The Aurora Borealis

VOL. I. AURORA, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1908. NO. 33.

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.

Roosevelt has announced his plans for his African hunting trip.

House Democrats have elected Champ Clark as their leader.

The government has launched a big collier at the Mare Island yard.

General Simon has entered the Haytian capital with his army.

Germany will provide several schools in the Chinese territory it holds.

Internal revenue officers have seized 30,000 pounds of oleomargarine at Denver.

An Italian writer has denounced Americans for claiming equality with royalty.

The schooner D. M. Clemson, plying on Lake Erie, is believed to have been lost.

Rear Admiral Coughlan is dead.

The republic of Salvador has put down a revolution.

The Western Pacific railroad has just finished a tunnel through the Sierras, which is 7,306 feet long.

An Oregon boy won first honors in an oratorical contest at Notre Dame university, Ind. He will represent the school in the state contest.

Castro is believed to have deserted Venezuela forever.

The international naval conference is in session at London.

The prosecution has completed its evidence in the Ruef trial.

A Pittsburg broker is charged with forging bonds for $600,000.

Elks of New York City are to spend $1,000,000 on a new clubhouse.

A steamer and two docks burned at Portland, Me. Loss, $350,000.

Montenegro has attacked an Austrian fort, and Austria is hurrying troops to the scene.

Adjutant General Ainsworth reports that desertions in the army are on the decrease.

A Los Angeles man has been arrested for having dies for counterfeiting money.

A Chicago grand jury reports wholesale election frauds, particularly direct primary.

Physicians hold out some hope for the recovery of Governor-elect Cosgrove, of Washington.

The Union Pacific has reduced its running time between Omaha and Portland two and one-half hours.

Admiring friends want to present Admiral Evans with a house at Los Angeles, but he has taken warning from the Dewey incident and declined.

Mrs. Yerkes-Mizner has started a contest of Yerkes' will.

The Y. M. C. A. has erected a fine building at Seoul, Corea.

An imperial edict has been issued in China guaranteeing a constitution in nine years.

Los Angeles civil service employes have been forbidden to visit race tracks to witness races.

Two miners were killed and three fatally injured in an explosion of gas in a West Virginia coal mine.

Miss Elkins is said to have jilted Abruzzi because she preferred Lieutenant Andrews, of the navy.

Railroads and coal companies have been convicted of conspiracy in restraint of trade at Salt Lake City.

Rabbi Wise attacked New York judges for banqueting Croker on the occasion of his visit to this country.

In the Standard Oil dissolution case Archbold has forgotten almost everything in connection with the company's business.

A Chicago man imported a lot of rugs and other articles, placing a value of $1,000 on them. Chicago customs officials have seized them as they were worth $15,000.

Thaw's lawyers continue to fight to secure his release.

Minnesota, Montana and the Dakotas are having zero weather.

A Columbus, Ohio, city official has been convicted of grafting.

At the municipal elections just held in Massachusetts, several cities went dry.

The floods in Arkansas have not subsided. The property loss will be enormous.

The government inquiry into the Harriman merger has begun at New York.

Four persons are dead as a result of the crush at Emperor Francis Joseph's diamond jubilee.

LIVES BEYOND INCOME.

England Must Appropriate Big Sum for Stronger Navy.

London, Dec. 7.—Estimating that by the beginning of the next fiscal year in March, England will be living $100,000,000 annually beyond its income, the administration is gradually breaking the news to the country that there must be a heavy increase in taxation shortly.

Forced by circumstances to declare for a stronger navy, the cabinet has undertaken a program involving $30,000,000 unanticipated expenditures for ships.

To escape a quarrel with the various religious denominations over sectarian education in the public schools, financial concessions have been necessitated to the extent of $7,500,000. Old age pensions, payment of which will begin on January 1, will cost at least $35,000,000, and relief of the country's idle will foot up $30,000,000.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Lloyd-George figures on making up the deficit as follows:

Income tax increase $20,000,000; increased taxation of urban land, $20,000; increased death duties, $5,000,000; increased cost of liquor license, $25,000,000; diversions from payments to sinking fund maintained for gradual payment of national debt, $32,500,000.

Hints of the necessity for increased taxes have been thrown out from time to time for months past in speeches by the various cabinet members and in the Liberal party newspapers. A plain statement of the situation has finally been made by the chancellor, accompanied by an outline of his plan for a remedy.

REBEL AT RCUTING RULE.

Chicago Shippers Opposed to New Regulation of Railroads.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—The Tribune yesterday printed the following news article on the new railroad traffic rule: Shippers of Chicago and other cities are considerably exercised over what they regard as another attempt on the part of the railroads to deprive them of the right to specify the routing of freight shipments beyond the line of the initial carrier to which the freight is delivered.

This question has been the subject of a long-standing controversy between the shippers and the roads. Its renewal at the present time is caused by a rule in the new west-bound transcontinental tariff, effective in January. This provides: "The rates therein are subject to the absolute and unqualified right of the initial carrier to determine the routing of freight beyond its own lines."

If enforced strictly, this rule is regarded as apparently in conflict with the administrative ruling of the interstate commerce commission.

Railroad officials said yesterday that under the commission's ruling the rule could not be enforced literally, but the fact remains that it is stated in black and white in the tariff and the shippers are wondering how far the roads will go when the tariff takes effect.

The National Industrial Traffic League, which since its organization has insisted on the right of the shipper to control the routing, is now preparing an amendment to the Hepburn law securing this right, which will be presented to congress at the coming session.

DEATH LIST GROWS.

Storm on Upper Atlantic Coast Gets Many Victims.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 7.—More than 50 seamen have lost their lives off the upper North Atlantic coast during the last few days as the result of a storm of unprecedented severity. The reckoning, itemized as accurately as the meager reports will allow, follows:

December 3—Seventeen members of the crews of three fishing schooners drowned off the New Foundland coast.

December 4—Twenty-eight members of the crew of the schooner Soo City, which is believed to have sunk in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

December 5—Seven members of the crew of the barge No. 101, which went down off the coast of Nova Scotia.

Free Leather Scares British.

London, Dec. 7.—The threatened abolition of the tariff on leather is worrying English bootmakers. They have decided to hold a meeting to discuss means to be adopted in case the change should be made.

English leather, which is considered the best in the world, combined with American manufacturing ability, leading dealers admit, would let the Americans establish a British trade that would drive the Englishmen out of business. They would be able to put shoes on the market at a price nearly a fourth lower than that now charged.

Chicago's Official Santa Claus.

Chicago, Dec. 7.—Postmaster Campbell yesterday received from the postmaster general an official letter that, in effect, makes John M. Hubbard, assistant postmaster, official Santa Claus of Chicago. The letter contained a letter addressed to Santa Claus, care the postmaster general. Local merchants have made arrangements to have all these letters forwarded to them, with their guarantee that every one will be answered.

NEWS NOTES GATHERED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF OREGON

IRRIGATION GIVEN IMPETUS.

Vigorous Campaign Begun by Commercial Club of La Grande.

La Grande—With the avowed intention of running a preliminary survey from Meadow Brook canyon up the Grand Ronde river, down the river to its entrance into the Grand Ronde valley, following the proposed course of the main channel of the gigantic irrigation scheme now being fostered, and establishing the probable route of the laterals, that the land owners may be better apprised of the exact course, the Commercial club is searching for competent civil engineers to do the work immediately.

There is policy in the movement. When the preliminaries have been run, John Smith will know how near his farm is to be from the main channel or principal lateral, and Mr. Jones will have similar information. The sudden spurt of interest and determination expresses another highly laudable fact —lethargy has been discarded for the unanimous decision to push the work until Union county's greatest boon stands secured.

High School Debating League.

The November number of the University of Oregon Bulletin, contains the list of officers, constitution and by laws, propositions for debate, bibliographies, debate libraries and announcements for the year 1908-09, of the Oregon High School Debating league. The league consists of 34 schools, divided geographically into five districts. The Eastern Oregon district comprises the high schools of Baker City, Crook county, Elgin, La Grande, Ontario, Pendleton, Sherman county and Union; Columbia river comprises Astoria, The Dalles, Gresham, Hood River, Newberg, Tillamook, Woodburn and Yamhill; Central Oregon district, Albany, Brownsville, Cottage Grove, Eugene, Jefferson, Junction City, Lebanon, Salem and Silverton; Southern Oregon district, Central Point, Grants Pass, Klamath county and Roseburg, and the Coos bay district, Bandon, Coquille, Marshfield, Myrtle Point and North Bend.

Acres of Peach Pits.

Milton — The largest acreage of peach pits planted in the Northwest is just being finished by the Milton nurseries. Five acres of the seeds are being planted, over 3,000 pounds of the pits being required. The seeds are planted in long rows about three feet apart, and the pits are dropped six inches apart in two lines about five inches from each other, the seeds being left alternately, so that about every three inches along the row a tree is expected to grow. The planting is done with great care, each seed being placed by hand at exactly the same depth under the surface. In this way it is expected that practically a full growth of tiny trees will result.

Report of Southern Pacific.

Salem—The gross income to the Southern Pacific from its Oregon and California divisionn between Ashland and Portland during the year ending June 30, 1908, according to the report filed with the Oregon Railroad commission, was $2,714,600.25. Salaries and maintenance amounted to $5,968.81; accrued taxes, $188,770.34; net income, $2,519,861.10. From this amount current expenses are deducted, making what is called the net corporate income in Oregon the past year $949,813.76. The report also shows that receipts from the sale of lands held by the Southern Pacific in Oregon amounted to but $12,963.87.

Run Mill Night and Day.

Marshfield—The C. A. Smith Lumber company, of this city, has begun running night and day. The night shift gives employment to many millmen and will also increase the business of the company's lumber camp. The total daily output of the mill, with the night shift on, will be between 40,000 and 500,000 feet of sawed lumber. This will make the mill one of the largest producers of lumber on the coast. Increase of orders makes necessary the 20-hour day.

Coos Bay's Appropriation.

Marshfield—Coos bay people were relieved when, in answer to an inquiry, a wire was received from Washington stating that the recommendation of a $500,000 appropriation for Coos bar improvements had not been overlooked. The published budget of the army engineers did not include the Coos bay matter and explanations were asked.

Mining Project Meets Support.

Albany — The Albany Commercial club of this city has indorsed the proposition to erect a smelter in the Gold creek mining district in the North Santiam country. It is the opinion of the club members that the building of a smelter in this district would be an invaluable asset to Albany, as that country is tributary to this city.

PLAN RABBIT DRIVE.

Pests of Western Umatilla County Face Extermination.

Pendleton—Spurred by the destruction of fields of young alfalfa and the serious injury to newly set out fruit trees, left unprotected, settlers in the Hermiston country are planning a rabbit drive which will help exterminate the worst pest the farmers in that end of the county have to contend with. The drive will probably be pulled off late in December.

This will be the first big rabbit drive in this part of the country since H. C. Willis started his famous rabbit cannery at Echo, several years ago, and started in to run opposition to the Swifts and the Armours. The drives held then, in which tens of thousands of rabbits were killed, were conducted just across the Umatilla river from Hermiston. Since the days of the Willis drives, however, a mysterious plague has made serious inroads into the hordes of the long-eared pests until today there is not one rabbit where then there were hundreds. The ranchers, however, have found that the number remaining is sufficiently large to cause great damage and the campaign of extermination has been arranged.

With the building of the main feed canal for the reclamation project, the country in which the coming drive is to be held is almost entirely surrounded by water, the Columbia river being one one side, and the Umatilla on the other. This fact, together with the entirely open district, will make possible not only the almost complete extermination of the rabbits, but will also keep the number remaining from being recruited from the outside.

Old Patents Just Filed.

Hillsboro—Three old donation land claim patents were filed in the recorder's office here last week. David Walters, 160 acres, patent dated January 18, 1859; bearing the signature and seal of President Buchanan; Edward Barton and wife, March, 1866, issued by President Johnson, and William E. Walker, 318 acres, date of issue, 1869, signed by U. S. Grant, were the instruments filed. The Walters patent was issued while Oregon was yet a territory. These patents have lain in the family strong boxes all these years, and some of the places have been conveyed by the owners, long since dead.

$30 Per Acre.

Klamath Falls—The cost of the water under the first unit of the Klamath irrigation project has been announced at $30 per acre and 75 per acre yearly for maintenance fee. The first unit extends from Klamath Falls to Merrill and comprises 31,153 acres. The original estimate was $18.60 per acre, but this was later qualified, and it was stated the cost would go higher, on account of labor and other conditions.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Fruits—Apples, $75c@$2 per box; pears, $1@1.25; grapes, $1@1.50 per crate; quinces, $1@1.25 per box; cranberries, $12.50 per barrel; huckleberries, 10@15c per pound; persimmons, $1@1.25 per box.

Potatoes—75@85c per cwt.; sweet potatoes, 2@2¼c per pound.

Onions—$1@1.10 per cwt.

Vegetables—Turnips, $1@1.25 per sack; carrots, $1; parsnips, $1.25; beets, $1.25; horseradish, 8@10c per pound; artichokes, 90c@$1 per dozen; beans, 10@14c per pound; cabbage, 1½@1¾c per pound; celery, 50@85c per dozen; cauliflower, 75c@$1 per dozen; cucumbers, $2@2.50 per box; eggplant, 11c per pound; lettuce, $1@1.25 per box; parsley, 30c per dozen; peas, 12½c per pound; peppers, 15@20c per pound; pumpkins, 1@1½c per pound; radishes, 30c per dozen; spinach, 2c per pound; sprouts, 9½@10c per pound; squash, 1@1½c per pound; tomatoes, 50c@$1.75 per box.

Wheat—Bluestem, 96c; club, 90@91c; fife, 90@91c; red Russian, 88c; 40-fold, 91c; valley, 91c.

Barley—Feed, $26.75 per ton; brewing, $27.

Oats—No. 1 white, $31.50 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, Willamette valley, $14 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, $16@17.50; clover, $12; alfalfa, $12@12.50; grain hay, $12.50@13.

Butter—City creamery, extras, 36@37c; fancy outside creamery, 32½@35c per pound; store, 17@20c.

Eggs—Oregon selects, 40@45c; Eastern, 29@32½c per dozen

Poultry—Hens, 12@12½c per pound; spring, 11½@12½c; ducks, 14@15c; geese, 9@10c; turkeys, 16c; dressed turkeys, nominal.

Veal—Extra, 8½@9c per pound; ordinary, 7@7½c; heavy, 5c.

Pork—Fancy, 7½c per pound; large, 5½@6c.

Hops—1908, choice, 8c; prime, 6@7½c; medium, 5@6c per pound; 1907, 2@4c; 1906, 1@1½c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 10@14c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 15@16c; mohair, choice, 18c.

SPEED CONTEST ON.

Hill and Harriman Are Contending for Through Mail Contract.

Salt Lake, Utah, Dec. 2.—The Herald this morning says that behind an order just received for a change in the schedule of the Oregon Short Line's Salt Lake-Portland express is mapped out an elaborate campaign between two great transcontinental railways. The fruit of victory will be the cream of the through passenger business and the choicest mail contracts between Chicago and Portland.

By speeding trains on the Union Pacific from Granger, Wyo., on the Short Line, through Huntington, Or., on the Oregon Railway & Navigation road, to Portland, the Herald continues, it is hoped to reduce the time of the through trip by five hours at least.

This contest against time is inspired by the completion of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle from the Northern Pacific connection at Pasco, Wash., to Portland, along the north bank of the Columbia river.

The Spokane, Portland & Seattle is a Hill enterprise. It reduces by many hunderds of miles the trackage between Chicago and the Oregon metropolis. With the Northern Pacific to Billings, and the Burlington from Billings to Chicago, it forms almost an airline from the ocean to the lakes. With it eliminated, the Harriman system could easily maintain its supremacy, but with the Spokane, Portland & Seattle as a factor, the middle route will need every ounce of steam its locomotives can make.

Beginning next week the Portland express will leave Salt Lake at 10:45 p. m., instead of 11:45, to connect at Pocatello with the Granger-Huntington flyer, whose running time is to be reduced 45 minutes between those points.

MYSTERY IS UNSOLVED.

Some Believe San Francisco Police Chief Committed Suicide.

San Francisco, Dec. 2.—Although numerous boats patrolled and searched the bay since daylight yesterday morning from the Golden Gate to Hunter's point and the officers of the ferryboats and other craft were asked to keep a shark lookout for it, the body of Chief of Police W. J. Biggy, who mysteriously disappeared from the police launch Patrol and is believed to have fallen overboard shortly before 12 o'clock Monday night, while returning to this city from Belvedere on the north shore, has not yet been recovered. Up to a late hour last night the police launch Patrol and other boats, with searchlights, were still on the bay, but it is feared that the body of the late chief of police has been carried out to sea by the tide.

Among officials of the department there are two theories to account for the disappearance. A number of his subordinates incline to the belief that worry and grief over the newspaper criticisims of his official and private demeanor impelled him to end his life, while others affirm with equal confidence that he fell from the slippery deck during an attack of vertigo or a fainting spell.

HIGH TOWER ON MOUNTAIN.

Sun to Be Studied With a Monster Spectroscope.

Los Angeles, Dec. 2.—Dr. George E. Hale, director of the Carnegie solar observatory on Mount Wilson, announced today that a great steel tower 150 feet high, with a well 75 feet deep under it, with which to use the spectroscope, will be constructed on the peak next summer. The five-foot reflecting telescope will be ready for use next Monday and Dr. Hale predicts that with the powerful reflector now installed—the greatest in the world—a number of important discoveries may be expected, particularly in the photographing of the sun's surface and the various curious nebulae.

A wireless telegraph station is projected on the crown of the mountain, tests being now in progress to determine the best points for locating the operating plant. It is expected by experts that messages may be flashed to Japan or beyond, so perfect are the conditions found. A coil capable of giving out the extreme length of spark is to be installed.

Runs Away on Mountain.

Butte, Dec. 2.—A freight train of an engine and 14 cars was wrecked on the west side of the Blossburg hill on the Northern Pacific branch between Garrison and Helena west of here this morning. The train got beyond control while descending the mountain, due to the accomulation of ice and snow on the rails. An operator grasped the situation as the train thundered past and wired ahead to Weed, where a derailing swith was thrown. The fact that the engine remained upright saved the lives of the engine crew.

Pope's Doctors Anxious.

Rome, Dec. 2.—The pope's physicians, while they declared tonight that the cold from which he was suffering was following a normal course, expressed anxiety on account of his weakness.

ALEXIS DEPOSED BY ANGRY PEOPLE

Followed by Curses to French Warship, Where He Takes Refuge.

General Legitime is Selected as New President of Hayti—Armed Guards From Foreign Vessels Guarding Their Respective Legations—Quiet Will Soon Be Restored.

Port au Prince, Dec. 3.—President Nord Alexis has been deposed and is now safe on board the French training ship Duguay Trouin, and Port au Prince is in the hands of the revolutionists. General Antoine Simon, leader of the insurgents, is marching up the peninsula with an army of 5,000, and a new president, General Legitime, has been proclaimed. At the last moment President Alexis yielded to the urging of those about him, and decided to take refuge aboard the French warship.

An immense crowd of men and women had assembled at the wharf, and the arrival of the presidential carriage, escorted by a battalion of infantry and a squadron of cavalry under command of General Hippolyte, was the signal for tumult and riot. All along the route the people who lined the streets shouted, jeered and cursed at the fallen president, but when the landing stage was reached the mob lost all restraint. The scene was tragic and shameful. Infuriated women broke through the cordon of troops and shrieked the coarsest insults in the very face of the president, who strove bravely to appear undismayed.

General Canal is doing everything possible to maintain order. Infantry and cavalry patrol the streets and, although a panicky feeling remains, there is little danger to the foreigners.

Armed sailors from the two American cruisers and the French cruiser in the harbor were landed at 1:30 today.

BIGGY WANTED TO RESIGN.

Conflicting Reports of His Intentions Given Out.

San Francisco, Dec. 3.—After 48 hours' search no trace of Chief of Police Biggy's body has been found. Rumors and surmises that the chief is in hiding are without foundation. The mayor and police commissioners intended to keep him in office, notwithstanding charges that he was incompetent.

That Chief Biggy offered his resignation to Police Commissioner Hugo D. Keil an hour before his death, and during the period of his visit to the commissioner's home at Belvedere, became known today. Keil admits that the missing official offered to surrender his position in the hope that the commissioners would be relieved of newspaper criticism, to which Biggy felt they had been subjected on his account, but Keil, according to his own declaration, refused to accept or consider the proposal, and advised the chief that the members of the board would not entertain the idea of his resigning under fire.

ADMIT CUTTING OUT SHARP.

Union Pacific Coal Men Confess Discrimination, Deny Conspiracy.

Salt Lake City, Dec., 3.—In the United States District court today, J. M. Moore, western sales agent for the Union Pacific Coal company, and a defendant in the case, admitted that he had cut off the coal supply of D. J. Sharp, a Salt Lake coal dealer, because Sharp insisted upon cutting the retail price of Wyoming coal 50 cents a ton.

Mr. Moore, who, with Everett Buckingham, traffic manager of the Oregon Short Line, and others, is charged with conspiracy in restraint of trade, denied the conspiracy and defended his action toward Mr. Sharp by saying that the dealer had violated the conditions under which the coal was sold to him, and that his actions tended to disarrange the tariff schedules of the coal company.

Range War in New Mexico.

East Las Vegas, N. M., Dec. 3.—Mounted police have been dispatched to Besz, northeast of Roswell, N. M., by Governor Curry to settle a cattle war that has been raging there for the past few weeks. Cattle have been slaughtered and a bloody clash between the opposing forces is feared. Forty cattle were killed last week by settlers who claimed their crops were being damaged by the herds of the Littlefield company. The settlers also seized 60 head of cattle in payment for alleged damages.

Fines Salt Company $10,000.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 3.—Judge Knappen, in the United States District court, fined the Sterns Salt & Lumber company, of Ludington, $10,000 today for having accepted rebates from the Pere Marquette railway.