



WEEK'S DOINGS

News Items Gathered in from All Parts of the World.

OF INTEREST TO ALL OUR READERS

General Review of Important Happenings of the Past Week in Brief and Comprehensive Form

French miners have decided not to accept terms made by arbiters.

Fire at Camden, N. J., destroyed three blocks, valued at \$250,000.

Trust legislation is almost sure at the short or long session of congress.

Dr. Nansen, the Arctic explorer, will start on another expedition in 1903.

Major General MacArthur has been ordered to the command of the Department of the Lakes.

Much anxiety is felt concerning the condition of the emperor of Russia. He is greatly depressed in mind and is melancholy.

Minister Wu, Chinese representative at Washington, will not await the arrival of his successor, but will return home at once.

Fire in the New York Times office was the cause of two deaths and the serious injury of a number of others. Property loss, \$5,000.

There will be no ship this year to carry gifts to the soldiers in the far East, but the department will see that all packages are delivered.

The president is considering the applications for chief of the bureau of steam engineering and paymaster general, and will announce appointments soon.

Fire partially destroyed the Grand opera house, Nashville, Tenn. Loss, \$50,000.

General Uribe-Urbe, the Colombian revolutionary leader, has been sentenced to death.

Henderson will enter the race in Iowa for governor against Cummins. Vindication is his plea.

Burglars entered a New York house while the family were at dinner and stole \$8,000 worth of jewelry and clothing.

Burglars blew open the safe in an Albuquerque, N. M., jewelry store and secured \$2,000 in money and jewelry.

The postmaster general has ordered that the postoffice physician be abolished in all postoffices in cities under 500,000.

President Palma says the treaty between Cuba and the United States has been sent to the Cuban minister at Washington.

General Toral, who commanded the Spanish army at Santiago de Cuba at the time of the town's surrender, has lost his reason.

Secretary Root has cut down the estimates for continuing contract work on rivers and harbors nearly \$2,000,000, leaving the total amount \$16,570,000.

Vice President Bird, of the St. Paul railroad, declares that the rates are too low.

French miners are likely to reject the terms made by the arbitration commission.

An earthquake at Guarda, Spain, resulted in a serious loss of life and destruction of much property.

The king of Siam has called his thanks to the president for the kindly reception accorded his son the crown prince.

The re-election of Joseph G. Cannon, of Illinois, makes it almost certain that he will be chosen as speaker of the house.

Governor Yates, of Illinois, is in a very critical condition and is said to be worse than at any time since he was taken sick.

General Miles, in his annual report, recommends better fortifications for the Pacific coast and also better barracks for the men.

Chicago housewives are solving the servant girl problem by demanding that help shall have diplomas issued by the Housewives' association.

Twenty-five hundred Chicago carmen will receive 10 per cent increase in wages as the result of the arbitration of the difference between employers and employees.

A heavy loaded trolley car in Kansas City jumped the track, killing two people and injuring six.

The rebellion in Venezuela is now practically ended.

There will be 388 members in the next congress, of whom 206 will be Republicans and 108 Democrats.

A French steamship company is negotiating for the establishment of a line connecting San Francisco, the Hawaiian Islands and Australia.

Twelve people were killed and 50 injured in an accident in New York. A large crowd had gathered to celebrate their election victory and an explosion of fireworks and bombs resulted in a panic.

England will use \$40,000,000 the coming year to aid her subjects in the Transvaal and Orange River colony.

A steamer and schooner collided off the Boston harbor, resulting in the drowning of the captain and three of the crew of the latter vessel.

Commissioner of Immigration North has been directed to inquire into the Universal Brotherhood scheme and decide whether or not they should be allowed to take charge of children and educate them.

IRRIGATION FOR OREGON.

Will Get a Share of About \$900,000 from National Irrigation Fund.

Washington, Nov. 11.—Out of an aggregate reclamation fund in the treasury of approximately \$9,000,000, the state of Oregon is entitled to credit for about one tenth, or something in the neighborhood of \$900,000. The general land office and the treasury are together working to compute the net returns from public lands in the several states and from the United States for the past two fiscal years, in order to ascertain the exact size of the reclamation fund created by the irrigation act of the last session of congress. This law, it will be recalled, provides that the funds derived from the sale and disposal of public lands shall constitute a reclamation fund, for use on government works in the several states. While the whole amount comprises an aggregate sum, to be distributed at the direction of the secretary of the interior, it is provided at the end of 10 years each state shall receive benefits in proportion to its contributions to the fund. It was also wisely provided that the fund should include receipts for the past fiscal year.

It is a matter of note that Oregon has the third largest returns of any state in the Union, for the past two years. The net returns to the credit of the state stand at about \$900,000 for the two years.

The only states which precede Oregon are North Dakota, whose gross returns amount to \$1,321,811, and Oklahoma, with \$1,094,452 for the two years. Washington is the fourth state with \$891,509, and Idaho seventh, with \$775,900. The approximate net returns for Idaho will be about \$750,000 for the two years.

COST OF RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

Increased Appropriations Are Necessary to Meet Requirements.

Washington, Nov. 11.—The annual gross cost of complete rural free delivery service throughout the United States will approximate \$2,000,000, according to the annual report which First Assistant Postmaster General Wynne received from August W. Stachen, general superintendent of the service. The remaining 700,000 square miles not now covered by rural free delivery service, according to the report, will require the employment of 26,000 or 27,000 carriers in addition to those now employed, making the entire force of carriers, when the extension of the service is completed, within the next three years, 40,000. After this extension is completed the annual rate of increase in the appropriation is expected not to exceed 5 or 6 per cent, the rate maintained in the other branches of the postal service. To extend the service 12,000 routes a year until it becomes universal, the report says, will require such largely increased appropriations that the annual postoffice deficits for the ensuing two or three years will probably reach \$8,000,000 or \$10,000,000, if not more; but once the service is completed, the additional revenue derived will soon reduce the deficits to present figures, if not entirely wipe them out.

SOURCE OF ORE FOUND.

Old-Time Colorado Mining Camp Expected to Boom Again.

Pueblo, Colo., Nov. 11.—For 20 years people have been trying to find the source of the ore at Silver Cliff, and at last it has turned up, only half a mile from the town. The strike made a few days ago by Haskell & Jackson, two veteran assayers, seems to be the most important in Southern Colorado for many years. They are now literally quarrying out the ore, and shipping it by the carload. Immense sums have been spent in vain efforts to find the ore which was known to be there, the search including the Geyser Prospect shaft, which is 2,600 feet deep. The ore has been found just below the surface on government land. It runs \$44 per ton, and picked specimens yield 75 ounces of gold and much silver. There is great excitement in all that region, and everything has been staked for miles. It is anticipated that Silver Cliff, once the second town in the state, will boom again.

Electric Trains a Success.

New York, Nov. 11.—Electric traction trains on the military railway, between Berlin and Zossen, have now ended for the season, says a London dispatch to the Tribune. The result of the trials has been to prove beyond doubt that express trains can easily be run by electric power at a speed of 75 miles an hour on an ordinary permanent way. A higher rate of speed required heavier and firmer permanent way, and this is to be prepared in time for the recommencement of the trials in the spring.

Reciprocity Treaty is Signed.

Washington, Nov. 11.—Secretary Hay, for the United States, and Sir Michael Herbert, representing the British government and the government of Newfoundland, today, at the state department, signed what is known as the Bond-Hay treaty, providing for reciprocity between the United States and Newfoundland, covering fish products and bait. The treaty will be submitted to the senate immediately upon its reassembling.

Yale Students Must Learn to Swim.

New York, Nov. 10.—Every student entering Yale will become an expert swimmer, if he cannot advance good reasons to be excused from taking swimming lessons, says a Herald dispatch from New Haven. The faculty has found that 10 per cent of this year's entering class cannot swim. A rule has been passed to permit swimming lessons to count for the required gymnasium work.

NEWS OF OREGON

Items of General Interest Gathered From All Over the State.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL DOINGS

A Brief Review of Improvements, Growth and Development Along All Lines Throughout Our State.

The first heavy frost of the season. The Dalles fell last Wednesday night.

The drug store of Dr. H. A. Wall, Lyle, was robbed of \$1,050 by four masked men.

Mrs. Mary Starkey, an Oregon pioneer of 1845, is dead. She had lived in Salem for a number of years.

C. A. Fitch, of Lakeview, Fusion candidate for state printer in 1898, committed suicide by taking morphine.

Citizens of Portland have started to raise a \$25,000 fund for an immigration bureau and permanent exhibit.

The sugar factory at La Grande has already received 13,400 tons of beets, which amount is greater than the whole crop of any previous year.

The report of the superintendent of the state asylum for October shows 1,265 persons to be confined in that institution, an increase of nine since September.

Master Fish Warden Van Dusen declares that the laws are violated in many cases by millmen who do not provide good fish ways in their dams. He will proceed to enforce this act.

It has been announced to the students of Pacific university, Forest Grove, that the Corbett prize for scholarship of \$50 and the Tibbais prize for oratory of \$50 have been again offered this year.

An important ruling has been made by School Superintendent Ackerman. He has decided that the residence of the parent or guardian, rather than the place where the pupil is enumerated, determines the place where a child is entitled to attend school without paying tuition.

The Oregon land and livestock company has been incorporated at Eugene. The capital stock is \$1,000,000. The objects of the incorporation cover nearly everything in the livestock business. The company has been formed by members of the Booth-Kelly lumber company to utilize that portion of their lands found to be more valuable for stock raising than for timber.

The grain fleet now in the river at Portland is the largest on record for the time.

One of the richest gold mines in the United States is the North Pole, located about six miles north of Sumpter. About \$750,000 has been expended on external improvements and underground development work since the mine was discovered. The property is controlled by English capitalists. The actual value of the North Pole is problematical. The management, of course, is familiar with the value of the ore found in the wonderful pay shoots, but it does not know the full extent of the pay shoots. Development work is being pushed to determine the richness and extent of this rich body of ore. If, as there is every reason to believe, this rich shoot extends to the depth, then the mine is easily worth \$10,000,000.

A new corporation will begin business in Baker City next spring, to be known as the Heller wool pressing and grading company. The new company will erect a stone building to be equipped with the latest machinery for cleaning, grading and pressing wool.

The incendiary attempts to destroy buildings at the Fort Stevens barracks still continue, although a double guard is maintained and every precaution taken to prevent a repetition of the fire. The officers are at a loss to explain the reason for the biases.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 65@70c; blue-stem 73@74c; valley, 70c.
Barley—Feed, \$21.00 per ton; brewing, \$22.00.
Flour—Best grade, 3.20@3.50; Graham, \$2.90@3.20.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, \$23.50; shorts, \$19.50; chop, \$17.
Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.10 @ 1.15; gray, \$1.05@1.10 per cental.
Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$7.50; cheat, \$5 per ton.
Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 60@70c per sack; ordinary, 50@55c per cental; growers' prices; Merced sweets, \$1.75 @ 3 per cental.
Poultry—Chickens mixed, \$8.50 @ 4.25; per pound, 10c; hens, \$4@4.50 per dozen; per pound, 11c; springs, \$3.00 @ 3.50 per dozen; fryers, \$2.50@3.00; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; ducks, \$4.50 @ 6.00 per dozen; turkeys, young, 12c @ 13c; geese, \$6.00@6.50 per dozen.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 15 @ 16c; Young America, 15 1/2 @ 16 1/2 c factory prices, 1 1/2 @ 1 3/4 c less.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 30@32 1/2 c per pound; extra, 30c; dairy, 20 @ 22 1/2 c; store, 15 @ 18.
Eggs—25@30c per dozen.
Hops—New crop, 22@25c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 12 1/2 @ 15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@14c; mohair, 26@28c.
Beef—Gross, cows, 3@3 1/2 c per pound; steers, 4c; dressed, 6@7c.
Veal—7 1/2 @ 8 1/2 c.
Mutton—Gross, 3c per pound; dressed, 6c.
Lamb—Gross, 3 1/2 c per pound; dressed, 6 1/2 c.
Hog—Gross, 6 1/2 @ 6 3/4 c per pound; dressed, 7@7 1/2 c.

TREATY BUILT UP.

President Palma Has Pigeon-Holed Cuba's Reply to the United States.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Contrary to the common understanding here, it appears that the draft of the Cuban reciprocity treaty has not yet left Havana on its return to Washington, but instead is now reposing in a pigeonhole in the desk of President Palma. The misunderstanding as to the location of the treaty arose from a statement from Minister Suiques at Havana that he expected the treaty to be sent the day following the sending of his message. The Cuban habits of procrastination, rather than any disposition to actually refrain from entering into treaty obligations with the United States, are supposed to be the reason for delay.

In view of the fact that the treaty has not yet come here, nor has Mr. Suiques had a look at it, it follows that the United States government is officially ignorant of the nature of the changes that the Cubans desire to make in the convention. Of course, generally, these are known to be connected with the increase of the rebate to be allowed on Cuban sugar and tobacco entering the United States, and there are indications that the administration may be willing to yield slightly on this point if no unreasonable delay is exhibited in the negotiations on the part of the Cubans. The rate of rebate proposed in the original convention is 20 per cent, and it is gathered that the Cubans want 50 per cent. This rate cannot be allowed, in view of the belief that congress would certainly not sanction such a cut in duties, but between these figures there is so wide a margin that there is room for compromise on a basis that might be acceptable to both sides.

The coaling station matter is, for the time being, held in abeyance, the 10,000 tons of coal belonging to the United States navy now lying in a warehouse at Tricomaria is being diminished, according to the needs of the navy in Gulf waters, so that the Cuban complaint of the existence of an American naval station in Havana harbor is adjusting itself without friction, and, indeed, it is said that the matter has not been officially mentioned lately.

GUNBOAT TO HIS RESCUE.

United States Will Compel Release of Her Consul Agent by Venezuelans.

Port of Spain, Island of Trinidad, Nov. 8.—The United States gunboat Marietta arrived yesterday at Barcelona, Venezuela, in order to compel the revolutionists there to release the United States consular agent, Ignacio H. Ruiz, who was arrested for refusing to contribute to a forced loan. Mr. Ruiz is the richest man in Barcelona, and a man of high position. The treatment to which he has been subjected is only an incident similar to many others which have occurred in every part of Venezuela.

The seaport town of Higurote, Venezuela, was occupied for three hours yesterday by forces landed from the Venezuelan gunboat Crespo. The landing party is said to have caused great damage to property owned by Spanish and French residents, and the French warship D'Estrees has left Guayara to investigate the matter.

The Dutch cruiser Holland and the Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausan have arrived at La Guayara.

DANISH ISLAND DEAL.

People Who Blocked Sale of West Indies Are Badly Disappointed.

Copenhagen, Nov. 8.—The time for subscribing to the stock of the Danish West Indian company has expired. Of the \$1,000,000 nominal capital only one-fifth was subscribed for, notwithstanding the advertisement given to the concern by King Christian and Crown Prince Frederick taking stock. The promoters, who are anti-slavers, are downcast because of the weakness of the sentiment in favor of aiding the West Indian plan. The leaders of the movement intend to appeal to King George, of Greece, Queen Alexandra and the dowager carina of Russia to buy shares. The banks and a few individuals will probably face the matter and stand the losses, since the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States was rejected partly on account of their promises.

Ladrones Are Very Active.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Manila papers received at the war department state that the ladrones are making more trouble than ever in the Philippines. They occasionally attack constabulary officers and prey upon defenceless natives. The paper says that all bona fide insurgents have returned to ways of peace and are maintaining at least a semblance of a law-abiding career. To remedy the evils, the constabulary is to be increased to such a number that the lawless band may be hunted down.

Nome Storm Costs Eight Lives.

Seattle, Nov. 8.—No less than eight men were drowned, three vessels driven ashore and practically every lighter on the Nome beach was wrecked in a storm which commenced on Tuesday, October 14, and continued the following day. These facts are supplied by Mr. Robinson, purser of the Ohio, which arrived yesterday. A dozen or more people were thrown into the surf and rescued by the lifesaving crew.

Robbers Blow Up Bank Safe.

Hutchinson, Kan., Nov. 8.—Robbers blew open the safe of the Tampa state bank here and took \$3,800 in cash, escaping on a hand car. The safe was blown all to pieces.

WANT CANTEEN

General Corbin Declares in Favor of the Post Exchange.

SAYS GOOD DISCIPLINE DEMANDS IT

Annual Report of the Adjutant General Deals with Every Feature of the Army—More Amusements.

Washington, Nov. 10.—The annual report of Adjutant General Corbin, of the army, deals with every feature of the army, and begins with a statement showing that the army is to be reduced by December 1 to 60,020 men, of which about 2,877 belong to the staff departments. The report shows that during the fiscal year, 35 officers were killed in action or died of wounds or disease; 21 resigned, and 68 retired. Of the enlisted men, 1,277 were killed or died of wounds and disease; 35,806 were discharged on the expiration of service; 4,498 were discharged for disability or dismissed by order of court martial; 4,567 deserted; two were missing, and 293 retired.

General Corbin has the following to say regarding the canteen: "The restriction of the exchange, as it existed before the passage of the act of February 2, 1901, prohibiting the sale of beer, is desired and urged by the great majority of officers and men, and by none more than those of pronounced temperance views. Numerous reports confirm the views long held by this office that the old exchange contributed to sobriety, health and contentment of the men. The increase of discipline is, by those best informed, attributed to the abolition of the former privileges of the exchange."

In conclusion the report says: "The instruction for men in vocal music would be a step in the direction of contentment and better discipline. Every regiment should have its marching song. Frequent practice in singing, evening, would do much to make the men satisfied to remain in quarters and away from the baleful influence of the barrooms that exist in too great numbers in the vicinity of our military posts. These barrooms are under the protection of the license law of the several states, and are beyond the control of the military authorities."

FOR OREGON STUDENTS.

Society of Sons of American Revolution Offers Prize for Best Essay.

The Oregon society of Sons of the American Revolution at Portland offers three prizes of \$25, \$15 and \$10, respectively, for the best essay written by any student in any public school in Oregon, on any one of the following four subjects: The Battle of Bonker Hill. The Burgoyne Campaign. The Treason of Benedict Arnold. The Partisan Warfare in the Carolinas; Marion, Sumpter and Pickett. Essays are limited in length to 2,500 words; must be written on legal cap on one side of the paper in the student's own handwriting and must be accompanied by the certificate of the principal of the school attended by the author, to the effect that the author is a bona fide student in the school and has been in attendance therein not less than six weeks during the school year of 1902-3. Essays must be forwarded to the chairman of the committee in charge, Wallace McCamant, 34 Concord building, Portland, so as to reach him not later than January 15, 1903. In awarding the prizes the committee will be governed by these considerations: Historical accuracy, manner of treatment, orthography, grammar, syntax and punctuation. Any additional information relative to the competition may be obtained from Wallace McCamant, chairman.

OPERATORS PROMISE.

Coal Barons Will Abide by the Findings of the Peace Commission.

Washington, Nov. 10.—Colonel Carroll D. Wright and General John A. Wilson, members of the anthracite coal strike commission, held a brief interview with the president today. They reported that the individual operators in the anthracite region had agreed to abide by the findings of the commission and had so notified Judge Gray, the chairman. President Roosevelt was particularly pleased with this information, as it tended materially to imply the problem which the commission has to solve.

New River Found.

New York, Nov. 10.—W. J. Wilson, an explorer of the Canadian geological survey, has returned with his party from a tour through the unexplored country to the southwest of James bay, says a Times dispatch from Ottawa. Mr. Wilson reports the discovery of a large river, hitherto unsurveyed and running between the Albany river on the south and the Ottawa river on the north. It has a course of over 300 miles and near James bay divides into two branches, emptying into Hudson bay.

Navy Needs More Officers.

Washington, Nov. 10.—Secretary of the Navy Moody is working on his annual report. It is understood that one of his principal recommendations will be for an increase of officers of the navy. The lack of officers to man our warships is giving the department grave concern, and Secretary Moody will seriously urge that additional cadets at Annapolis be appointed to supply the growing deficit. He will not recommend a reorganization of the navy.

STRIKE BOARD TAKES A REST

Finished Its Tour of Inspection—Miners Will Be Heard November 14.

Manassas City, Pa., Nov. 7.—The Anthracite Strike commission ended its tour of investigation in the coal fields in the Panther Creek Valley yesterday and will return to their homes today, and will meet again at Scranton on November 14 to take the testimony of the miners. The largest day's work of the entire trip was accomplished yesterday when the commissioners made a complete inspection of two large collieries and a tour of the region lying between Mount Carmel and this city. Six working days have been consumed in traveling from place to place in the anthracite coal regions, and the arbitrators feel that they are now qualified to sit in judgment on the controversy between the mine owners and their employees. In all, the commissioners were lowered into seven mines of varying conditions and went through several breakers. They met the general superintendents, the mine superintendents and foremen of the various collieries visited, and also personally talked with the grimy coal diggers in the dark gangways and chambers hundreds of feet below the earth's surface. They will be able to understand questions and ask questions where they would not have been able to understand them if they had not been underground.

HELD FOR ELECTION ACCIDENT.

Manager of Fireworks Display is Charged by Coroner with Manslaughter.

New York, Nov. 7.—With a list of 12 persons killed and 74 injured before him, Coroner Scholer today began an investigation of the explosion of fireworks in Madison Square Tuesday evening. He held John Craig in \$18,000 bonds on a charge of manslaughter in the first degree. Mr. Craig, it is alleged, was in charge of the explosives at the time of the accident. Two boys, who were carrying boxes of explosives, were sent to the house of detention by the coroner as witnesses. All the rest of the 10 prisoners were discharged. The coroner says there were seven bombs. An attempt to shoot off the first failed, he said, but it detonated, and thus caused the explosion of the other bombs. There were 10 pounds and four mortars weighing 150 pounds each.

IMMENSE CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

October Imports at New York Largest on Record, with One Exception.

New York, Nov. 7.—October was, in amount of customs receipts and in number of consignments imported, a record "current" month at this port. The only month which ever exceeded it in print of customs receipts was April, 1897, and this was the record month of the year when a new tariff was about to become operative, and an unprecedented rush to get goods into the country was made. Last month's receipts were \$17,250,000. The month was also a record breaker for deliveries at the Appraiser's stores. The number of packages received was 50,551, and deliveries 49,400.

Oil Quelled the Waters.

Port Townsend, Wash., Nov. 7.—The Austrian steamer Java has reached this port from Moji. After leaving Tsugar straits the Java encountered the full force of a typhoon. Heavy seas swept over the steamer, hanging life-boats, awning frames and even washing the tarpaulins away that covered the hatches. Fortunately bags of fish oil were then hung along the steamer's side and prevented the seas from breaking, although a heavy, confused sea threatened momentarily to engulf the steamer. Had the Java been loaded, the officers think, the steamer would have been lost. The Java proceeded to West Seattle.

Decides Against Strikers.

Paris, Nov. 7.—The arbitrators in the miners' strike in the department of Pado Calais today gave a decision against an increase of the present rates of wages, holding that the rates are proportionate to the selling price of coal. Announced to the decision was a written declaration of the representatives of all the companies in that district to the effect that old-age pensions for workmen would be raised. The delegates of the miners are dissatisfied with the decision, and expect to carry the matter to the chamber of deputies.

To Prevent Rice Famine.

Manila, Nov. 7.—The Philippine commissioners have taken firm measures to prevent the rice famine, which is threatening many provinces. They today appropriated \$5,000,000 (Mexican) for the purchase and transportation of rice to be sold to the sufferers at a cash price covering the cost. Governor Taft will control purchases and sales. The coastwise companies have memorialized the commission denying the existence of a pool.

Fifteen Hurt in Collision.

New York, Nov. 7.—The west-bound Black Diamond express on the Lehigh Valley road, which left Jersey City at noon, was wrecked east of Newark about 12:20 p. m. Fifteen passengers were more or less seriously hurt, one coach and the engine being overturned. The express ran onto a siding and collided with an engine.

TO SAVE TIMBER

Hermann Favors the Withdrawal of Valuable Forests.

PROTECTION TO OUR WATER SUPPLY

The Repeal or Modification of the Present Law, in Event Lands Cannot be Reserved, is Urged by Him.

Washington, Nov. 5.—The most important feature of Land Commissioner Hermann's annual report, submitted today, is a recommendation for the immediate withdrawal from disposal of a part or all of the public lands which are more valuable for forest purposes than for other uses. This step is urged in view of the heavy incursions being made upon the public timber and the resulting damage to water supply. If this step cannot be taken, it is urged as absolutely necessary that the timber and stone act, passed 30 years ago, be either repealed or materially modified. Two dollars and a half an acre for timber land is a mere nominal price, when the land is often worth \$100 per acre.

"If the timber and stone act is to continue in force," said Commissioner Hermann today, "it should be modified to allow the government to get a fair price for its timber lands. Since the enactment of the present law, 30 years ago, the government has realized but \$13,000,000, when the lands disposed of were worth \$130,000,000 at the lowest figure. I believe free use of public timber in limited quantities should be allowed settlers and miners for domestic purposes, but all timber taken from the public domain for commercial and manufacturing purposes should be purchased at a fair price. Under the present law timber valued at not less than \$100,000,000 has been stolen or destroyed. Under a revised law properly enforced by an adequate ranger force, this could not continue."

The new rule of the department allowing the Woolgrowers' association to take charge of the allotment of sheep and range in forest reserves where sheep grazing was allowed during the past season did not always prove satisfactory, and caused more delays in issuing permits than under the former system. Investigations made by forest inspectors indicate that generally too many sheep were allowed in the reserves, and that the number must be materially decreased next year.

CHINA'S DARK WAYS.

Government Officers Elevated for an Act Forbidden by Imperial Decree.

London, Nov. 5.—Giving an instance of the Chinese way of fulfilling treaty obligations, the Pekin correspondent of the Times notes the issuance of an imperial rescript in response to a request made by the governor of Kwang Si province, elevating fourth grade officials to the rank of first grade mandarins for their patriotism in smuggling into Kwang Si 1,000 Mauser rifles and 300,000 cartridges, which were placed at the service of the governor for the suppression of rebels. This was done, says the Times correspondent, although an imperial decree issued in August, 1901, in accordance with the protocol, forbade the importation of arms.

SLAIN BY LADRONES.

American School Teacher in