

THE WASCO NEWS

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RESUME OF THE WEEK'S DOINGS

Newsy Items Gathered From All Parts of the World.

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Comprehensive Manner for Busy Readers—National, Political, Historical and Commercial.

The streetcar strike at Muncie, Ind., has been broken.

Four large New York diamond firms have gone to the wall.

Fire at Culbertson, Mont., destroyed property valued at \$125,000.

Thousands of men are returning to work in all parts of the East.

In his annual report Secretary Taft urges more pay for the army.

A scenic electric line will be built to the Yellowstone National park.

Senator La Follette is receiving quite a presidential boom in the East.

Rapid progress is being made in securing a jury for the second trial of Thaw.

Seven men were drowned by the overturning of a skiff in the Missouri river near Kickapoo, Kan.

The missing steamer Mount Royal has been sighted off Ireland and a steamer sent to her assistance.

Fully 50,000 men have returned to their old places in Ohio as the result of general resumption of commercial activity.

It is estimated that there are 125,000 persons out of work in New York City. An appeal for aid has been made to the nation, state and city.

Many desperate criminals infest San Francisco and Oakland.

The second trial of Harry Thaw for the murder of Stanford White has started.

Ambassador Aoki reiterated Japanese friendship in a farewell speech at San Francisco.

Strikes in New York for lower rent are being settled by concessions on the part of landlords.

Japanese spies are said to be making sketches and photographs around Port Townsend, Wash.

Haywood says the acquittal of Pettibone is a vindication for the Western Federation of Miners.

The Vancouver chief of police has refused to search Japanese for arms for fear of stirring up further trouble.

The three men entombed at Ely, Nev., by a cave-in in a mine December 4 have not been reached yet by the rescuers.

M. Harmand, ex-French minister to Japan, likens the situation between the United States and Japan to a mine which might easily be set off.

The jury has disagreed in the Powers case. The next trial is set for July 6. Powers is accused of complicity in the murder of William Goebel.

Rio Janeiro is preparing hospitality for the battleship fleet.

The governor has ordered out troops to suppress the Muncie, Ind., riots.

The countess of Yarmouth, Harry Thaw's sister, is suing for a divorce.

Witte and Kuropatkin have had a wordy controversy over the Russo-Japanese war.

Banks of the country have made a large increase in business for the year just ended.

Seven of the nine companies of United States infantry at Goldfield have been withdrawn.

Foraker denounces the method of holding Ohio primaries, while Taft men defend them.

A hospital ship will be equipped at the Mare Island navy yard which will meet the big fleet at Magdalena bay.

Judge Hunt has sent four Butte labor leaders to jail for contempt in connection with the telephone strike in that city.

Europe is anxiously watching developments between the United States and Japan. The next two months are considered critical.

JAPAN WOULD TAKE OFFENSE

Attempted Exclusion Will Provoke Insult, Says Aoki.

Paris, Jan. 7.—The newspapers continue to give much space to the American-Japanese situation. The papers print an alleged interview with Count Aoki, the retiring ambassador of Japan at Washington, in which he is quoted from San Francisco as saying Japan would consider as an offensive action any attempt on the part of the United States to exclude the Japanese, and take this as a text for long articles. Viscount Aoki's denial of this interview has not yet been published here. Lacking this denial, the Journal Debats thinks that in his interview Count Aoki has placed his fingers on the real danger spot.

"Japan refuses to admit that anywhere on the globe the Japanese are socially inferior to any other people," says the paper. "Japan claims to have won the absolute right to be treated as a great power everywhere, and under all circumstances."

In the opinion of Eclair, if the two governments accede to the sentiments of the people and the logical necessity of the situation, a conflict would appear very imminent. "But Japan is without money. America is not ready, and we doubtless shall see both nations champ their bits awhile longer."

The Gaulois believes that the friendly and tactful powers at Washington will prevent a break. It fears only that the American people may become excited. Baron Karuno, the Japanese ambassador to France, today gave out a statement that he was convinced that Viscount Aoki only meant that Japan would consider legislation offensive to Japan as, for instance, if an exclusion act is proposed like the Chinese.

SOLDIERS CALLED HOME.

Hundreds of Japanese Leaving British Columbia.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 7.—Hundreds of Japanese, whose terms of service in the mikado's army had not been completed or who were on the reserve list of fighting men, have been called home to Japan.

Dozens of Japanese quit their work in Vancouver yesterday, and many more are coming into town today. Already they are securing passage on vessels outbound across the Pacific from Vancouver and Victoria. March 15 is given as the day when they must report ready for whatever duty is in store for them.

The gathering of the Japanese is being carried out with much secrecy. No less than 200 landed in a bunch this morning from a small American steamer, which slipped in and out of the harbor before daylight and neither entered nor cleared from the customs house.

Since Friday there has been a steady stream of the brown men from the logging camps. No Japanese in the city will admit the coming of the order for the return of the soldiers, but officers of the Asiatic Exclusion league declare that they have absolute information that this order has been received in Vancouver since the departure of the American fleet for Pacific waters.

CHICAGO TENANTS ORGANIZE.

Ghetto Residents Demand Reduction in High Rents.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—Five hundred residents of Chicago's ghetto formed last night a 'Tenants' union with the avowed purpose of forcing landlords of the district to reduce rents \$2 a month. Leaders of the movement advised the members of the new organization to refuse to pay the present rates which were declared exorbitant and to force the landlords to take all legal steps and pay all court costs in case the latter refuse to meet the demands for lower prices.

At present, it was declared, four rooms in a ghetto tenement cost \$12 a month, five rooms \$18 a month and six rooms \$22. A flat reduction of \$2 is sought.

The movement will be modeled after the one in New York. It is the hope of its leaders that it may spread to laboring classes throughout the city. With this end in view a committee was appointed to confer with the Chicago Federation of Labor and seek the cooperation of that body.

Work for 5,000 Men.

St. Louis, Jan. 7.—According to an announcement made today an aggregate of 5,000 men will be re-employed January 13 by many large industrial plants in East St. Louis, Ill., and vicinity.

VESSEL MISSING WITH 400 SOULS

Steamer Mount Royal Long Overdue With Host of Immigrants.

Sailed December 7 From Antwerp for St. John, N. B., and Has Not Been Heard From—Steamer Hungarian, Also Overdue, May Have Gone to Her Aid.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 4.—A private dispatch from Toronto says the C. P. R. has given up hope for the steamer Mount Royal overdue from Antwerp with 400 passengers.

No Word Received.

St. John, N. B., Jan. 4.—No word has yet been received here of the Canadian Pacific line steamer Mount Royal, which left Antwerp on December 7 for St. John, having on board 304 immigrants, mostly Italians and Jews, besides a crew numbering more than 100 men.

The Canadian Pacific officials in this city, while expressing anxiety regarding the vessel, stated today that they believed the steamer probably had met with some accident to her machinery which had caused her to drift far out of her course, and that she would be heard from in due time at some other port.

May Have Gone to Rescue.

London, Jan. 4.—The non-arrival of the Allan line steamship Hungarian, which sailed from Greenock, Scotland, December 14, and is now a week overdue at Portland, Me., leads shipping men to believe that she has fallen in with the Canadian Pacific liner Mount Royal, which is now long overdue at St. John, N. B.

BOYCOTT THE EXPOSITION.

Seattle Unions Disgruntled at Action of Committee.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 4.—At a meeting of the Building Trades council last night, the assembly voted to call upon labor organizations everywhere in the country to lend support to opposition to the 1909 fair. Action was taken after the executive committee of the exposition had refused to incorporate in the building contracts a clause specifying that only union men be employed. J. E. Chilberg, president of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, says: "After considering the demands of the union, the executive committee decided it could not discriminate. Money subscribed for the exposition came from all people. We do not object to union nor union men. We refuse to play favorites."

By the declaration of the open-shop policy, notices of which went into effect yesterday, causing the walking out of 160 employees in the metal works of this city, Seattle is facing a general strike which means that at least 5,000 men will become involved, and at least \$1,000,000 in building will be retarded before a settlement is reached.

INFLUX OF JAPS.

Fifteen Hundred Coming to Vancouver From Honolulu.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 4.—The unexplained arrival of 300 Japanese in Vancouver yesterday and the prospect of an influx of another 1,200 within the next month from Honolulu are the features of the Oriental situation in Vancouver. Why the 300 Japs came to Vancouver yesterday is a mystery. All the morning they poured into town from the coast logging camps, and some even from the American side of the boundary line. The boarding house keepers of Japtown had a busy time housing them. Last night there was the usual crop of rumors that they came in view of possible trouble, and officers of the Asiatic Exclusion league are much perturbed over the event.

Yesterday it was announced that at least 1,000 Japanese would come from Hawaii during the next three weeks.

All Lost Except Three

City of Mexico, Jan. 4.—Ramon Portas, second officer of the steamer Ildero, has arrived at Vera Cruz and reported that the vessel sank in a storm on the night of December 2, and all on board were lost except three.

RUEF GOES TO JAIL.

Leaves Sumptuous Quarters for a Felon's Cell.

San Francisco, Jan. 6.—Quarters were arranged at the county jail today for Abe Ruef, the deposed boss of San Francisco, who, since his arrest eight months ago, has occupied a suite of rooms in a private house under a special guard.

Sheriff O'Neil, the Schmitz politician, goes out of office on January 8, and his place will be taken by Larry Dolan, chosen at the last election. Judge Dunne, who refused to place Ruef in the county jail while O'Neil was sheriff for fear that O'Neil would allow the prisoner to escape, has ordered that Ruef be transferred from his parlor prison as soon as Dolan assumes office.

Ruef will join the assemblage of distinguished citizens who have moved from their homes on the heights to the branch jail. Ruef will occupy a cell near that in which ex-Mayor Schmitz reposes. He will have as neighbors Louis Glass, the millionaire manager of the Pacific States Telephone company, who was convicted of bribery; J. Dalzell Brown, Walter J. Barnett and James Treadwell, the banker whose arrest followed the exposures of the rottenness of the California Safe Deposit & Trust company, and George D. Collica, the tricky attorney who was brought back from Canada to face charges of bigamy and perjury.

Ruef has been allowed to order his meals as desired and has been living on the best in the land. He is far more than a millionaire, and he has been allowed a great deal of liberty as a result of the form of his imprisonment. All this will now be changed. Just what effect this will have on Ruef's refusal to testify without immunity remains to be seen. It is thought that a good taste of real prison life may cause Ruef to later his views.

FINE FOR EXPRESS COMPANIES

Neglected to File Data Asked for by Railroad Commission.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 6.—Alleging that the United States, the Adams and the American Express companies had failed to file the amounts of the salaries of the officers and the assets and liabilities of the concerns with the Nebraska State Railway commission, County Attorney Tyrrell today filed a penal suit in the County court, asking that the fine provided by the statute be imposed.

That the three express companies neglected to file the data demanded by the commission and January 1 was set as the final date for the appearance of the complete reports. The railway commission notified Attorney General Thompson of the delinquency and he directed County Attorney Tyrrell to begin proceedings.

The railroad commission law passed by the last session of the legislature prescribes a penalty of from \$500 to \$5,000 for refusing to furnish the information demanded by the commission. The laws direct that service be made upon the local agents of the corporations charged with violating the laws.

PETTIBONE FREE.

Jury Acquits Him of Complicity in Steunenberg Murder.

Boise, Jan. 6.—The end of the prosecution of the men charged with the murder of ex-governor Frank Steunenberg with the exception of the cases of Harry Orchard and Jack Simpkins, came Saturday with the acquittal of George Pettibone. Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, was formally released at 4 o'clock, and will return with Pettibone in a few days to Denver.

The case of Orchard, the self-confessed assassin of Steunenberg, is in the hands of Prosecuting Attorney Van Duyn, of Canyon county. No statement as to the future procedure in that case has been made, but it will be called during the next term of court at Caldwell, when it will probably be finally disposed of.

Simpkins, a member of the executive board of the Western Federation of Miners, who is charged with complicity in the crime, is a fugitive from justice and the charge against him will stand.

Must Not Reduce Rates.

Sioux Falls, Jan. 6.—Judge Garland, of the Federal court, today issued a temporary injunction restraining the South Dakota Railway commission from reducing passenger rates from 3 to 2½ cents per mile.

CONFERENCE ON COAST DEFENSE

Oregon, California and Washington Officers Summoned.

Conference is Called by War Department—Manning of Coast Fortifications by State Reserves to Be Subject of Council at Washington Who Will Pay the Bills?

Portland, Jan. 2.—Adjutant generals of the three Pacific states—Oregon, Washington and California—have been invited by the War department to go to Washington, D. C., for a conference at the earliest possible date on the subject of coast defense. Adjutant General W. E. Finzer, of Oregon, and General J. B. Lauck, of California, are leaving for the capital tomorrow, while General Otis Hamilton, of Washington, will start East Saturday.

The request from the War department for this conference is regarded as peculiarly significant, indicating the government's determination to prepare for any emergencies that may arise from the West. The principal topic of consideration at the conference will be that of training volunteer coast artillery reserves to man Oregon, Washington and California fortifications. The subject of perfecting the infantry regiments of the three states in coast defense operations will likewise be taken up. It is assumed that the meeting will result in assignment of National Guard troops to coast artillery work. The three adjutant generals will very likely return with the task ahead of recruiting new coast companies for this service.

For several months General Oliver has been in communication with Generals Finzer, Lauck and Hamilton on the subject of coast defense. Only a few days ago he submitted memoranda from the chief of artillery recommending assignment of the Oregon troops to coast defense maneuvers in May, as well as the permanent setting aside of certain infantry companies for heavy artillery training.

This plan was not regarded by the three coast adjutant generals as feasible. There appeared to be a disinclination among infantry commanders to apportion their companies for artillery work. Concerted objection was also made to the month of May for maneuvers, as it is difficult for the average guardsman to leave his business or work at the busy time of the spring rush.

It is known, however, that the War department will find it necessary to offer more than a plan of coast defense. The carrying out of such a plan will be attended by more or less expense. That the states should foot the bills does not seem just. It is believed that the government will be asked flatly what aid can be given in the organization of reserves or the assignment of infantry already organized.

VICTIMS OF JAP MOB.

Three Firemen Badly Injured at Vancouver, B. C.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 2.—Allan Anderson, fireman, is dying and two other young men, also members of the city fire department, are badly wounded and in the hospital as the result of a fight they had early this morning in the Japanese quarter with an overwhelming number of the subjects of the mikado. The fight was the worst in the city since the September riots, and indicates that the Japanese are at all times ready for trouble and eager to fight with their long knives that have blades keen as razors.

Anderson, accompanied by J. Frost and T. McDonald, was passing a Japanese store, when Frost stumbled and fell hard against the plate-glass window front. The glass smashed and the fragments were still rolling on the sidewalk when a score of Japanese appeared from the inside and rushed at the trio of whites. The firemen were in uniform, with brass buttons and official caps, but the Japanese knifed them furiously.

Torpedo Boats in Paris.

Paris, Brazil, Jan. 2.—The torpedo boat flotilla which is preceding the battleship fleet to the Pacific, arrived here today from Port of Spain, Trinidad. The flotilla, which had a rough voyage, encountering head seas, was delayed one day on the run by bad weather.