

The Aurora Borealis

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BRIEF NEWS OF THE PAST WEEK

Condensed Dispatches from All Parts of the Two Hemispheres.

Interesting Events from Outside the State Presented in a Manner to Catch the Eye of the Busy Reader—Matters of National, Historical and Commercial Importance.

A strike threatens loss of a large part of the California hop crop.

Two light earthquake shocks were felt at Bakersfield, Cal., but no damage was done.

Frank P. Sargent, United States commissioner of immigration and labor, is dead.

An Aberdeen, Wash., man died from having a tooth pulled. Blood poisoning was the cause.

Governor Hanley, of Indiana, has called an extra session of the legislature and wants a local option law passed.

Electric railway employes of New England have voted for a general strike. Nearly 32,000 men will be affected.

Returns from the Michigan Republican primaries would seem to indicate the nomination of Governor Warner for another term.

The American collier Ajax, accompanying the battleship fleet, was badly injured by collision with another vessel while leaving the harbor at Melbourne.

A Pittsburg man died from overexertion due to dancing.

Castro has evidence that the French supported the Matos rebellion in 1903.

Lord Sackville West, British minister, whom Cleveland dismissed, is dead.

The third squadron of the United States Pacific fleet is now in Chinese waters.

Mrs. Marshall Field, Jr., has married Malcolm Drummond, an Englishman.

It will take the official count to decide the Michigan and Nebraska primary results.

Colonel Henry M. Nevins, of Red Bank, N. J., has been elected commander-in-chief of the G. A. R.

William B. Leeds, the New York railroad magnate, left an estate of \$30,000,000, the bulk of which goes to his widow.

Unemployed of Glasgow, Scotland, attempted to break down the doors of the bread chambers in order to demand relief for the members.

Thos. Higgen, Independence league candidate for president, is an independent oil operator, who has successfully fought the Standard for years.

Fire at Cleveland, Ohio, destroyed \$100,000 worth of lumber.

Governor Cummins' election as senator from Iowa is assured.

Trouble over wages has caused a strike in some of the coal mines of Tennessee.

The La Follette faction has defeated John J. Jenkins, present incumbent, for congress.

An aeronaut fell 500 feet and was killed at Waterville, Me. The gas bag caught fire.

Hill is to build a railroad across Montana, connecting the Burlington and Great Northern.

A Japanese steamer sank off the coast of Chiba prefecture and twenty-eight men were drowned.

Two Cornell students, one of them from Oregon, have perfected an aeroplane that has made some remarkable flights.

The Nevada State Democratic convention has endorsed Francis G. Newlands for senator and George A. Bartlett for congressman.

Alarming conditions are said to exist throughout the Honduran republic and Mexico has dispatched a gunboat.

The director general of the Japanese fair has resigned.

The government has been asked to create a lever reservation.

Senator Heyburn was renominated by the Idaho State Republican convention.

A severe gale on the English channel wrecked a number of small boats and cost a score of lives.

Only because he was a good runner a Chicago negro escaped lynching for assaulting a young white girl.

Rear Admiral Henry Glass, retired, is dead. He was commander of the Pacific squadron for some time.

At the Wisconsin primaries the Republicans cast the popular vote for Isaac Stephenson to succeed himself in the United States senate.

Unknown persons piled ties on the tracks of the New York Central near Poughkeepsie, but they were discovered in time to prevent a wreck.

RAWHIDE IS BURNED.

Nevada Mining Town Almost Wiped Out by Conflagration.

Rawhide, Nev., Sept. 7.—A fire that started Friday in Dr. Garner's office, a veritable firetrap, spread with lightning-like rapidity and, despite the vigorous efforts of the fire department and 500 miner volunteers, eight blocks, comprising all the business section of the town, were a mass of flames. The fire-fighters soon discovered their efforts were of no avail against the fire, so they began dynamiting adjacent buildings. Over a ton and a half of dynamite was used. At 11 o'clock the total area was a mass of ashes and smoldering embers. Among the first buildings to go was Collins' hardware store, which contained two tons of dynamite, which exploded with terrific force, hurling burning planks and boards a great distance and setting fire to numerous buildings simultaneously. This catastrophe led the firemen to fight the flames with dynamite, which promptly action saved the outlying portions of the town. A strong wind was blowing, which swept the flames southward across Rawhide avenue and east across Nevada street.

The buildings destroyed will alone result in a financial loss of \$750,000, with no insurance. The contents of the buildings are a complete loss and will swell the total to considerable more. Many people were slightly injured by flying debris, but none are reported seriously hurt. Many acts of heroism were enacted and were it not for the cool-headed ones among the fire-fighters several fatalities would have resulted. Frenzied men, whose fortunes were going up in flame, rushed madly forward in their attempts to save their belongings, and would have perished had not restraining hands detained them.

LAND GRANT SUIT BEGUN.

Government Seeks Return of Tracts Given to Railroad.

Portland, Sept. 7.—Suit by the United States to cancel the Oregon & California land grants has been filed in the United States court for the district of Oregon. The government asks for the forfeiture of all lands included in the two grants to the defendant railroad company, valued at \$40,000,000. If this relief is denied, plaintiff requests the appointment of a receiver to take charge of all unsold lands, included in the grants, and the disposition of the same under the receivership in tracts not exceeding 160 acres to each purchaser and for a consideration not exceeding \$2.50 an acre. If this petition is rejected, the plaintiff asks for a mandatory injunction requiring the defendant corporation to sell all of the unsold lands remaining in the grants in quantities of not more than 160 acres each and at a price not exceeding \$2.50 an acre. It is also asked by the government that the defendant company be restrained from asserting any further claim to the land, making any further sales of the property or trespassing thereon. An accounting also is asked from the railroad company to the government for all money realized by the defendant company from its sales of the lands.

FIGHT WITH JAPANESE.

Men From British Cruiser Stand Off Brown Men.

Shanghai, Sept. 7.—Outnumbered ten to one, bluejackets from a British cruiser in this port put up a desperate battle with Japanese non-commissioned men and a motley Japanese mob, until the police broke up the fight by the free use of revolvers, firing repeatedly into the mob. Many Japanese civilians were wounded, but were carried away by their companions.

The fight started over the arrest of a Japanese officer for a particularly atrocious assault upon a low-class European woman, which was resented by the English jackies. A well-organized riot came simultaneously with the publication of a letter from the Japanese consul-general to the municipal council, which was of a highly reciprocal and incendiary character, and defended the ruffianism of his own people and the failure of his country to assist in maintaining order.

The feeling between the British and the Japanese is intense, and further outbreaks are feared.

Gives Better Service.

Honolulu, Sept. 7.—A new wireless telegraph plant has been installed at the Kahuku station and it is announced by Superintendent A. A. Isbell that there will be no excuse henceforth for ships sailing between the port and the mainland complaining that they cannot get their messages received and transmitted by the wireless service here. Complaints of this nature have been made in the past and the wireless company for that reason has augmented its facilities so that perfect communication with the Pacific Coast can be had.

Japanese Town Burns.

Tokio, Sept. 7.—Fifteen thousand people are homeless as the result of a fire which almost entirely destroyed the city of Niigata, 18 miles northwest of here. It is estimated that 5,000 buildings were destroyed. The town has a population of 40,000. The government has been asked for aid and tents are being supplied. Food depots will be opened at once. So far as is known no lives were lost.

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF OREGON

COUGARS ARE DESTRUCTIVE

Estimated That 500 Will Kill 20,000 Deer Every Year.

Lebanon.—That there will soon be no deer to speak of in the Oregon mountains is the belief of Dan Simons, a prominent Linn county pioneer and one of the oldest hunters in the state. Mr. Simons lays the rapid passing of the game animals to the depredations of the cougar and will be one of the foremost in favor of enacting a bounty law on cougar scalps.

There is no one in the state better qualified than Mr. Simons to speak on game conditions. Mr. Simons, who is 75 years of age, came to Oregon in 1851 and on October 8 of the same year encamped on the spot which is now his home. He is one of the heaviest taxpayers in Linn county and is willing to be assessed to provide a bounty fund. He thinks there should be a one-mill assessment to cover the bounty. He estimates that there are over 500 cougars in the state. A half thousand of these predatory cats get away with more deer than all the hunters in the state, he says. From his experience with them he estimates that the cougars will average one deer a week for food. Figuring further he shows that in a year the 500 cougars will kill at least 20,000 deer in a twelvemonth. The amount seems unusually large, but other pioneer hunters back Mr. Simons up in his assertions.

WATER IS IMPURE.

Eugene's Domestic Supply Unfit for Proposed Use.

Eugene.—A bombshell was thrown into the camp of the adherents of the plan of securing a water supply for the city from Ritchey creek, 25 miles east of Eugene, when a report from the state board of health on samples of water from the creek was received here. The board declared that the water was unfit for drinking or domestic purposes. Mayor Matlock, who has been at the head of the movement to secure the water supply from Ritchey creek, secured the samples returned and shipped them to the state health board about 10 days ago. He was greatly surprised when the report came that the water was impure, and gives it as his opinion that it was contaminated in some manner after having left his hands. It has been the general opinion that the water in Ritchey creek, a mountain stream, was absolutely pure. Old residents of that section have used it for domestic purposes for years, and no cases of illness have ever been known.

Packing Plant for Albany.

Albany.—The largest independent meat packing plant on the Pacific coast, to cost a quarter of a million dollars, will be built in Albany, and work will commence within the next 90 days. O'Shea Bros., formerly owners of the Union Meat company in Portland, are behind the undertaking. In conversation with one of Albany's business men Mr. O'Shea said: "We will build a large independent meat packing plant in Albany, and it will cost at least \$250,000. I have looked over the situation here thoroughly, and am convinced that this city is the ideal point for establishing our plant."

Develop Applegate Mine.

Grants Pass.—John Longwell and son, southern Oregon prospectors, after patient and persistent work in the Applegate district near Provoit, twelve miles south of Grants Pass, have uncovered a five-foot ledge that carries values of from \$50 to \$200 a ton. Some of the ore is thickly shot with gold and runs up into the thousands. It is one of the richest strikes made in southern Oregon this season. The ledge has been traced for a long distance on the surface, and though opened by shafts and cuts only, the general character of the quartz and the contact prove it to be a permanent proposition. Several claims have been located, and the property will be deeply developed.

Writes History of Columbia.

Pendleton.—Professor W. D. Lyman, who is writing a complete history of the Columbia river and Columbia river navigation, has secured a dozen photographs from Major Lee Moorhouse, the photographer of this city, to use as illustrations. The work being prepared by Professor Lyman will be complete in every detail, giving the exact history of the development of the navigation on the Columbia from the earliest times to the present. It will be published in New York within the next few months.

Boost for Coos Bay Line.

Portland.—Caughren, Winters, Smith & Co. of Spokane will be recommended as the lowest bidder for the reconstruction of 14,000 feet of the Cello canal on which bids were opened a few days ago by Captain James McIndoo, United States engineer corps. Following were the bids: Caughren, Winters, Smith & Co. \$530,605; Twoby Brothers, \$643,385; Robert Wakefield & Co. \$692,370; Puget Sound Bridge & Dredging company, \$716,248; North American Dredging company, \$722,420; Johnston P. Porter, \$756,100; Cello Construction company, \$802,330.

HOPS LIGHT IN CLACKAMAS

Crop Not Expected to Average Over 500 Pounds to Acre.

Oregon City.—The rains of the last few days have given generally beneficial to the hops of this section, though the crops is not so far along as it was last year at this time.

A large amount of hop acreage has been plowed up, and in the yards that remain the cultivation has been noticeably insufficient, and it is very short that the crop will be very light not averaging more than 500 pounds to the acre. In most of the yards picking will not commence until the early part of next week, and even later in some instances.

The pickers will work on a strictly weight basis this season, and in most cases the growers will pay \$1 a hundred, but it is reported that some of the growers in the Butteville district will pay only 70 cents a hundred. The low market price of hops has discouraged hopmen, so that in many sections very little care has been given the yards.

FRUIT PRICES WILL BE HIGH

Growers Expect Quotations to Soon Advance in East.

Medford.—Fruitgrowers here reason to feel hopeful as to prices to be realized for pears and apples this fall, according to L. D. Harris, ex-manager of the C. H. Lewis orchard here who has just returned from a visit through the East, where he has been carefully studying Eastern market conditions. He says the East and Middle West have not yet fully recovered from the effects of the flurry last November, and as a consequence there has not been the call for large shipments, as heretofore. Bartlett pears, he believes, will net the growers about \$1.50 per box, and as local pears are about three weeks later than those grown in California, thinks the growers here will realize better prices than California fruitmen.

Hoppickers' Wages Fixed.

Eugene.—The hopgrowers of Lane county met here last week to consider the hop situation. It was decided to pay only 73 cents a hundred for picking this year. Growers from all parts of the country were in attendance. Some of the yards that have been cultivated may not be picked if the hop market does not look better when the crops are ready. A number of growers have begun picking, but most of the yards will not be ready until about September 10.

Preparing for Apple Fair.

Albany.—President E. W. Langdon, of the Albany Commercial club, has appointed the following committee to work in conjunction with a committee named by the Linn County Horticultural society to manage the Albany apple fair this fall: Owen Beam, chairman; E. H. McCune, H. Bryant and J. A. Howard.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat.—Club, 88c per bushel; fine, 90c; Turkey red, 90c; fine, 88c; bluestem, 92c; Valley, 88c.

Barley.—Feed, \$24.50 per ton; rolled, \$27.00; brewing, \$26.

Oats.—No. 1 white, \$27.50 per ton; gray, \$26.50.

Hay.—Timothy, Willamette Valley, \$14 per ton; Willamette Valley, ordinary, \$11; Eastern Oregon, \$16.50; alfalfa, \$13; clover, \$9; alfalfa, \$11; mixed, \$12.

Fruit.—Apples, new, 50c@61c per box; peaches, 50c@55c per box; pears, 75c@85c per box; plums, 75c per box; grapes, 85c@1.05 per crate.

Potatoes.—90c@1 per hundred; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2@2 1/2c per pound.

Melons.—Watermelon, 90c@92c per 100 lbs; cantaloupe, 1 1/2@1 1/2c per 100 lbs; cranberry, 25c per dozen.

Vegetables.—Turnips, \$1.50 per sack; carrots, \$1.75; parsnips, \$1.75; beets, \$1.50; artichokes, 65c per dozen; beans, 5c per pound; cabbage, 2c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.50 per crate; celery, 75c@81c per dozen; corn, 25c@30c per dozen; cucumbers, 30c@40c per box; egg plant, \$1.75 per crate; lettuce, head, 15c per dozen; parsley, 15c per dozen; peas, 6c per pound; peppers, 8c@10c per pound; radishes, 12 1/2c per dozen; spinach, 2c per pound; sprouts, 10c per pound; squash, 40c per dozen; tomatoes, 35c@50c.

Butter.—Extras, 31 1/2c per pound; fancy, 27 1/2c; choice, 25c; store, 18c.

Eggs.—Oregon extras, 26c@27 1/2c; firsts, 24c@25c; seconds, 22c@23c; thirds, 15c@20c; Eastern, 24c@25c per dozen.

Poultry.—Mixed chickens, 11c@11 1/2c per pound; fancy hens, 12c@12 1/2c; roosters, 10c; spring, 13c@14c; ducks, old, 12c@12 1/2c; young, 10c; turkeys, old, 17c@18c; young, 20c.

NEW WAR CLOUD.

German Move to Recognize Mulai Hafid Angers France.

Paris, Sept. 4.—Morocco has again caused France to become enraged against Germany. The latter power has provoked another acute crisis by notifying the another signatory of the Algeiras convention that she considered the actual situation demanded the immediate recognition of Mulai Hafid, the usurping sultan of Morocco. Germany has also dispatched Dr. Vasel, her consul at Tangier, to Vez, the capital, which is now in the hands of Mulai Hafid.

A feeling approaching consternation manifested in official circles. The notification, which was made verbally, is not accompanied by any explanation of Germany's "brutal change of front," as it is termed here.

France can see in Germany's action only her intention to disregard the Algeiras act and seek a special position in Morocco for herself. The consequences both from an international and French standpoint are expected to be deplorable.

In answer to Germany's call for recognition of Mulai Hafid before he was entered into engagements with Europe, fanatical Arabs who had been gathering on the Algerian frontier attacked the French post at Bonedib.

ASSIST POOR TO INSURE.

Sage Millions Will Back Scheme of Philanthropists.

New York, Sept. 4.—Backed by the millions of the Sage Foundation, to which Mrs. Russell Sage has already turned over \$10,000,000 for elevating the economic condition of the poor, trustees of the fund are engaged in investigations which may result in an extensive plan which will provide life insurance below cost to those who recognize the benefit of such insurance, but who may not be able to afford the luxury of life insurance at the rates charged by the big companies.

Since the middle of last June, Dr. Leo Franklin, who is well known in charitable organization work, has been in Europe as the agent of the Sage Foundation, studying the practical operation of governmental life insurance as practiced by the German and other governments. Dr. Franklin's associate in this work is Miles M. Dawson, actuarial expert of the Armstrong committee, which with Governor Hughes, assistant organizer, brought out the extraordinary investigations in 1905 and laid out the foundations which have since revolutionized the business of life insurance in this state.

DISCOVERS NEW COMET.

Professor D. W. Morehouse Makes Find by Camera's Aid.

Lake Geneva, Wis., Sept. 4.—Director Edwin B. Frost, of Yerkes observatory, Wednesday night announced the discovery of a new comet through photographic observations made by Professor D. W. Morehouse, of Drake university, of Des Moines. The presence of the comet was revealed upon development of photographic plates exposed in three cameras Tuesday night. It is clearly defined and has a tail several degrees long and was found in the constellation Camelopardalis, remaining above the horizon throughout the night. Its position was 3 hours, 20 minutes of right ascension and 66 degrees north declination.

Its visual brightness, Professor Morehouse said, could not be stated until after further observations had been made, but it probably will be visible through an opera glass. The new comet, he said, had no connection with Halley's comet.

Professor Morehouse has been engaged during the summer in graduate work at Yerkes observatory in astronomy, under Professor Barnard.

Blow Up Canal.

Joliet, Ill., Sept. 4.—Several hundred acres of land are under water and property valued at thousands of dollars has been destroyed, due to a dynamite explosion at the Jackson street dam on the Illinois river-Lake Michigan canal. The explosion wrecked the dam and tore away a hundred feet of the canal bank, letting the water out upon rich farming lands. It is believed that farmers, who were angered at the refusal of the canal officials to make repairs that have been demanded for months, are responsible for the explosion.

Wrangle in Ruef Case.

San Francisco, Sept. 4.—A third juror passed, subject to preliminary challenge, has been accepted in the trial of Abraham Ruef on a charge of bribery. The greater part of the day was devoted to investigation of allegations that efforts had been made by one side or the other to interview prospective jurors prior to their appearance in the court room.

FIRE ATTACKS FAMOUS TREES

Change of Wind Only Can Save Big Trees of California.

Fire Fighters Powerless to Stop Wall of Fierce Flame, Which Threatens Mother of Forest—Many Trees Are Named After Noted Men of History.

Stockton, Cal., Sept. 3.—News comes by special to the Independent from Murphys, which is connected by wire with the Calaveras Big Tree Hotel, that a forest fire has got into the grove of mammoth trees at the upper end of the grove, near where the mother of the forest stands, a monster sequoia 327 feet high and 78 feet in circumference. The famous trees named after noted men of history are below the point of attack, and the only hope for the magnificent monsters of the forest is a change in the wind, as the fire-fighters are powerless to stop the flames. To get into the grove of big trees the fire had to cross the road leading to Gardner, which it did Tuesday night. There is little undergrowth in the grove, and that may be the means of checking the fire, but its sweep through the grove is greatly feared.

The valleys in which the grove is situated contain of the sequoia 93 monster trees. Ten of the trees are each 30 feet in diameter. Many are more than 300 feet high. The fire has attacked some of the mammoth trees. The grove is owned by Mr. Whitesides, a Michigan millionaire lumberman.

FINDS SUNKEN WARSHIPS.

Japanese Salvage Vessels May Recover Three Lost in War.

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 3.—Advice from Japan state that the sunken battleship Yashima has been located by the steamer Saruhama Maru, a salvage vessel sent by the naval department to search for Japanese warships lost during the war with Russia, and investigations are being carried out to ascertain if the battleship can be raised. The Saruhama Maru has also located the Russian warship Sebastopol and the approximate place where the cruiser Takasago sunk has been located.

She is now searching for the battleship Hatsuse. The sinking of the Yashima and Hatsuse was due to the placing of mechanical mines by Rear Admiral Wiren on May 1, 1904. The Russian officers observed that the Japanese warships, while engaged in ganging at Port Arthur, cruised continually over the same ground, and a mine field was laid into which the vessels steamed, and the Yashima, Hatsuse and cruiser Yashino went down the same morning, all with heavy loss.

News of the sinking of the Yashima was suppressed for six months by the Japanese government, and reports of her loss were always officially contradicted with the result that not until news of her destruction was published in the official reports at the end of the war was it generally known that she had been sunk when the Hartouse and Yashino went down.

NEW POSTAL SCANDAL.

Shortage of \$400,000 Reported From Havana Office.

Havana, Sept. 3.—The whole provincial government is in an uproar as the result of the discovery of the theft of over \$400,000 in the local postoffice. The discovery was made when an inventory of the stamps, envelopes and other material was taken. The detectives are searching for Bieardo Dodriquer, chief of the supply bureau, who disappeared when the theft became known.

Colonel Charles Hernandez is postmaster-general and he said that every effort would be made to discover the thief. Growing out of the postoffice scandal Manuel Elias, editor of El Vigilante of Manzanillo, was shot dead Sunday afternoon by Manuel Estrada, editor of El Reporter, of the same city. Estrada, who is an independent, considered he had been insulted in a political editorial written by Elias, who is a conservative. The coroner's jury held Estrada to answer on a charge of murder.

Reprieve for Japanese.

Victoria, B. C., Sept. 3.—Advice from Vladivostok state that the six Japanese of the crew of the seized sailing schooner Nis Mary, sentenced to be shot, have been reprieved. Russian official state that the schooner was captured while in the act of raiding the Copper Islands, and that the crew were also guilty of landing at Kurinka village on Modu Island, and pilaging the villagers' houses. Stocks of grain were carried away from bars, and the warehouse of the Kamchatka Commercial company was looted.

Potato Bugs Stop Cars.

Bristol, Conn., Sept. 3.—Potato bugs on the rails at Laxy Lane stalled eight trolley cars of excursionists bound to Lake Compounce. In spite of the terrific slaughter, the bugs held possession until the carmen could send the track.