

The Aurora Borealis

VOL. I.

AURORA, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1908.

NO. 13.

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.

Persian troops are said to have put ashore near the entrance to Pearl harbor, Hawaiian islands.

A Buffalo woman poisoned her three children and attempted to poison herself.

Count Tolsti has written a lengthy article denouncing the Russian reign of terror.

The naval tug Iroquois has gone ashore near the entrance to Pearl harbor, Hawaiian islands.

An automobile met a train near Columbia City, Ind., and all six occupants of the auto are dead.

The recent inundations in the vicinity of Tokat, Asia Minor, cost 2,000 lives. Untold damage was done to property.

A Chicago girl has just been saved from drowning by a man who years ago was rescued from the water by this same girl.

The matron of a West Oakland children's home is in trouble because she whipped two little girls with a buggy whip.

The Pennsylvania railroad will expose all employees who are delinquent in their duties in the hope that it will cause greater care among the men and save accidents.

Whitney L. Boise, a prominent man of Portland, has been arrested for embezzlement. It is charged that he has made away with at least \$150,000 belonging to the Hawthorne estate.

Pearly has started on another attempt to reach the north pole.

The men of the battleship fleet are having a royal time in Honolulu.

The Russian budget shows a deficit of \$37,500,000 in extraordinary revenues.

A spectator at a Chicago ball game fell and broke his neck when a home run was made.

Frank Zotti, head of a wrecked New York bank, has been arrested on a charge of grand larceny.

Eastern railroads have been allowed to exchange passes for advertising pending an appeal to the federal court.

Eastern railroads have decided against a general advance in rates. Advances will be made in the Southeast and Southwest.

Humbert Rivas, son of the general commanding the Salvadoran army against the revolutionists, has been denied admission to the United States.

During the three months ending March 31 there were 728 persons killed on the railroads of the United States. This is a great reduction over the previous three months.

At the conventions in Denver an agreement was reached between the Western Federation of Miners and the United Mine Workers of America whereby the two organizations will work in harmony in the future.

Count Boni has begun suit for the custody of his children.

Wholesale exposures of grafting in Portugal have been made.

The battleship fleet has arrived at Honolulu, and were given an enthusiastic welcome.

Great Britain will buy three warships now building in English shipyards for Brazil.

A small army of volunteers has offered to accompany Roosevelt on his African hunting trip.

One hundred unemployed of New York are fed each day by John Morgan, himself a poor working man.

American marines have been sent to Honduras, where all Central American republics are stirring up a revolt.

The British government is giving careful attention to the operation of the American beef combine in London.

Two carloads of powder stored near Cle Elum, Wash., exploded. At least nine persons were killed and several others injured.

A pleasure launch from Manila capsized and 25 of the 75 passengers were drowned. The 50 saved were picked up by a British steamer.

Shippers are protesting against the raising of freight rates, and may win as the roads are not unanimous in the decision to make the increase.

Ambassador O'Brien says Japanese war talk is absurd.

The Elks will hold their grand lodge at Los Angeles in 1909.

The hot weather which has prevailed in New York for two weeks has been broken.

Herman Bidder has again appealed to President Roosevelt against the paper trust.

AVOID TRUST LAW

Railroad Companies Cannot Increase Rates by Concerted Action.

Washington, July 20.—The interstate commerce commission may take action on the increased freight rates agreed to at the meeting of the Southeastern Freight association and the Southeastern Mississippi Valley association, at Louisville, Ky., Saturday, when the new tariffs are filed with the commission by the roads having membership in these two associations. Action cannot be taken by the commission on its own initiative or on the complaints of shippers or shippers' associations. If the interstate commerce commission should find that the increase in freight rates was made through concerted action, and that there was evidence that the Sherman anti-trust law was violated, attention will in all probability be called to the matter.

In speaking of the powers of the interstate commerce commission where an advance in freight rates has been made by any railroad, Chairman Knapp, of the commission, said:

"The railroads must file their tariffs with the commission with 30 days' notice of a contemplated change. Changes in rates between competitive points must be made simultaneously by all the roads operating between those points. This in a measure protects the shipper. When a railroad files notice of an increase in its freight rates the commission can on its own motion make an investigation as to the reasonableness of the advance."

"In a case where the commission acts on its own motion, however, it cannot issue an order. If a shipper makes a complaint to the commission against a railroad charging an unjust increase of rates, each side is given a hearing, and the commission can then issue an order based on its decision in the case."

Should it develop that the increase was made through concerted action, the commission would very likely refer the matter to the attorney general. The department of justice can also call upon the commission to investigate as to the reasonableness in rates.

PACIFIC COAST LOSER.

Transcontinental Shippers Claim Rate Ruling Fatal to Oriental Trade.

San Francisco, July 20.—The Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads and the Pacific Mail Steamship company are preparing to have a hearing before the interstate commerce commission on the question of transcontinental rates for goods shipped across the Pacific ocean. The new rule of the commission compels the railroads to charge the same price for these goods as for any other, whereas it had been customary for the railroads to make this rate cheaper to the steamship companies.

The information that the interstate commerce commission has decided to postpone until October the day on which the rate would become effective, because of a protest from Japan, has given the railroads and steamship company time to act.

The plea will be made to the interstate commerce commission that steamers traveling through the Suez canal will get the trade if the transcontinental roads are not allowed to juggle rates as they please. The steamers change their rates often and quickly, they say, and if the American railroads are compelled to adhere to the published rate they will lose this oriental business.

Disaffection in Turkish Army.

Constantinople, Turkey, July 18.—After months of quiet, "things are doing" again in Turkey, and are taking a serious turn. The troops in Macedonia threaten to get entirely out of hand. They are mutinous because pay day never arrives. Often men whose time has expired have been kept with the colors for years, owing to lack of money to pay them off. From time to time mutinies have developed in various towns, and occasionally a little money has been sent to troops to tide over some highly dangerous crisis. Now a new element of danger appears in "young Turkey." This party is proving extremely active among the troops, and numerous incidents show the trend of events.

Comes Home an Invalid.

New York, July 20.—Alton Carl, district governor of Lanao, Philippines, who was shot and seriously injured while attempting to arrest the date of Lanao for the murder of a Tennessee settler in the province, and who arrived in this city Saturday, was taken to Roosevelt's hospital.

Gard was treated in Manila, but it was thought there might be serious results from the iron bullets, and he was advised to return to this country. At the hospital last night it was said that he was resting comfortably after his 10,000-mile journey.

Says Revolution is Crushed.

New York, July 20.—The Associated Press has received the following dispatch from General Davila, president of Honduras:

"Tegucigalpa, Honduras, July 17.—The government has put an end to the revolutionary movement in 10 days. The decisive battle was fought at Nacome. The enemy was defeated and escaped into Salvador."

Ohio Referendum Law Upheld.

Cleveland, July 20.—The new initiative and referendum state law was held to be constitutional today by Judge Chapman in common pleas court. The test case will be carried to the state supreme court for final decision.

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF OREGON

OREGON HAS SURPLUS.

State Treasurer's Report Shows Almost \$375,000 on Hand.

Salem.—State Treasurer Steele has issued his semi-annual report for the period ending June 30. It shows that \$642,286.02, or over half the state taxes, had been paid in up to the close of the report, which remonstrates the good financial condition of the state generally. The tax on foreign insurance companies, being 2 per cent of their net premiums during the period covered by the report, amounted to \$60,039.01, and the state income for inheritance taxes totaled \$17,162.88, the largest amount ever collected in six months before.

Cash on hand in the several funds of the state, June 30, was \$374,203.62, against \$116,377.08 at the close of the previous semi-annual term, January 1, 1908, and shows a gradual and healthy increase of the state funds in all departments over the same period of a year ago.

The total amount of the income from the loan of the irreducible school fund during the year closing June 30, from all sources, was \$227,792.07, of which amount \$6,169.94 was paid out in warrants, and \$19,100 was apportioned among the several counties in April of this year, leaving a balance of \$102,522.13 on hand, to be apportioned August 1. The cash on hand in the irreducible school fund January 1, 1908, was \$293,281.60, and this has been increased to \$373,995.85 up to July 1.

The total amount of the irreducible school fund, including outstanding first mortgage loans, school district bonds and certificates of sale of state lands, is \$4,953,204.92, and this will be increased to the \$5,000,000 mark before the close of the present year.

REGENTS PLAN EXTENSIONS.

Important Announcements Expected From University of Oregon.

University of Oregon, Eugene.—The board of regents of the University of Oregon will meet in annual session here. The meeting will be one of the most important ever held. Plans for the future are extensive and when the board has adjourned it is expected that some very definite and gratifying news will be made public in the way of improvements to the state university. The conditions demand the addition of instructors in some departments. President Campbell will go east shortly in the interests of the institution. Improvements and enlargements will be made in several departments.

Heavy Yield of Good Wheat.

Pendleton.—Every bushel of wheat threshed in Umpqua county so far this season, according to reports which have reached this city, has made grade one when tested, and the reports from those portions of the county in which threshing has been carried on during the past week show that the yield is going to be much heavier than the most sanguine had hoped for. Many farmers are harvesting just as large crops as they ever did.

Laying Rails on Northwestern.

Baker City.—Following the statement given out by officials a few weeks ago, the Northwestern rail road, which is building from Huntington north to Copperfield, on the Snake river, has begun laying steel. One mile in four hours is the record made by one steel gang, and there is considerable rivalry among the workmen to make a record in this department.

Fight High Insurance.

Astoria.—On account of the exorbitant rates for fire insurance that are being charged by the companies, a resolution has been adopted by the Astoria city council directing that an amendment to the city charter be submitted to the vote of the people in December, authorizing the city to make contracts with citizens to carry insurance on their property at cost.

Cement Industry in Sight.

Klamath Falls.—Abel A. J. owner of thousands of acres of tule lands in this county, reports the finding of a large ledge of gypsum on his property, and states he has all the ingredients necessary for making cement. He claims that a few feet below the surface of the marsh there is a layer of mineral sand, which when washed is better building sand than is found in this section.

Silverton Mill to Resume.

Silverton.—After having been shut down about four weeks, the Silverton Lumber company's mill, in this city, is expected to start up this month. The company has received eastern orders for more than 60 cars of lumber which will clean out the yards. The mill was shut down owing to temporarily unfavorable conditions of the market.

First Step for Fair.

Salem.—Frank A. Welch, secretary of the state board of agriculture, has taken up his office and headquarters at the fair grounds. It is the first step toward preparations for the annual state fair to be held in September. The grand stand and exhibition buildings are to be enlarged at once.

LIGHT OUTPUT OF PLACERS.

Baker County Miners Handicapped by Scarcity of Water.

Baker City.—Coming in from his large placer holdings on Cow creek, W. J. Patterson, one of Baker City's prominent business men, says that this year the crop of gold dust in Baker county will be light owing to the scarcity of water. According to his observations there are few properties that have sufficient water to do the work that will pay and most of the placer miners are putting in their time preparing for next year, when they have hope that there will be more snow and possibly a heavier rainfall. There are a number of Baker City people interested in placer mining and in the past it has yielded a steady and certain income.

Reclaim Hundreds of Acres.

Klamath Falls.—Specifications have been issued by the reclamation service for five additional schedules on the south branch canal, composing seven miles. It will connect the government canal and the old Adams ditch. Sealed bids will be received until July 28 at the local reclamation office. The work means the excavation of 112,000 cubic feet of dirt, within 30 days after signing the contract. Hundreds of acres of land extending far into the Merrill country below Klamath Falls will be reclaimed by the project.

Creamery Trebles Business.

Klamath Falls.—The stockholders of the Bonanza creamery are well pleased with the first year's showing. The enterprise represents an investment of \$5000. While no dividends have been paid, the business is well established. Since its organization in 1907, Fred McKendree has been in charge. The average price received for the butter has been about 19 cents net. There was paid out last month for butter fat \$1324, as compared to \$545 a year ago.

More Time to Finish Road.

Eugene.—The city council has extended the time limit in which the Eugene & Eastern railway is to complete the Eugene-Springfield line to November 1. The line will be completed before that time if there are no mishaps. Piles are driven over half way to Springfield and the trestle is completed for a good portion of this distance.

Selects Hatchery Sites.

Astoria.—H. C. McAllister, master fish warden for the state of Oregon, has returned from an official inspection trip to Tillamook bay and the streams leading into it. As a result of his visit, he has decided to establish a salmon hatchery on Trask river, as well as eyeing stations on the Nehalem river and other streams in that district.

Salmon for Propagation.

Astoria.—Deputy Fish Commissioner L. G. Burton, of Washington, has left for Bapers bay, where he will drive a trap to be used in catching salmon for propagating purposes at the chinook hatchery. He was granted permission to place the trap outside the regular line.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 84c per bushel; red Russian, 82c; bluestem, 86c; valley, 84c.

Barley—Feed, \$24.50 per ton; rolled \$27.50; \$28.50; brewing, \$26.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$26.50 per ton; gray, \$26.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, \$15 per ton; Willamette valley, ordinary, \$12; Eastern Oregon, \$17.50; mixed, \$15; alfalfa, \$12; alfalfa meal, \$20.

Fruits—Cherries, 20c per lb.; apricots, \$1.25 per crate; peaches, 75c; \$1 per box; plums, 50c per crate; currants, \$2.25 per crate; blackberries, \$1.25 per crate; raspberries, \$1 per crate; loganberries, \$1 per crate; blackcaps, \$1.25 per crate.

Melons—Cantaloupes, \$2.25 per crate; watermelons, 35c per pound.

Potatoes—New Oregon, 10c per pound, old Oregon, 6c per pound.

Vegetables—Turnips, \$1.50 per sack; carrots, \$1.75; parsnips, \$1.75; beets, \$1.50; beans, 6c per pound; cabbage, 10c per pound; cucumbers, Oregon, 50c per dozen; egg plants, 17c per pound; lettuce, head, 15c per dozen; parsley, 15c per dozen; peas, 35c per pound; peppers, 10c per pound; radishes, 12c per dozen; rhubarb, 10c per pound; spinach, 2c per pound; tomatoes, Oregon, \$2.50 per crate.

Butter—Extras, 25c per pound; fancy, 24c; choice, 20c; store, 17c.

Eggs—Oregon, 23c per dozen.

Poultry—Mixed chickens, 12c per pound; fancy hens, 13c per pound; roosters, 7c per pound; ducks, old, 10c; spring, 12c per pound; geese, old, 8c; young, 12c; turkeys, old, 18c per pound; young, 20c per pound.

Veal—Extra, 8c per lb.; ordinary, 6c; large, 5c.

Pork—Fancy, 6c per lb.; ordinary, 4c; large, 5c.

Mutton—Fancy, 7c per lb.

Hops—1907, prime and choice, 5c per pound; old, 2c per pound.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, average best, 10c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 14c per pound.

Mohair—Choice, 13c per lb.

JAPAN CHANGES TUNE.

New Cabinet Bases on Army and Navy Retrenchments and Economies.

Tokio, July 15.—Marquis Katsura, leader of the progressive party, who was ordered by the emperor to reorganize the cabinet, has announced his appointments. Marquis Katsura will be both premier and minister of finance. Minister of War General M. Terauchi and Minister of the Navy Vice-Admiral M. Saito are to retain their seats in the new cabinet. Count Komura, now ambassador to England, is to be minister of foreign affairs, but until his return from England General Terauchi will act as head of the foreign ministry in connection with his duties as minister of war. Baron T. Hirata, formerly minister of agriculture and commerce, is named as minister of home affairs. M. Goto, president of the South Manchurian railway, is to be minister of communications. E. Komatsuhara, formerly vice-minister of home affairs, is to be minister of education. Viscount Okabe is minister of justice and K. Ura, formerly minister of communications, is to be minister of agriculture and commerce.

Baron Katsura has gathered most of the members of his former cabinet about him. The new cabinet is expected to inaugurate a policy of retrenchment in expenditures for the army and navy.

The fact that Katsura is to be the head of the ministry of finance as well as premier indicates that a careful watch is to be kept on the treasury. This new policy is in response to a general demand from the people of Japan.

STORM DAMAGE SLIGHT.

Heavy Rains at Heppner Cause No Serious Losses.

Heppner, Or., July 15.—Monday's heavy rain storm was not so serious as at first reported. Other than the destruction of four small bridges and the covering of lawns with sand and debris the actual loss is very slight.

A foot of water covered the floor of the electric power plant at the mouth of Donaldson Canyon, wetting the belt line so as to stop operation of the machinery, and the city was in darkness for one night.

In Sand Hollow the hay crop was considerably damaged by the overflow of water, which covered the alfalfa with mud and laid it flat on the ground.

Lightning struck a barn belonging to B. F. Clark, who resides about 15 miles north of Heppner. Two horses were killed in the barn.

The O. R. & N. train was unable to go out yesterday morning, owing to drift which lodged on the track at Valentine, a small station near Lexington.

COAL SHORTAGE ALREADY.

Serious Situation Expected in British Columbia This Winter.

Vancouver, B. C., July 15.—According to a dispatch received here reports gathered from various parts of the prairie west outline a rather serious prospect in regard to the fuel supply for next winter. Following a serious shortage in the winter of 1907 coal dealers and the consuming public stocked up largely last summer, but the winter turned out so unusually mild that the need for these precautions was not apparent.

Railways last winter had abundant rolling stock owing to the light crop and there was never anything approaching a famine in any district. This summer, however, the financial conditions forbid the dealers to carry large stocks and prevent consumers from laying in even an average supply ahead. At the same time it is already clear the rail ways will likely be blocked in an effort to handle the immense crop, and in a month or two a large coal movement will be physically impossible. If therefore, a severe winter follows, the situation may become serious.

Escaped Convict Returns.

Michigan City, Ind., July 15.—Thomas McCarthy, aged 40 years, for whose capture the warden of Indiana state prison here has had a reward standing for three years, returned to prison last evening voluntarily and gave himself up with the prospect of serving 12 years more. He went to the Pacific coast and after leading a precarious existence he joined the Salvation Army at North Yakima, Wash. His conscience troubled him and after he had earned enough money he started back to prison, paying all his own expenses.

Henry Anxious to Let Go.

San Diego, Cal., July 15.—Francis J. Henry, who has been making a brief visit in this city, addressed a great gathering here last night. In the course of his speech, referring to the San Francisco graft prosecutions, he said: "I liken myself to a man with his hand on a bear's tail. If anyone will help me let go I will never take hold of it again."

Tom Platt is 75.

New York, July 16.—Senator Thos. C. Platt was 75 years old yesterday. He spent the anniversary quietly at the Oriental hotel at Manhattan beach. He is very feeble, and he had few visitors.

MANY DISTRICTS HIT BY STORM

Hail Hurts Grain in Nez Perce and Camas Prairie Districts.

Des Chutes Fields Are Also Cut Down by Hail—Crop Damage Will Reach \$300,000—Much Rain in District South of Columbia—Man Struck by Lightning.

Portland, July 16.—Various sections of Oregon and Washington have been visited by unusually heavy rain, hail and electrical storms throughout the past days, causing considerable damage, especially to grain fields. The storms, which began Monday with a heavy downpour in Morrow, Wasco, Gilliam and other eastern counties, were followed by severe hail and electrical disturbances in several sections.

Perhaps the most serious damage occurred in the Nez Perce and Camas prairie districts. In this section a hail storm began Tuesday and continued yesterday. The ripening grain in a belt 15 miles wide is reported as practically ruined. The yield in this section would have been very heavy, and the damage is estimated at \$300,000.

In the vicinity of North Yakima, Wash., yesterday, there was a violent electrical storm. The damage was small, but one man, C. M. Harrington, was struck by lightning and perhaps fatally injured.

A heavy hail storm in the Des Chutes district has ruined some of the best grain fields in that vicinity. Crops on five of the best Tygh ridge farms are a complete loss.

In all the counties south of the Columbia rain has been falling. In some cases it has been of benefit, but in most instances the grain is too far along to be greatly helped, and the yield will be considerably below normal.

RUEF BONDSMEN PROTEST.

Assessor Takes Them at Their Word on Property Valuation.

San Francisco, July 16.—Abel Ruef is again in trouble. The latest woes of the fallen boss make Job look like a rank beginner. Ruef says he feels like an automobilist who has just been stranded in the middle of a prohibition state and not a horse in sight. Abraham's troubles began afresh when the men, on his bail bonds discovered that the luxury of writing their signatures upon the documents was going to be expensive work. They find they will not be allowed to pay out once for the joy of helping their old friend, Abe, but that every inquisitive deputy assessor would endeavor to learn whether they had been making or losing money.

Announcement made at the assessor's office that the sworn statements made by the persons on Ruef's bond would be accepted as the basis for their tax, this year is the bombshell that has created such widespread perturbation. Of course, no one ever felt the assessor how much money he really has, but ordinarily there is no harm in letting the court know your financial standing. As a result of the latter course increases of from 50 to 100 per cent will be made in the assessments of nearly every person who signed the Ruef bonds. In one instance the amount will be raised from \$600 unsecured personal property to \$15,000 cash in the bank which the bondsman told the court of, but forgot to mention to the assessor.

TRAIN WRECKS OVER.

Railway President Invents Device That Stops Them in Danger Zone.

Chicago, July 16.—Preparations are being made by the members of the interstate commerce commission for next Friday's tests of devices which, it is believed, will prevent the collision of railroad trains. A joint committee of the American railroad commission will see the tests that are to be made.

George Wriston, president of the Tennessee Central, who invented the device, believes it will prove effective, so that by its use collisions will be made impossible.

The device is placed at each end of a railroad "block." While a train is in the block this device serves as a lookout, and should another engineer disregard the stop signal at the block, the device catches and sets the air brakes, bringing the encroaching train to a standstill.

Laughs at Old Durkee Suit.

San Francisco, July 16.—Attorneys for the Southern Pacific railroad here yesterday said they are not worried over a suit filed in the federal courts Tuesday by John A. Kuykendall, administrator of the estate of former Governor Charles Durkee, of the territory of Utah, against the Harriman lines for \$28,220,000. The suit is filed as the result of an old claim against the Harriman lines, growing out of a sale of stock made in 1865, when the Union Pacific and Central Pacific lines were constructed.