

FEAR UNITED STATES

Colombia Not Anxious to Stir Up Trouble at Present.

Turns Down Rival Canal Deal

Chilean Engineer Abandons Scheme of Building Second Waterway Across Isthmus.

Facetativa, Colombia, Nov. 18.—Arturo Undurraga, the Chilean engineer, has definitely determined to abandon his efforts to obtain from the Colombia government a concession for his canal project, owing to the fear entertained by Colombia of reprisals on the part of the United States. Undurraga's plan was to construct a rival to the Panama canal.

In furtherance of his plan for a canal, Undurraga sought to induce congressmen and members of the diplomatic corps to inspect the route at his expense, but all declined.

A Colombian official has stated that it appeared inopportune to grant a concession to the Chileans before the adoption of the treaty defining the boundary between Panama and Colombia.

When this matter had been settled, he added, the government probably would grant the concessions. Letters exhibited here indicate the willingness of German and British capitalists to build a commercial and non-political canal that could not be closed in event of war.

Unless the concession is granted it is feared discontent fomenting at Antioquia and Cauca will culminate in a revival of threats of secession.

Undurraga will sail on November 27 for England by way of New York. The president and congress have appointed a commission to investigate the separation of Panama from Colombia.

Francisco de Borda, recently appointed minister to the United States, sailed for that country today.

PLATINUM FOUND IN SAND.

Discovery Will Mean Much to Coast Miners in Small Way.

Los Angeles, Nov. 18.—Davis T. Day, United States geological director of government petroleum work on the Pacific coast, left here tonight to make a report to the government in Washington. Mr. Day also is in charge of the research work in connection with platinum mining on the coast.

For several months he has conducted an investigation of the beach sands from Cape Flattery to Lopez. Before leaving tonight he said:

"I believe that when the facts concerning the platinum mining industry as we have found them are known, a great stimulus will be given. The platinum can be taken from the sands of this coast in paying quantities by a simple mechanical process at little expense. While the industry is not likely to attract the attention of the big corporations, it will prove of immense interest to the miner in a small way."

CASE CENTURY OLD ENDS.

Colorado Family Beneficiaries of Vast English Estate.

Pueblo, Colo., Nov. 18.—After being in controversy for over 100 years, an estate in England which may represent several million dollars, will revert to several Colorado persons, according to a decision of the English courts, notice of which has been received by Mrs. C. O. Dufug, of Pueblo, who recently removed to Denver.

Two children in Pueblo—William Dufug, a clerk, and Miss Vanda Dufug, a society girl—and another son, August Dufug, a clerk in Denver, will be beneficiaries through their mother, Mrs. M. S. Hayden of Walsenburg, a sister of Mrs. Dufug, is also an heir.

Mrs. Dufug before marriage was Miss Kate Withington, and the property was owned by her great grandfather. The estate includes Sydney castle in England and had been in litigation since 1800.

Dinan Cleared of Charges.

San Francisco, Nov. 18.—Cleared of the charges of conduct unbecoming an officer, preferred against him by Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Honey two years ago, former Chief of Police Jeremiah Dinan today resumed his old rank as corporal and was detailed as a plain clothes man under Captain of Detectives Anderson. Dinan was reinstated last night when the police commissioners unanimously decided that the charges against him were not substantiated. His back salary, amounting to \$3,000, probably will be awarded to him.

Drown When Steamer Sinks.

Rome, Nov. 18.—Eighteen men were drowned when the steamer Adalgisa sank off Brindisi, according to advices received here today. The vessel is reported to have struck a reef.

REFORESTATION IS EASY.

(Continued from last week.) I am told that Germany spends several million marks annually to raise trees, and receives annually more than twice as much money from the sale of timber than she expends.

I would also advocate the imposing upon all logged-off lands a basic tax sufficiently high to insure their reverting naturally to the state for a reasonable compensation, the lands to be utilized in raising trees for future generations; the levying of this tax to be suspended in case private owners should wish to set aside their logged-off lands for the purpose of raising timber under state regulations; this timber to pay a cutting tax at the time it is cut.

The details of such a tax and the setting aside of logged-off lands for the raising of timber by private owners are matters that can be worked out; the interests of the people protected; the revenue which the timber and lumber interests should rightfully pay the state provided, but collected in such a manner as will help conserve our forests instead of encouraging owners to cut and waste them, as under our present system of taxation. I am firmly of the opinion that if our forests are to be conserved and new forests grown, the first step necessary is the revision or evolutionizing of our system of taxation.

The following table shows a list of trees under observation, with age, diameter, and estimated number of feet, upon which data the accompanying article is based:

Red Fir	Diameter on Stump (Inches)	Estimated No. of Feet
83	26	1200
40	24	1000
40	21	700
40	20	650
40	15	200
40	19	500
40	18	400
40	16	250
40	13	150
40	15	200
40	14	175
40	18	400
40	22	900
40	24	1000
40	22	800
40	18	400
40	20	650
40	13	125
40	15	200
40	12	100
40	13	150
40	14	175
40	16	250
40	12	100
40	32	2400
120	31	2000
120	26	1200
120	30	1800
105	28	1500
105	44	4500
123	28	1500
124	30	1800
74	18	400
125	28	1500
118	28	1500
130	50	7000
135	52	7500
140	52	7500
135	44	4500
105	26	1200
125	31	2000
125	32	2400
125	36	3000
85	18	400
125	24	1000
125	25	1100
90	20	650
125	30	1800
125	32	2400
143	42	4250
90	20	650
102	20	650
85	22	800
80	18	400
112	22	800

Hemlock.

40	19	500
40	18	400
40	17	325
40	21	700
40	23	900
40	22	800
40	25	1100
40	24	1000
40	19	500
105	30	1800
90	36	3300
96	30	1800
92	32	2400
105	34	2800

Yellow Fir.

490	82
410	84

My conclusions regarding the growth of timber are as follows: Red fir will attain an average diameter of 16 to 18 inches in 40 years; hemlock a diameter of 18 to 20 inches in the same length of time. The growth of the timber examined by me is about two inches in diameter during the past 10 years for trees 40 to 50 years old, and one inch in diameter for trees 125 to 250 years old. The growth on trees 400 years old is hard to read without a glass.—The Timberman.

Honey Will Hurry Cases.

San Francisco, Nov. 19.—Francis J. Honey, former prosecutor in the local graft cases, started last night for Portland, where he will immediately take up the Oregon land fraud cases, under his reappointment as special deputy attorney general. Honey will endeavor to bring the case of former Congressman Binger Hermann to trial first and will have it set for trial at the earliest possible date. He expects to take up all the cases at once, and said today that it would be his purpose to dispose of all cases as quickly as possible.

Traveler Will Have Orchard.

Medford—C. W. Cotton has bought 23 acres from Anderson & Green for \$900. Mr. Cotton is a traveling man. He will establish a large orchard on the land.

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

FEWER SHEEP ON RESERVE.

Out of Nearly 2,000 Made in Whitman National Forest.

Pendleton—As a result of the conference between Forest Superintendent Ireland of the Whitman reserve and the advisory board of the wool growers, nearly 2,000 less sheep will be allowed on the forest ranges next year than this. The cut is a graduated one and does not affect the small sheepman, but the large owner suffers considerably.

The cut is as follows: The man who owns 1,500 or less will not be subjected to a cut; owners of between 1,500 and 2,000 will be cut 10 per cent, providing the cut does not bring his allotment below 1,500; owners of between 2,000 and 3,000 will be cut 15 per cent, providing it does not reduce the number below 2,000, and owners of more than 3,000 will be cut 20 per cent, providing it does not bring his number below 3,000. The total number of sheep allowed on the reserve is reduced from 183,000 to 165,000.

IRRIGATION IN KLAMATH.

Nearly 40,000 Acres Now Under Successful Cultivation.

Klamath Falls—During the past 12 months between 30,000 and 40,000 acres of land have been placed under irrigation ditches in this section, while the population of the irrigated districts has more than doubled. Unirrigated lands have advanced from \$5 to \$20 an acre, and it is certain that values will go much higher with the approach of the Oregon Trunk line, which, in its articles of incorporation, makes Klamath Falls its terminal.

About 100 homes have been built in Klamath Falls, while the country round about has made a wonderful development. The arrival of the railroad last spring brought no boom, but there has been a steady movement in farm lands.

Raw Land Brings \$16,000.

Hood River—A big land sale took place at Hood River a few days ago, when Charles and J. E. Hall, local capitalists, bought 160 acres of undeveloped fruit land from W. H. Marshall, of Dee, for \$16,000. The property formerly belonged to the Veilguth family, of Portland. It is said to be the intention of the purchasers to clear and set the land to fruit immediately. Extension of the Hood River railroad, which has just been completed, is causing considerable activity in upper valley real estate.

Hope for Artesian Water.

Paisley—The settlers in Christmas Lake valley have raised \$2,700 with which to pay expenses of boring for artesian water. It is the plan to put down a well 2,000 feet, if necessary. The boring plant was received at Bend last week, and is expected to arrive on the ground within a day or two. The site chosen for the well is near the Phelps place, in the west end of the valley, about 30 miles north of Paisley.

Record Price for Land.

Central Point—Bert Anderson has sold 180 acres of his farm two miles from this place for \$27,500. H. D. Hoke, recently from Florida, is the new owner. Mr. Hoke was formerly extensively engaged in the growing of pineapples and grape fruit on the west coast of Florida, but has sold out his holdings there and will become a fixture in Southern Oregon.

1200 Sacks of Onions on 3 Acres.

Milton—J. J. Williams, who resides on the interurban line three miles north of Milton, this week completed harvesting his large onion crop. The yield this year was a record-breaker, more than 1200 sacks, averaging 2 1/2 bushels to the sack, being taken from three acres. Two years ago \$547 an acre, net, was taken from the same field.

Packing Many Prunes.

Salem—Six million pounds of prunes are passing in a steady stream through the Tillson packing house. The packing, facing and shipping will continue well into the new year. Already 35 cars have been shipped out, several of which have gone to make up European shipments.

Onions Yield Well.

Freewater—J. J. Williams has just finished marketing 1,203 sacks of onions taken from three acres of land three miles north of Freewater. The onions were sold at \$1 per sack. A few years ago the land was considered worthless. It is now worth \$900 per acre.

Wallows Sawmill Ready.

Wallows—The Nibley-Mimnaugh Lumber company's band mill, having a capacity of 50,000 feet per day, is completed. This mill, with nine smaller mills, will produce 30,000,000 feet of lumber annually, all of which will be marketed from this city.

Top Price for Farm.

Creswell—J. W. Stone has sold to G. L. Guyer of South Dakota 240 acres of his farm for \$10,000. Mr. Guyer has gone back home to bring his family and they will take possession. Mr. Stone will move to the residence he owns in Creswell.

Traveler Will Have Orchard.

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APPLES BELL HIGH.

Fancy Hood River Spitzbergs Bring \$3.50 Per Box.

Hood River—The apple picking has come to an end in Hood River valley for the year 1909, and several crews are busy at present packing the fruit for market. A number of the larger growers have concluded their packing and their fruit has been hauled to the cold storage plant in the city, awaiting shipment to New York. The union is sending out several cars each day, consigned to Steinhart & Kelly, who purchased the entire crop of fancy stock. The fancy Spitzbergs were sold to the New York firm for \$3.35 per box, and since this deal was made the Davidson Fruit company of this city has paid as high as \$3.50 per box for fancy Spitzbergs. The fruit in Hood River valley this season has been of a higher standard than any marketed in previous years. There has been a noticeable decrease in rust and other infections that mitigate in producing a lower grade of apples. The season's profit is very satisfactory, notwithstanding the fact that the crop was cut a little short.

Experiment Farm for Sherman.

Wasco—Realizing that something must be done to conserve the native fertility of their soil and knowing that the continuous cropping to wheat will eventually rob the soil of the active principles promotive of vegetable life, the farmers of Sherman county have secured the assistance of the federal government and of the state experiment station in an effort to establish an experimental farm for Eastern Oregon in Sherman county. They have purchased 240 acres of average land near Moro, the county seat, and H. J. C. Umberger, an expert in dry farming methods, has been appointed to take charge of the farm.

Railroad Improves Line.

Dee—The big steam shovel of the Mount Hood railway is digging ballast for the new track from Dee to Parkdale, a distance of six miles. When the work is completed passenger and logging trains can be run. The new line extends well up toward Mount Hood and through an excellent body of fir timber. The contract for the extension of the telephone line from this point to Parkdale was let to Harry Bailey of Hood River. The Home Telephone company of Hood River is the owner of the line.

Asylum Bids Awarded.

Salem—The board of trustees of the Oregon State Insane Asylum has awarded to the Northwest Bridge works of Portland the general contract for the new receiving ward building at the hospital for the insane.

High Price for Land.

Irving—C. J. Fassett has sold his 20-acre ranch west of town to G. Tenke of Iowa, the price paid being \$110 an acre. Mr. Fassett has moved to Eugene, having bought property and will build a modern home.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.07; club, 96c; red Russian, 94c; Valley, 95c; Fife, 95c; Turkey red, 96c; 40-fold, 98c.

Barley—Feed, \$27.50; brewing, \$28 per ton.

Corn—Whole, \$33; cracked, \$34 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$29 per ton. Hay—Timothy, Willamette Valley, \$14@17 per ton; Eastern Oregon, \$18@20; alfalfa, \$15@16; clover, \$14; chest, \$13@14.50; grain hay, \$14@15.

Butter—City creamery extras, 36c; fancy outside creamery, 35 1/2@36 per lb.; store, 22 1/2@24c. (Butter fat prices average 1 1/2 per pound under regular butter prices.)

Eggs—Fresh Oregon extras, 42 1/2@45c per dozen; Eastern, 36@34c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 13 1/2@14 1/2; springs, 13 1/2@14 1/2; roosters, 9@10c; ducks, 15@15 1/2; geese, 10 1/2; turkeys, live, 16@18c; dressed, 20@22c; squabs, \$1.75@2 per dozen.

Pork—Fancy, 96@97 1/2c per pound. Veal—Extras, 19@19 1/2c per pound. Fruits—Apples, \$1@3 box; pears, \$1@1.50; grapes, \$1@1.50 per crate, 12 1/2@15c per basket; quinces, \$1.25@1.50 per box; cranberries, 99@95c per barrel; persimmons, \$1.50 per box.

Potatoes—\$6@60c, per sack; sweet potatoes, 1 1/2@2c per pound. Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c per dozen; beans, 10c per pound; cabbage, 3/4@1c; cauliflower, 90c@1.25 per dozen; celery, 50@55c; horseradish, 9@10c; peas, 10c per pound; peppers, \$1.50 per box; pumpkins, 16@18c; radishes, 15c per dozen; sprouts, 8c per pound; squash, \$1@1.10; tomatoes, 75c@81c; turnips, 75c@81c per sack; carrots, \$1; beets, \$1.25; rutabagas, \$1.10; parsnips, \$1.25; onions, \$1.25@1.50 per sack.

Hops—1909 crop, 22@24 1/2c; 1908 crop, 20c; 1907 crop, 12c; 1906 crop, 8c. Wool—Eastern Oregon, 16@23c lb.; Mohair, Choice, 24c.

Cattle—Best steers, \$4.25@4.50; and fair to good, \$3.85@4; medium and feeders, \$3.50@3.75; best cows, \$3.50@3.65; medium, \$3.50@3.25; commons to medium, \$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, \$7.95@8; medium, \$7.50@7.75; stockers, \$4@4.75. 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@5.35.

RUSH TROOPS TO FINLAND.

Hordes of Cossacks Massed Near Frontier Towns.

Helsingfors, Nov. 19.—Following the dissolution of the diet it is feared here that Russia will proceed with the annexation of the province of Viborg, and it is expected that this little oasis of civilization and constitutionalism of the north of Europe will be overrun by hordes of Russian Cossacks sent here for the purpose of "occupation." The coming of the Cossacks, who are bloodthirsty eighteenth century savages, is sure to be followed by the usual accompaniment of massacre and cruelty.

Nominally, Russia means only to annex Viborg, but the Finns know that once the Russians come into the country they will never leave. They are asking why 50,000 Russian troops have already been massed at nearby strategic points.

For years the Russian reactionists have been urging the incorporation of Viborg with Russia, on the ground that it would be supremely useful in case of war. Not much urging was needed to obtain the consent of the Russian government. Some weeks ago the incorporation was decided upon and it was arranged that it should take place before Christmas.

In preparation the Russians have set up new batteries directed against Helsingfors, in the forts of Sveaborg. Russian garrisons everywhere in this vicinity have been redoubled. Five regiments of Cossacks already have been let loose over four towns—Tavastohus, Helsingfors, Viborg and Fredrikshamn.

FIRE IN HOSPITAL.

Heroic Work Prevents Holocaust in San Francisco Institution.

San Francisco, Nov. 19.—Only the heroic work of the nurses at St. Lukes hospital prevented a holocaust early today, when a fire which gutted the California Ladies' Maternity home in the Mills annex of the institution was discovered. Thomas Saunders, a porter recently discharged from the home, was arrested today and taken in charge by Captain of Detectives Anderson.

Dr. Shields, a member of the hospital staff of physicians, told the police that he saw Saunders at the hospital late yesterday, and that the former porter said:

"I'm sorry I've got to do this, but you will read about it in the morning papers."

Dr. Shields did not pay much attention to the man, as he supposed he had been drinking and did not know what he was saying.

Saunders was captured in a saloon, in the act of washing his hands. He made an effort to escape, but the place had been surrounded. When questioned by Captain Anderson he refused to make any statement. Saunders' wife is dead. He has a 14-year-old son, who is in Denver.

There were 16 patients in the Maternity home when the fire started. None was injured.

DIET IS DISSOLVED.

Russian Czar to Take Possession of Finland by Force.

London, Nov. 19.—The Finnish diet has been dissolved and the prospect of military occupation and subjection of the little nation by Russia has produced a shock throughout Europe, though it had been expected.

Finland is one of the bright spots of Northern Europe and a place of special attractiveness to the traveler. For many years it has been one of the most pleasant holiday resorts of Europe. Visitors have found themselves welcomed by the kindly inhabitants. They have wandered happily among its wide, quiet lakes and islands, and they have amused themselves in its gay Parisian little capital.

So the crushing of Finnish independence is felt keenly and personally by thousands, as well as being looked upon as a significant political event.

Ask Uncle Sam to Smité Zelaya.

Bluefields, Nicaragua, Nov. 17.—A petition is being circulated by those in sympathy with the revolution against President Zelaya demanding that the United States interfere in favor of the revolution, which the petition alleges, is a result of the miracle of Zelaya. One paragraph of the petition recites: "Right after the election of President Taft, Zelaya's chief of police in Granada offered an insult to the American flag by taking it from the hands of a man who was waving it, and casting it down as 'a miserable piece of trash' on the streets."

Good View of Comet.

Flagstaff, Ariz., Nov. 19.—A good view of Halley's comet, which is now approaching the earth, was had by Professor Lowell at the observatory here last night. He reported that "an observation of Halley's comet shows a star-like head and a semblance of a hood."

FOR DRASTIC ACTION

Taft Inquires About Execution of Americans by Zelaya.

Nicaragua Caught in the Act

President Upholds Cause of Revolutionists and Sets Precedent in American History.

Washington, Nov. 20.—Announcement that this government is tired of the high-handed action of small Central American republics practically was contained in a dispatch sent late today to the Bluefields Steamship company, which sought the protection of the state department from interference by insurgents now operating against President Zelaya.

An hour later a peremptory note, couched in diplomatic language, but none the less direct, was delivered to Senor Felipe Rodriguez, charge d'affaires of the Nicaraguan legation, demanding a full and complete explanation of the execution of two Americans, Leonard Grace and Leroy Cannon, killed by order of Zelaya when they were found in the insurgent army.

Pending a satisfactory explanation of the occurrence, President Taft has refused to recognize Isidoro Hazaes, new Nicaraguan minister. Mr. Taft is thoroughly aroused by actions of the Zelayan government, and apparently is determined to make the lives of American citizens much safer and much more respected in Central America than they have been hitherto.

The attitude of the government was clearly shown in the dispatch to the Bluefields steamship company, the headquarters of which is in New Orleans. The company's steamer was about to set sail for Bluefields with a miscellaneous cargo, in which were a number of rifles and other munitions of war. The corporation was warned by agents of the Nicaraguan insurrectionary forces that the vessel would be liable to seizure, and the steamship people promptly called on the state department to declare the protection of this government in such cases. The state department replied promptly. The answer was the result of a conference between President Taft and Secretary Knox and carried full weight.

It gave the steamship concern no encouragement, and practically recognized the revolutionary forces operating against the Zelaya administration, a proceeding for which there probably is no parallel in the records of this government.

United States Makes Demand for Settlement of Old Case.

Washington, Nov. 20.—The Alosop claim against Chile for more than \$3,000,000, pending for 35 years, has assumed a critical stage. Mr. Dawson, American minister to Chile, is now on his way to Washington, having left Mr. Pierpont in charge of the legation.

It is not improbable that, if the Chilean government does not consent to a final settlement within the next few days, the American legation in Santiago will be closed and its archives placed in the hands of the American consul for safekeeping. Intimation to this effect has been given to Minister Cruz, representing Chile in Washington.

This action on the part of the state department is not to be taken as an ultimatum to Chile, but this government's purpose in withdrawing its diplomatic representatives from that country is a protest against Chile's inextinguishable claims concerning this claim.

It is not thought probable that Chile will willingly continue to be exhibited before the world as a country which resorts to every possible effort to avoid the payment of admittedly just debts. Only a week or ten days ago Minister Dawson entered into an agreement with the Chilean foreign office as to the form of a protocol which was to be the basis for a reference of the Alosop claim to The Hague tribunal.