

TO EXTEND SEALING ZONE

What Russia Will Propose at the Conference.

MAY BE CAUSE OF TROUBLE

Her System of Preserving the Herds—Only Bachelor Seals Killed—Regulations Rigidly Enforced.

Washington, Oct. 18.—Although the formal conference on the Behring sea question will not open until the arrival of the Japanese delegates, yet the presence here of two of the Russian delegates has permitted the authorities to inform themselves quite thoroughly as to the attitude of Russia on the protection of the seals.

It has brought out the fact that Russia takes an advanced position in preserving her herds, and has more stringent laws and regulations in that direction than any of the other countries interested. By the Russian system, a zone of 30 miles is established around the seal islands belonging to the empire. The seals found within these zones are regarded as exclusively Russian, and no one other than the inhabitants of the islands can take a seal within these limits. This gives the Russian citizens exclusive rights over the seals, not only on the islands, but extending 30 miles westward. British or Japanese sealers cannot operate within the zone, except to buy skins of the Russian inhabitants of the islands. The Russians themselves are permitted to kill only bachelor seals, there being strict regulations against killing females and pups. The females are guarded with special care, as the killing of one female is regarded as equivalent to the killing of three seals, namely, the female herself, her pup on land and her unborn pup.

The Russians see that these regulations are enforced. A fleet of government ships patrols the 30-mile zone, and any foreign sealers who attempt to operate within these limits are seized. As a rule, seized sealers are taken to Vladivostok, their catch confiscated and punishment inflicted. This has led to many protests, but Russia has maintained her rigid regulations within the 30-mile zone. A notable case was that of the ship Dahlia, cleared by a United States consular officer, but manned by a Japanese crew, which attempted to take seals on the Russian islands. The sealers were met with armed resistance, and several of the Japanese were killed. Claims for indemnity were made against Russia, but never paid, as the imperial authorities maintained their right to protect their property against invasion.

It is understood to be the wish of Russia in the forthcoming conference not to stop at the protective regulations already made, but to carry them further by increasing the width of the zone considerably beyond 30 miles. The Russian authorities have found by experience that many of the female seals go more than 30 miles to sea in search of food. The wish is to make the zone so wide that it will extend to the furthest point to which the females go for food.

THE LAW A FARCE.

Customs Officials Making Fortunes Out of Importation of Chinese.

New York, Oct. 18.—Colonel J. Thomas Scharf, Chinese inspector for the southern district of New York, has sent to the secretary of the treasury his resignation. He says that in his opinion, based on four years of practical experience and close observation, the Chinese exclusion act is a farce, and has resulted in the corruption of the treasury department.

Colonel Scharf is an ex-officer of the Confederate army. He was appointed inspector in 1893 under the Cleveland administration, and immediately after his arrival here preferred charges against customs officers, whom he accused of assisting in the smuggling of Chinese. He has never succeeded in bringing about the dismissal of any of the men he accused. He says his failure in that direction was caused by the influence of the Canadian Pacific railway in high quarters.

Colonel Scharf talked on the subject last night. He said frauds existed, and he believed men in the employ and confidence of the government are making \$15,000 a year each from the illegal importation of Chinese. The corruption, he believes, from evidence in his possession, girdles the continent. Chinamen who have no right to come are admitted all along the Canadian border, at the port of New York, at Seattle and other points along the Pacific coast. He expects to see some revelations which will startle the country. The investigation committee of congress, already provided for, begins its work this winter.

Pardon for Cuban Exiles.

Madrid, Oct. 18.—At the cabinet council today, it was decided to pardon all Cuban exiles not included in previous amnesties, and to suspend the decree of September 21, relating to the legislative reforms in the Philippine islands. The decree ordered a vigorous suppression of political associations and the secret pact of blood societies.

Alleged Brutality at Fort Sherman.

Chicago, Oct. 18.—The finding of an inquiry ordered by the department of war into the case of Captain Levering, of Fort Sherman, has been telegraphed to Washington. The inquiry was begun late yesterday by order of Secretary Alger. Six witnesses were called upon to give the facts as to the alleged brutality perpetrated by Levering on Private Chas. Hammond. Secretary Alger's interest in the case was aroused by newspaper publications.

COOK'S INLET GOLD.

No Bonanza, but Satisfactory Returns for Labor.

Port Townsend, Wash., Oct. 13.—As an evidence that gold is found elsewhere than at Klondike, the steamer City of Topeka, which arrived this evening from Alaska, brought down an aggregate of \$300,000 in gold dust, all from Cook's inlet, the result of this summer's work. This amount is distributed among 85 men, who are coming out to spend the winter in a land where climatic conditions are more favorable than those of the country they have just left. On the 22d of September, 116 men left Cook's inlet on the steamer Perry, for Sitka, where they took the Topeka for Puget sound. Thirty-one of the party stopped at Juneau, where they will spend the winter. No rich strikes are reported at Cook's inlet, but the men averaged \$5 in dust every day they worked. On rare occasions, a man would pan out \$10 per day, and often as low as \$3.

Among the passengers was Robert Michaelson, who is making his first visit to the outside world in that time. He brought out several thousand dollars, how much he would not state. He owns several rich claims, which he will work next year. Michaelson will spend the winter at his old home, Aloes, S. D.

H. A. Schmeiser has upwards of \$10,000, after a stay of seven years. He is going to San Francisco for the winter, and will return in the spring. He owns four of the best claims in the group. T. J. Reilly, of New York, who went to Cook's inlet in March, 1896, and stayed there all winter for the reason that he had not sufficient money to pay his way down, was also a passenger on the Topeka today. He is the owner of two quartz claims on Bear creek, in one of which the ledge is two feet wide, and assays \$150 per ton. The other is eight feet wide, and assays \$50 per ton. Reilly has with him \$3,000 in dust, which he washed from a placer claim during the past summer. He will return in the spring with machinery for a stamp mill.

Provisions are reported as plentiful at reasonable prices at Cook's inlet. There was little or no sickness there during the past season. About 80 of the 500 men who were at Cook's inlet during the summer will winter there.

Some Rich Stories.

Seattle, Oct. 13.—The steamer City of Topeka arrived tonight from Juneau. Among her passengers was John F. Maloney, of Juneau, who came out from Dawson with the Galvin party. In an interview with the correspondent of the Associated Press, Mr. Maloney said:

"Hunker creek and Gold Bottom creek, it is conceded, will equal if not rival the already famous Bonanza and Eldorado creeks. More especially is this true of Hunker creek. Location No. 38 on that creek is among the richest in the Klondike district. Many of the claims on this creek will run \$2,000 to the box. On No. 30 Eldorado, Alexander McDonald's claim, one man, in a shift and a half (which is about 12 hours), shoveled in \$20,000. On Skookum gulch, which enters Bonanza at No. 2, I saw \$30,000 weighed out of two box lengths."

Mr. Maloney saw a 16-quart brass kettle filled with gold dust in the cabin of T. Dinmore, Harry Spenz, Bill McFee and others. No. 13 Bonanza, owned by Oscar Ashley and Billy Leake, will produce \$1,000,000. Ten days after the boat left for down the river, taking the gold, the North American Trading & Transportation Company had a quarter of a million in its safe at Dawson. This shows how rapidly the gold accumulates. Mr. Maloney says that over \$2,000,000 will come out this fall.

"There are stacks and stacks of gold," he said, "each with the owner's name on it. Alexander McDonald will produce the largest amount. I hesitate to give figures, but the simple truth is that his various interests will yield from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 this winter. These figures are staggering, but true."

The statement is made that Henry Bratnaber, agent for the Rothschilds, who has been spending several weeks at the diggings, offered over \$1,000,000 for 10 claims adjoining one another on Eldorado, but the offer was declined.

Skagway Schooner Burned.

Victoria, B. C., Oct. 13.—The steamer City of Topeka, which arrived from Alaska today, brought Captain Hackett and the crew of the schooner Annie C. Moore, which was burned in Lynn canal. She left here for Skagway with a load of hay and feed, but both schooner and cargo were completely destroyed.

Killed in a Mine.

Butte, Mont., Oct. 13.—Joe Wallace was instantly killed, and David McElroy fatally injured tonight, at the St. Lawrence mine. The men were miners, and were coming up on the cage. The engineer failed to stop the engine, and the cage was carried up into the shafts, throwing both men off. Wallace's neck was broken.

Texas Justice.

Brenham, Tex., Oct. 13.—Bob Carter killed James Burch in a saloon last night and then surrendered. Today his body was found riddled with bullets back of the jail.

Burned While Drunk.

San Luis Obispo, Cal., Oct. 13.—Frank Guerrero was burned to death this morning, 18 miles north of this city. While under the influence of liquor, he fell asleep in the manger, and matches in his pocket kindled a fire and destroyed the barn. Two horses also perished.

Liverpool has the largest fire engine in the world—equal to throwing 1,800 gallons a minute and a stream 140 feet high.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

Downing, Hopkins & Company's Review of Trade.

There has not been much doing in the wheat market during the past week. The visible supply decreased 1,890,000 bushels, and the exports from both coasts were equal to about 5,000,000 bushels. Crop reports from the Argentine are less favorable and the crop is reported damaged by frost. Should this report be confirmed, it will furnish a strong bull incentive to the market. Not the least important change in the situation is the decreasing receipts of winter wheat—sufficiently marked to offset the increased movement of the spring wheat crop. The export sales have not been large, but sufficiently so to show that our markets are on an export basis and that the demand continues constant. Local speculative conditions remain practically the same as during the previous week. The weakness in values is more apparent than real and results from lack of speculation and moderately increasing stocks. There is no sound argument for any decline in values at present. There are several arguments and many possibilities in favor of an advance. Should Russia prohibit exports or should any serious damage occur to the Argentine crop, extreme high values would obtain. Wheat is fully worth 90 to 95 cents under existing conditions, and as the speculative public become educated to the higher values now ruling renewed speculative support and increasing export sales will carry values higher.

Our corn market has been dull and uninteresting—devoid of any particular features or change in previous conditions, except that farmers' sales of corn to arrive have fallen off to the minimum. Local sentiment has been and continues extremely bearish. Short sellers have taken advantage of every opportunity to depress values, but the market has developed a strong undertone and values have ruled higher than at the close of the previous week. Export clearances continue large and the cash demand, while still inadequate, shows some improvement. The depressing influence in the market continues to be the large stocks.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Wall Walla, 79@80c; Valley and Bluestem, 82@83c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$4.50; Graham, \$3.70; superfine, \$2.50 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 33@34c; choice gray, 31@32c per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$14 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$15.50. Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10 do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton. Eggs—20c per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50c; fair to good, 35@40c; dairy, 25@35c per roll. Cheese—Oregon, 11@12c; Young America, 12@13c; California, 9@10c per pound. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.00@2.50 per dozen; broilers, \$1.50@2; geese, \$5.50; ducks, \$3@4 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8@9c per pound. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 40@45c per sack; new potatoes, 50c per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cental. Onions—California, new, red, 90c; yellow, 80c per cental. Hops—9@15c per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 6@7c. Wool—Valley, 14@15c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@12c; mohair, 20c per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$2.50@2.60; dressed mutton, 5c; spring lambs, 5 1/2c per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.50; light and feeders, \$3@4; dressed, \$5.50@6 per 100 pounds. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3; cows \$2.25; dressed beef, 4@5 1/2c per pound. Veal—Large, 4 1/2@5c; small, 5 1/2@6c per pound.

Seattle Markets.

Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 24@25c; ranch, 14@16c. Cheese—Native Washington, 10@11c; California, 9 1/2c. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 22c. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10c; spring chickens, \$2.50@3; ducks, \$3.50@3.75. Wheat—Feed wheat, \$28@29 per ton. Oats—Choice, per ton, \$22. Corn—Whole, \$23; cracked, per ton, \$23; feed meal, \$23 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$22; whole, \$22. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6c; cows, 5 1/2c; mutton sheep, 5@5 1/2c; pork, 7c; veal, small, 6c. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5c; salmon, 3 1/2c; salmon trout, 7@10c; flounders and sole, 3@4; ling cod, 4@5; rock cod, 5c; smelt, 2 1/2@4c.

San Francisco Markets.

Wool—Choice foothill, 8@12c; San Joaquin, 6 months' 5@7c; do year's staple, 7@9c; mountain, 10@12c; Oregon, 12@14c per pound. Hops—11@14c per pound. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@22; California bran, \$14@15 per ton. Onions—New red, 70@80c; do new silverskin, 90c@1 per cental. Butter—Fancy creamery, 27@28c; do seconds, 25@26c; fancy dairy, 23@24c; good to choice, 20@22c per pound. Eggs—Store, 18@24c; ranch, 31@33c; Eastern, 14@15c; duck, 20c per dozen. Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 9 1/2c; fair to good, 7@8c per pound. Potatoes—New, in boxes, 40@80c. Citrus fruit—Oranges, Valencia, \$1.50@3; Mexican limes, \$3@3.50; California lemons, fancy, \$2.50; do common, \$1@2 per box. Hay—Wheat, \$12@15; wheat and oat, \$11@14; oat, \$10@12; river barley, \$7@8; best barley, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$8@9.50 clover, \$8@10.

JIM AND JOHN.

Jim and John were townsmen and chums, and went out to see base ball. It was a red hot afternoon, and the bleachers were like frying pans at breakfast time. Jim had a bald head and John had a crick in the back. They sat for an underdone roast and laughed at everything. Jim's bald spot was a shining mark, like a brass door plate. A stray ball, here and sharp, from a false bat, struck the spot and ploughed a furrow. It dazed him. Jim's eyes and face looked like a sick owl's, and John laughed. He laughed an hour straight along. The game ran late into twilight. Meanwhile John had shed his coat, and a cool draft got in its work on his back. The time came to leave, but John couldn't. He couldn't bend or get up. Lumbago had set in, in its worst form. He laughs best who laughs last, and Jim had revenge. But they got down town to Jim's room, when he said, "Here's something all those athletes use for hurts and ailments, and it's the best known cure for lame back. He rubbed it on John's back and some on his own head. They were both feeling cured and comfortable from the use of St. Jacobs Oil, which Jim always kept in a handy place. He was a sport himself and knew that was best. They went to bed. John laughed in his sleep. Both rose in the morning fresh as daisies; then Jim laughed at John.

Nebraska's New Ballot Law.

The new ballot law of Nebraska, passed last winter by the legislature, is causing some confusion, as it revolutionizes the manner of arranging the ballots. The tickets will be printed in separate columns, with a pictorial device at the head, and not a single column, with the names of the candidates arranged alphabetically, as heretofore. The choice of judges and clerks of election is also vested in the county judges. The changes are so radical as to create a fear of trouble at the November election.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Taking off the hat or cap as a sign of reverence or respect was mentioned in the time of Caesar.

In Larnie county, Kentucky, it is said that Charles Williams has grown a bunch of white blackberries.

It is said that in the best districts of China the tea crop will average from 300 to 400 pounds per acre.

Bears have been so thick around Idaho that it has been said there was a bear for every bushel.

Over 4,000 frozen rabbits are annually exported to the London markets from Victoria, Australia.

The one thing for which lace paper may be used and be considered good form on a table is for cheese.

Marriage at midnight, the ceremony being performed by a coroner, is the last Kansan eccentricity reported.

The tea plant is said by Chinese writers to have been cultivated in that country from at least 3,000 B. C.

The gossamer iron made at Swansea, Wales, is so thin that 4,800 plates are needed to make an inch of thickness.

Near Alford, Iowa, a can of stamps which were stolen from the postoffice at Lester, in that state, two years ago, was plowed up recently.

What Neglect Leads To.

Mrs. Chas. King's Experience.

A woman's body is the repository of the most delicate mechanism, and yet most women will let it get out of order just as if it were of no consequence. Their backs ache, heads throb and burn; they have wandering pains, now here and now there; experience extreme lassitude, that don't care and want-to-be-left-alone feeling, excitability, irritability, nervousness, sleeplessness, and the blues, yet do nothing to help themselves. These indicate womb complications. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will relieve all this trouble.

Mrs. Chas. King, 1815 Rosewood St., Philadelphia, Pa., says:—

"I had bearing-down feelings, backache, burning sensation in my stomach, chills, headache, and always had black specks before my eyes. I sometimes had four and five fainting spells a day. I had several doctors, and tried many patent medicines. I commenced to take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and I never had anything give me the relief that it has. I can truthfully say it has cured me."

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Artesian Water in Sahara.

One of the most important results of the Egyptian expedition up the Nile has been the discovery that by sinking deep wells water may be found in the desert in many places where its presence had not been suspected. Not only will this give a secure basis for military operations, but it is possible that water may be found in sufficient quantities to serve for irrigation, in which case the Sahara may be turned into a flower garden. Its aridity comes from no material sterility of the soil, but simply from lack of moisture.

ALMOST INSIDE OUT.

The stomach that is not turned thus by a shaking up on the "briny wave" must be a well fortified one. The gastric apparatus can be rendered proof against seaickness with that stomachic so popular among travelers by sea and land—Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. It defends the system against malaria and rheumatism, and subdues liver complaint, constipation and dyspepsia.

To make white soup use a veal for stock, and beef for brown stock; to color amber soup use a little burnt sugar, just enough to make the desired amber shade.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.

We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark. I, Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the facsimile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look Carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the kind you have always bought, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which Chas. H. Fletcher is President.

March 8, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

Persons who suffer from the cold should wear loose clothing in chilly weather, remembering that two thin garments retain more heat than one thick one.

\$100 REWARD, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

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