind the president, and the introductory speech was made by Mayor Martin.

The delay in the arrival caused much confusion, however, and two of the president's cabinet ministers came near getting left on the return from the auditorium.

The president in his address at Memphis declared that such commercial advantages as the Mississippi river already afforded were not being taken advantage of. He also pointed out the hard work that would have to be done to start a system of commerce, even after the deep waterway had been secured.

The president is still very hoarse and it was with great effort that he spoke.

He referred to the flotilla jestingly as a "traveling show, booked for a full performance," and regretted that one part of the show was called upon to fill the entire engagement. The trip down the river, according to the president, has simply demonstrated the inadequacy of present river traffic to compete with the railroads and is good argument for deep waterways.

### HONOR ITO'S BODY.

Murdered Statesman Raised to First Rank After Assassination.

Tokio, Oct. 28.—The body of Prince Ito, the murdered elder statesman of Japan, will be taken aboard the Japanese warship Iwate at Darlen and will be brought to Japan accompanied by a full suite representing the entire nation. The body lay yesterday in a hotel at Darlen, the coffin covered by a simple white pall. Guards surrounded the hotel and only the prince's personal staff was admitted.

Before the official announcement of Prince Ito's death difficulty was encountered, which was of purely technical nature, in avoiding acknowledgment of the statesman's actual demise. This was obviated later when the death was officially announced, an ordinance being simultaneously issued and antedated, bestowing unusual honors, one of these being advancement from junior to the first grade in the court rank.

Those closest to the throne say that the emperor is deeply affected by the assassination of the prince. He has asked for every detail and apparently is unable to understand why the murder was committed, in view of the evident popularity of Prince Ito. But when informed of all the facts so far as they have been learned here, the emperor ordered that there must be no change in policy toward Corea.

### Flood Victims Need Help.

Mexico City, Oct. 28.—A telegraphic appeal for aid was received here today from the flood stricken districts of the state of Tabasco, in the southern part of Mexico. According to the dispatches the floods began when a terrible cloudburst broke over the state following 20 days of incessant rainfall. Thousands of acres planted in corn, beans and other cereals are a total loss. Thousands of cattle have been swept away and drowned in the rivers which have extended beyond their banks. Houses have been demolished.

### City Shipping Into Canyon.

Reno, Nev., Oct. 28.—That the old mining camp of Virginia City is sinking into the deep canyon on the side of which it is located, and that it has already slipped 11 feet within the last few years, was the announcement made by Professor George P. Young, of the University of Nevada, today.