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HAS THREE TIMES THE CIRCULATION OF ANY PAPER IN THE COUNTY.

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WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

OF INTEREST TO OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

A felling almost akin to despair reigns in the Russian admiralty.

Forest fires continue to rage in the reserves of Montana, destroying much valuable timber.

Japanese ships are cruising off Chefoo in search of the Russian boats Diana and Novik.

Paraguayans rebels have demanded the city of Asuncion, allowing it 24 hours to surrender.

A cloudburst near Globe, Arizona, caused a loss of several lives and great damage to property.

A Russian gunboat was sunk by coming in contact with a mine near the Liao Tung peninsula.

The Russians will sink their ships at Port Arthur rather than let them fall into the hands of the enemy.

The corporation counsel of Chicago has decided that the packers have no right to house employees in their plants.

Forest fires in Clarke county, Wash., are doing great damage. A number of homes have been burned and much cordwood destroyed.

The Russian Baltic fleet has sailed for the Far East.

General Stoesel made a defiant reply to the Japanese demand that he surrender.

The wheat crop in Eastern Oregon and Washington will be to greatest ever known.

The Russian ships damaged in the recent battles can take no further part in the war.

The Grand Army has elected General Wilton Blackman, of Massachusetts, commander in chief.

It is believed that the raids of the Russian squadron will not cost ship money more than \$250,000.

Indications are more favorable than ever that Russia will agree to the American definition of contraband of war.

The Japanese consul general at Shanghai has notified the local that a fleet is coming to seize the Russian war vessels there.

The Japanese are making a final assault on Port Arthur, and reports say they have already sacrificed 20,000 men.

Japan has demanded the surrender of Port Arthur.

A Georgia mob overpowered the militia, seized two negro murderers and burned them alive.

Great Britain, in her answer to Russia, contends that foodstuffs cannot be classed as contraband.

The government is experiencing trouble in securing Oregon gold for the Lewis and Clark souvenir gold dollars.

The Russian admiralty is still in the dark as to the fate of Witthoft's ships not heard from since the Port Arthur battle.

America deems that Japan was in the wrong in taking the Russian torpedo boat from Chefoo and that the vessel should be returned.

It is now certain that the Japanese have taken important land positions at Port Arthur, the fire from which compelled the Russian fleet to leave the harbor.

To date the Russian navy has lost seven cruisers and one battleship besides those which have just taken refuge in neutral ports and disarmed.

St. Petersburg expects the fall of Port Arthur by any moment.

The Malheur irrigation withdrawal has been increased 25,000 acres.

Japan is laying in great quantities of supplies for a winter campaign in Manchuria.

The Japanese navy is co-operating with the army in the final assault on Port Arthur.

Admiral Togo sowed many mines in the path of the Port Arthur fleet.

Over 300,000 acres of land in Eastern Oregon in forest reserve withdrawals have been restored to entry.

The national encampment of the G. A. R. is being held in Boston. It is estimated that 50,000 veterans are present.

The commander of the Japanese fleet is reported to have notified the Russian commander of Port Arthur that if he sinks the vessels in the harbor the town will be shelled with lyddite.

Great Britain will reply to Russia that she cannot concede that the Knight Commander was sunk lawfully.

A launch turned turtle at a Potomac regatta and ten people were drowned.

Fire at New York gas tanks caused a great panic, many people in fleeing forgetting their children.

The Russian flagship Czarovich was badly damaged in the recent battle and may be dismantled at Tsing Chou.

FURTHER CHECK TO FRAUD.

Public Land States are Divided into Districts.

Washington, Aug. 20.—To render the inspection of the service of the general land office more effective, the acting secretary of the interior today divided the public land states into nine inspection districts, placing a special agent in charge of each.

Oregon has been made a special district with Special Agent Thomas B. Neuhansen, of Minnesota, in charge. Washington is another separate district with Edward W. Dixon, of Oregon, in charge, while Idaho and Montana combine to make another district under Harry H. Schwartz, of South Dakota.

These special agents were selected from the list of five land office because of their proficiency and adaptability for the service and will receive \$1,500 instead of \$1,200 as heretofore, with an allowance of \$3 per day for subsistence.

Nicholas J. O'Brien will be in charge of the Idaho-Montana district.

Oregon and Washington are the only states that constitute separate districts. The experience of the past two years has demonstrated that with all special agents reporting direct to the general land office at Washington it has been almost impossible to keep check on those who go wrong.

Special agents in charge of the districts will have headquarters at local land offices to be selected by them. Each will have a civil service clerk, whose salary will be \$1,000 per annum.

TO SAVE TIMBER.

Fire Alarm System May Be Put in Reserves.

Washington, Aug. 20.—The agricultural department is considering the advisability of installing wireless telegraphy in forest reserves throughout the West with a view to making the system of forest protection more effective. While the present ranger system is quite successful, numerous large fires have occurred in reserves patrolled by rangers because of their inability to reach the fires at the time of their origin.

Secretary Wilson's idea is to provide each reserve with a practical fire protection system that can be used to give an alarm the moment fire is discovered and get the settlers and the rangers to the scene without delay.

While not satisfied wireless telegraphy can be employed with good effect, Secretary Wilson believes the plan worthy of investigation, and has directed Chief Moore, of the weather bureau, to tour the Black Hills reserve in South Dakota with a view of determining the possibilities of this new service.

If it is found wireless telegraphy is too expensive or impracticable, Chief Moore will report on some other fire alarm system which will be effective in reaching rangers in all parts of the reserve, as well as settlers upon and adjacent to the reserve.

If some system can be devised that will not be too expensive, Secretary Wilson will recommend its adoption and ask congress to make the necessary appropriation for equipping all the forest reserves in the West.

It is believed such a fire alarm system will be especially valuable and practicable in a reserve like the Black Hills, where large mining interests are conducted within the reservation and employ a large force of men.

Secretary Wilson will not go into details in discussing his plan, nor will he show how it is proposed to use wireless telegraphy. He wishes little publicity given the proposition until Chief Moore reports.

Can't Stop Use of Wine.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Despite the protest of the Christian Endeavor societies of Connecticut, the traditional bottle of wine will be broken across the prow of the battleship Connecticut when she is launched.

Tenders His Resignation.

London, Aug. 20.—The correspondent of the Standard at Tientsin says that Lieutenant Newton McCully, of the United States navy, and Lieutenant Decuville, of the French navy, have left that port.

The correspondent adds that the Chinese admiral, Sah, has tendered his resignation and offered himself for punishment on account of his inability to prevent the Japanese capturing the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Ryezhitski.

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

FINE TIMBER DESTROYED.

Fire on McCully Mountain Supposed to Have Been Set by Campers.

Albany—The forest fires which have been raging in the mountains of Oregon for the past ten days are having the usual effect on valley towns. A pall of smoke, so thick that the eyes burn, hangs over Albany, and the horizon is narrowed down to a very short distance. The sun looks like a ball of fire, being almost hidden from view by a part of the flames.

The smoke in Albany is particularly bad because of a fire in close proximity to the city. Just east of LaCom, which is only about 15 miles from Albany, is a fire which has been burning for several days, and is doing incalculable damage.

The fire is on the side of McCully mountain, which is covered with one of the finest bodies of timber in the county. There had been a number of fires in that section for some time, but all were under control and the loss was normal.

Albany people could see a large column of smoke rising from the side of the mountain east of LaCom, and later came the news that an immense and destructive fire was sweeping over McCully mountain with irresistible force.

The fire is thought to have been started by careless campers, and the authorities are investigating to see if the blame cannot be fastened on someone.

BRING HIGH PRICE.

Last Year's Hops Sell Well, and Picking Soon Begins.

Salem—Krebs Brothers, hopgrowers and dealers, have reported the purchase of 136 bales of 1903 hops from the A. J. Lee Hop company at 25 cents.

This is the highest price paid for some time. Speaking of the hop situation, Leonard Krebs said that the greatest danger is that growers will begin picking too early.

Some are talking of beginning September 1, which Mr. Krebs says is fully a week too soon.

In the Butteville, Hubbard, Aurora and St. Paul districts in particular the hops are usually too green, causing a loss in weight and also in quality.

Mr. Krebs says that in view of the absence of vermin this season, there is no danger in letting the hops remain on the vine until they are ready for picking.

Exhibits of State.

Salem—From information that has been received by Secretary Wylie A. Moores, of the state fair board, it is evident that the state fair next month will equal, if not excel the splendid exhibitions which have been held here for the last five years.

There are more horses in training on Lone Oak track now than ever before at this time of the year. Many breeders of livestock who have never been here before are making arrangements to come with their herds, and the livestock department will be at great an attraction.

Space in the main pavilion is being rapidly taken for county and general premium exhibits, and many new displays will be seen.

Hop Market to Open.

Salem—Though 20 to 21 cents is freely offered for contracts for 1904 hops, nothing of consequence is being done in this market. Growers are preparing for the harvest, which will begin about September 8 to 10, and are worrying very little about prices.

The hops in this vicinity are in excellent condition, so far as quality is concerned, and there has been no change in the estimates of the probable yield. Al Jennum, who still holds 200 bales of hops of the 1903 crop, has refused an offer of 23 1/2 cents a pound for the lot.

Urges Fruitgrowers to Organize.

La Grande—A meeting of Grand Ronde horticulturists was held at the Commercial club last week, Professor S. B. Green, of the Minnesota Agricultural college addressing the meeting, who came with Colonel Judson, of the O. R. & N. The professor urged the necessity of organization of the fruitgrowers, and believes the Grand Ronde one of the grandest fruit sections he has had the pleasure of looking over in the West.

Wheat Crop Ready.

Salem—Because spring wheat is ready to harvest, farmers are hauling little grain to town now, and there is little activity in the wheat market. All the flouring mills in this vicinity are paying a premium of 2 1/2 cents above the export quotations, and buyers for export are meeting the milling price.

Forest Fires Create Havoc.

Eugene—A number of forest fires are creating havoc in Lane county. Considerable damage has already been done and heavy losses are feared. A large fire is now burning in some of the forest timber on the McKenzie river. Several fires prevail.

Harvester Burns in Field.

Wasco—While the harvest crew were at dinner the combined harvester of Henry Howell, near Wasco, caught fire and burned up completely. The cause of the fire is unknown. Loss \$2,000, with no insurance. Only a small lot of wheat was burned.

Wheat Market.

Portland—Walla Walla, 70¢@78¢; bluestem, 81¢@82¢; valley, 80¢. Tacoma—Bluestem, 83¢; club, 77¢; Walla Walla—Bluestem, 72¢@73¢; club, 80¢.

La Grande—Forty 5 d, 68¢; c; ub, 70¢. Albany—73¢.

HOP MEN IN HIGH GLEE.

Crop Will Be Large, and Quality Better Than Last Year.

Albany—Prospects are very bright for Lane county hopgrowers this year. The yield is expected to be fully as large as that of last year, and the quality of the product much better.

The weather has been all that hop men could desire, and the crop is free from vermin. Picking will commence the last of this month. The prices for picking will be the same as last year.

But few contracts for sale of hops have been made up to this time. The prevailing price for those few sales that have been made is 20 to 21 cents.

Although growers have made no effort to sell their hops before the season is fairly opened, yet there does not seem to be any disposition to hold the crop, as there was last year. This is thought to be due to the fact that the stump in prices late in the season last year caused a loss of thousands of dollars to those who were holding for top prices.

Land Patents Held Up.

Albany—Word has been received in Albany by Ed Dorgan, the timber locator, from the interior department at Washington, D. C., that Albany claimants of timber land—in the Klamath and Lake county districts—will have to wait some time yet before receiving their patents.

All the claimants have proved up on their claims and hold receipts from the local land officers, but Messrs. Jones, Erickson and Brown, the special agents sent out by Secretary Hitchcock, have recommended that the land be held up for further investigation.

This is a great disappointment to the holders, who have waited for a long time for their patents. And the large number of people in Albany who have timber claims in the Eastern Oregon districts have a considerable amount of money tied up in the land.

Road to Aid Three Counties.

Albany—County Judge Scott, of Marion county, has been in conference with County Judge Stewart, of Linn county, regarding the proposed road to connect the Willamette valley with the Deschutes country, in Crook county, and the outcome is very favorable to the road. Hon. John Minto, father of the scheme and discoverer of the pass through which the road will go, is now at his mountain home on the line of the road, and will co-operate with the county judges in an effort to secure a conference with the judge of Crook county, to see if the three counties can work together and divide the expense of constructing the road, which will be a mutual benefit.

Crops in John Day Valley.

Prairie City—The hay crop in the John Day valley is this year as good as usual, on an average. While some stockmen are complaining over a slight inferior crop, others have harvested a superior one over those of previous years.

George W. McHaley harvested 25 tons of timothy hay from a five-acre parcel of land. Haying is now well under way, and in about another week the hay harvest will nearly be completed. Only a small amount of grain is being grown here, but it is of good average quality. The fruit crop is excellent, with the exception of a few orchards that was damaged by late frosts and hail storms.

Cove Cherries Get Prize.

La Grande—Union county cherries carried off the prize at the St. Louis fair. C. M. and O. G. Staekland of Cove, one of the greatest fruit sections in the state, have received word that their Royal Ann cherries sent in were given the 100 cent mark by the judges. Oregon has her own way at the fair in the line of cherries, and those from Union county are considered the best. The county has shipped out 20,000 boxes of the best varieties this season, besides the big home consumption.

Remove Name's Stigma.

Salem—That the name of the Oregon State Reform school be changed to Oregon State Industrial school, is one of the recommendations made in the biennial report of Superintendent N. H. Looney. This change is advised because the present name is to many a stigma of disgrace when applied to youths whose characters are not formed. "It is not the intention of the state to brand these boys when what they want is encouragement," says Superintendent Looney.

Incorporate at \$1,000,000.

Eugene—The Willamette Valley Electric railway company, which last week secured a franchise from the trolley lines along Lane county roads, has filed articles of incorporation with the county clerk. The incorporators are: Congressman J. F. Wilson, of Prescott, Ariz., and M. F. Taft and W. J. Wiley, also of Prescott. The capital stock is \$1,000,000, divided into shares of \$1.

Sulphite Mill Closed.

Oregon City—Having on hand a large surplus of the mill's product, the Crown Paper mills has temporarily closed down its sulphite mill, throwing out of employment 40 men. The wood mills of both local paper companies have suspended operations also, because of the low stage of the river. Because of this more than 100 men have been placed out of regular work temporarily.

PEACE EFFORT FAILS.

Mayor Harrison Unable to End the Packers' Strike.

Chicago, Aug. 18.—The effort of Mayor Harrison to end the meatpackers' strike accomplished nothing. In fact, conferences with the packers and labor leaders were not held as expected. Without waiting for the time set, the packers sent a committee to Mayor Harrison and informed him it would do no good to arrange a joint conference with the strike leaders.

The committee contended that the packers had already won the strike and had no reason to meet the strikers. The packers told the mayor he should consider that they controlled Chicago's greatest industry and had such vast interests at stake that they could not be dominated by their employees, that they would be fair, that prices of meat had not been raised and would not be raised because of the strike, that they could not accept anybody's intervention.

On the other hand, the strike leaders were equally antagonistic. President Donnelly declared he did not expect to be present at the time the conference was to meet. He said his reason was that at the hour named he had to address the Hog Butchers' union.

"And the hog butchers are a great deal more important to me than the mayor," said the head of the strikers. "Harrison was too long getting in. He has heard our say for fair police treatment and has ignored it. He need not think that now he can snap his fingers or whistle and have us come to do his bidding."

The mayor is reported to have said in reply that he was satisfied that his good offices were useless and he would make no further effort to bring about a meeting between the packers and strikers.

STILL A MIGHTY HOST.

Twenty-Six Thousand Veterans Parade, Despite the Heat.

Boston, Aug. 18.—If anything were needed to prove that the Grand Army of the Republic is still in fact a mighty host, it was to be found yesterday when, with a half million civilians looking on, 26,000 survivors of the union forces of the Civil war assembled here from all sections of the United States and marched through the streets of Boston. Five and one-half hours were required for the parade to pass a given point.

It was a severe strain on the old soldiers, but generally the veterans stood the hardship well. More than three score of them dropped from the rank on exhaustion and heat prostration, and were cared for at the hospital. The death of one soldier marred the otherwise happy day.

Colonel John P. Fryer, a member of John Dix post of New York, died from heart failure induced by exhaustion.

At least 250 spectators, mostly women, fainted during the parade, and many persons were slightly injured and had their clothing torn in the crush.

The spectacle of the gray haired soldiers on parade was one calculated to thrill, and everywhere the army was received with applause.

At the end of the route Commander in Chief John C. Black of the Grand Army of the Republic held his review. Just as the Grand Army of the Republic campfire was held, attended by 10,000 persons.

MINING THE DEFENSES.

Japanese are No Longer Using Guns in Higher Positions.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—A dispatch received from Chefoo tonight and giving undated dispatches from Port Arthur, says the Japanese during a bombardment occupied strongly fortified positions with a number of siege guns. After two hours, several of the Japanese guns were silenced. The Japanese, the advice say, are no longer trying to play their guns in the higher positions, which are too easily reached by the fire of the fortresses, but are buying themselves with mining operations against the defenses.

The spirit of the garrison continues to be excellent, and Lieutenant General Stoesel is going everywhere encouraging the troops. The fortress is well supplied with ammunition and provisions.

To Signalize Birth of Heir.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 18.—One of the acts of grace signifying the birth of an heir to the throne will be the total abolition of corporal punishment throughout Russia. It is reported, apparently on good authority, that Emperor William of Germany has asked for the privilege of acting as one of the godfathers of the heir. The christening will take place August 23, when, the Associated Press is able to state, quite a number of important liberal measures, besides the abolition of corporal punishment, will be announced.

In Great Fear of Rebels.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 18.—A feeling akin to panic prevails at Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay. The insurgents under General Ferrera have secured the adherence of the residents of the towns and villages parallel to the railway and are awaiting the arrival of the steamer Itatitica to make a simultaneous attack by land and water upon the capital. It is rumored that there was a bombardment of Asuncion today but this cannot be confirmed.

Fire Now Imperils Port.

London, Aug. 18.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio says a big oil warehouse at Port Arthur is blazing furiously and that the position of the besieged is such that the Japanese are urging them to surrender.

FURIOUS GALE

North St. Louis is Swept by a Tornado.

LOSS WILL REACH \$100,000

One Person Killed and Fifty Probably Injured—Many Miraculous Escapes—Wires are Down.

St. Louis, Aug. 22.—A tornado of extreme fury swept down upon the residence portion of North St. Louis late today, resulting in the death of one person, injury to probably 50, and damage to property estimated at \$100,000.

The atmosphere became murky and a dark cloud was noticed in North St. Louis approaching from the southwest. Suddenly, an arm seemed to shoot down like a gigantic cable, twisting and turning. The end touched the ground at Nineteenth and Angelou streets, and with incredible swiftness and force swept east along Angelou (or ten blocks). Then it turned north and swept three blocks along Broadway, when it jumped eight blocks northeast to the foot of Bremen street and the river, where much property along the river bank was destroyed.

The tornado then jumped to about the middle of the river, and encountered a ferryboat, which was turned and tossed about, but was not sunk. The tornado once more lifted and struck the Illinois shore near Madison, where it demolished several dwellings, the Federkranz hall and blew down a portion of the Madison cooper works, killing John Ellington.

Severe damage was done to buildings at Venice and Granite City, which adjoins Madison. One person was killed in the former city and a number injured.

So quickly did the tornado sweep through North St. Louis that the citizens could scarcely comprehend what had happened. In the stillness that followed, cries were heard on all sides as the terror stricken persons ran about the streets. Not a telephone, telephone or trolley pole was left standing along the street swept by the tornado, and trees were piled in heaps. The path of the tornado was about a block and a half wide along which houses were unroofed, window panes broken, several factories partially demolished and the streets littered with debris.

HUNGER MAKES THEM BOLD.

Packing-House Strikers Try to Kill Steers, and Pierce Battle Ensues.

Chicago, Aug. 22.—The fiercest riot of the stockyards strike occurred tonight when hungry dwellers of the packinghouse district sought to capture and kill eight steers that had escaped from the yards. The mob numbered 4,000 persons, and the steers were cleared only after 120 policemen in five squads had charged the rioters on four sides.

Shots were fired and scores of rioters were clubbed. Few arrests were made, as the police attempted themselves with dispersing the mob. In no previous riots were clubs used so freely.

Fire in the northeast corner of the stockyards gave rise to exciting rumors that incendiaries were at work. Sparks, presumably from a passing locomotive, fell into a pile of hay. The blaze was quickly extinguished.

A new source of trouble developed in the strike situation today when the grease wagon teamsters voted to handle nothing for meat dealers who are "unfair." The teamsters will not haul any refuse except for dealers who patronize the independent packers only.

President Donnelly has had a conference with the executive board with the "League of American Business Men," which was organized to raise funds for the strikers. A committee was formed to extend the movement to all parts of the city instead of confining it to the stockyards district. The league has raised the race issue, taking the ground that if the packers will not end the strike all the white residents will be driven from the stockyards region and that the place will become a negro settlement with a population of at least 70,000 men, women and children.

Will Emerge a Cruiser.

Odesa, Aug. 22.—In spite of the action of Great Britain in protesting against the passage through the Dardanelles of the volunteer fleet steamers St. Petersburg and Smolenik, it is learned on excellent authority that secret orders have been issued to the Sarafoff, a sister ship to the St. Petersburg, to make the journey shortly. She will be sent out as a hospital ship, but singularly enough during the last week ammunition hoists have been placed in position, while it is known she carries a battery of rapid fire guns.

Utah Makes a Bid.

Salt Lake City, Aug. 22.—The city council committee on public grounds has made a strong bid for the permanent home of the American Mining congress. The committee decided to offer to donate to the congress the fine vacant lot due north of the city and adjacent to the city hall, for its permanent home. The lot is about 50x105 feet and is to be given on the sole condition that the congress erect a suitable buildings upon the site.

Russia Buys More Steamers.

Brussels, Aug. 22.—Russia continues to secure modern steamers for use as transports. She has purchased the 4,400 ton Tiberius and the 3,500 ton Caladius, both English built boats of high speed.

FEAR OF SHARKS.

No More Reserves to Be Created in the State of Oregon.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The interior department will not create any more forest reserves in Oregon at this time because it is afraid in so doing it would open up endless opportunities for land operators.

This is the explanation given today by an official who is handling forestry matters under Secretary Hitchcock's direction. While the bureau of forestry, recommending the establishment of Blue mountain reserve, has carefully drawn its boundaries so as to exclude practically all private holdings, yet if a reserve should be created on those lines, the department fears that after the reserve was created, great numbers of speculators would file entries and settle on land in the reserve prior to the time when the original withdrawal was made.

The department officials admit it would be a comparatively easy thing for speculators to bring forward witnesses to swear falsely as to their having established residence on this land, and it would be almost impossible for the government to secure evidence of these entries. Once speculators established their right to the reserve lands, they would be entitled under the law to relinquish them and make new selections of more valuable lands elsewhere.