

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Collected From the Telegraphic Columns.

In anticipation of an increase in the American tariff, Canadian distillers are shipping large quantities of whisky to the United States.

Senator Lindsay, from the committee on judiciary, has reported the bankruptcy bill substantially as it was reported by Senator Teller, during the last congress.

Nineteen business buildings in Bloomington, Wis., were burned. The fire originated in a saloon at 1 o'clock in the morning. The total loss is \$50,000, with light insurance.

The senate in executive session confirmed the nomination of Willis Vandevanter, of Wyoming, as assistant attorney-general. Charles Schaller, to be major, ordnance department of the army.

Representative Evans, of Kentucky, has introduced a resolution in congress requesting the president to give notice that the United States would terminate at the end of twelve months the existing commercial reciprocity convention with the Hawaiian republic.

A draft of the treaty between the Transvaal republic and the Orange Free State have been concluded at Bloemfontein, the capital of the latter republic, and are published in Pretoria. They give the burghers in each state a franchise in either republic and the two republics agree to support one another in case of attack. The treaties must be ratified by the voters of both republics.

The secretary of the treasury has authorized the collector of customs at Ferdinand to issue clearance papers to the suspected filibuster Bermuda, now at that port. These instructions were issued upon receipt of an affidavit made by the captain of the Bermuda, pledging himself not to enter Cuban ports nor to take on arms or ammunition to be transferred to another vessel on the high seas or to do any act in violation of the laws of the United States.

The strike on the Erie canal, at Pendleton, N. Y., has assumed a serious aspect. The stenographers were attacked by sixty Italians, because they refused to quit work. Sheriff Kinney ordered the Italians to return to their cabins. They refused, and were reinforced by another party of strikers. The men ran from the field. Three Italian padrones have been arrested and brought to Lockport. Twenty-five men are at work on the canal under guard of a dozen deputy sheriffs.

Samuel Cozine, an old Yamhill county pioneer of 1848, died at his home in McMinnville, at the age of 73 years.

The Illinois legislature is considering a bill giving free school-books to all pupils of the public schools of the state.

Mrs. Mary Smith was dragged from the bedside of her dying husband in Oakland, Cal., in a crazed condition. For a week she had stood guard in a little cottage where her only boy, Harry, has been at death's door from pneumonia. The mother, worn out by much watching and suffering for want of food, gradually lost her reason and was taken away by force to prevent her doing harm to those who had come to nurse her boy.

Police Telegraph Operator Harry Greenhoff, of the East Chicago avenue station, narrowly escaped death while making a heroic rescue of a child from beneath the wheels of an engine on St. Paul bridge. So near did he become to being crushed that his coat was torn off. The child he rescued was but 4 years old, and had wandered on the bridge in front of the fast freight train, when Greenhoff saw its danger and rescued it, at the peril of his own life.

The question of opening the Cascade timber reserve for the landing of stock is creating a stir among prominent stockmen of Eastern Oregon. The various stock associations in Wasco, Gilliam, Crook and Sherman counties propose to raise a fund of \$500 to pay the expenses of a delegate to Washington to properly present the matter to congress. The question is a vital one to sheepmen, as the closing of the reserve to them means such a scarcity of range that successful sheepraising in Eastern Oregon will be impracticable on a large scale.

Theodore Durrant has by no means given up the fight for his life. George A. Knight has been added to his counsel, and is now preparing a petition asking the supreme court for a rehearing of the application previously made and denied, for a new trial. If this petition, which will be submitted without argument, be denied, as the district attorney anticipates, there will only remain the possibility of securing the interference of the federal courts in Durrant's behalf. Failing in that, only the action of the president can step between the condemned man and the gallows.

The Brooks locomotive works, at Danville, N. Y., has resumed full time. The force has been greatly increased during the past week. It is expected the full force will be employed in all the departments before April 1.

Sylvester Scovel, the correspondent, who was imprisoned in Cuba, has arrived in New York on board the Saguaro, from Havana. Mr. Scovel was in the best of health, and stated that in great deal of sympathy had been wasted on him, as he had been treated with great consideration and kindness.

From papers found among the effects of Leon Cabel, an insurance agent, who committed suicide in Milwaukee, Wis., it was found that he was heir to an estate in Russia of \$1,000,000. Cabel also has a brother in Germany.

The Chinese empire has sent notice to this government that it will be represented at the universal postal congress to be held in Washington next May. This will be the first time China has been represented at such a gathering, which is held semi-annually, and the delegates will be sent with a view to the entrance of the empire into the universal postal union.

COULD NOT TOUCH IT.

House Democrats Tried to Amend the Tariff Bill.

Washington, March 29.—The tariff bill was thrown open for amendment under the 5-minute rule in the house today. Seven weary hours of work only served to dispose of nine pages of the 162 pages of the bill. All the amendments offered by the Democrats were rejected. Three slight amendments by the committee, were adopted, and also an amendment by Mahoney to increase the duty on white lead from 2 1/2 cents to 3 cents per pound, the rate in the act of 1890. The present duty is 1 1/2 cents. Mahoney said the increase was asked for by a concern which was independent of the lead trust. It was adopted by a strict party vote.

The discussion covered a wide range of political topics, and at times was interesting. By far the most important feature of the day was the attempt of Dockery, Cooper and others, backed by the entire opposition, to secure a vote on an amendment offered in a multitude of forms, which provided that in case it should be shown to the satisfaction of the president that any article made dutiable by the bill was controlled by a trust or combination, the duty upon such article should be suspended. Dingley made the point of order that the amendment was not germane to the dutiable list, and would not be in order until the free list was reached. For almost three hours this point of order was gone over and made the subject of a long and tedious discussion. The Democrats contended that if the amendment was ruled out it would never be voted upon, as the free list, in all human probability, would not be reached before the final vote was taken. The chair sustained the point of order. An appeal was taken, but the chair was sustained by a strict party vote—135 to 104.

In the Senate.—Washington, March 29.—Another brief discussion of the civil service bill occurred during the open session of the senate today. Mr. Gallinger presented several forms issued by the civil service commission to substantiate his recent statement that certain applicants for office were required to hop on one foot for twelve feet. He said his statement had been challenged by several penny-a-liners and by one member of the civil service commission. The senator read the "hopping provision" and several other questions as to the weight and height of typesetters, which he characterized as absurd. Referring to the size and weight requirement, Gallinger said:

"Phil Sheridan could not have served the government if the civil service commission could have got at him."

The latter was referred to the civil service committee.

A resolution was adopted asking the president for information as to the death of American sailors at Santiago de Cuba; also resolutions asking the attorney-general for information of any proposition to sell the Union Pacific railroad.

Owing to the public demand for copies of the recent decision of the supreme court sustaining the anti-trust law applicable to railroads, it was determined to print the majority and minority opinions as a senate document.

Large Sum to Charity.—New York, March 29.—The World confirms the report that Baroness Hirsch is about to expend \$1,500,000 in charity in this city. Oscar Strauss, ex-minister to Turkey and trustee of the Baroness Hirsch fund, which expends for charitable and educational purposes the income of \$2,400,000 annually, says that Baroness Hirsch has appropriated a sum sufficient to buy land and put up a building for the Baroness Hirsch trade school to be established.

She has further appropriated \$1,000,000 for the building of model houses for the poor in the tenement district or wherever the trustees of the fund may determine. In addition she will build a working girls' home on plans similar to those of other homes she has built abroad.

The baroness has authorized the educational alliance, whose work is chiefly among the Russian Hebrews, to pay off at her expense the \$100,000 mortgage on its property.

Probably a Murder.—Tacoma, Wash., March 29.—Peter Olson, a horse trader, who always carried large sums of money on his person, was struck on the head tonight with a large cold chisel, by some person unknown, and will die. Olson was in a lonely part of the city, and was not found till about 8:30 P. M. Just how long he had been lying there is not known. When found, there was only \$10 in his watch fob, but only his body was a 50-cent piece and his keys. The police have no clue further than the cold chisel the deed was done with. The doctors say Olson cannot recover nor regain consciousness, as the weapon was driven in his head to the base of the brain.

Germany Steps Out.—Constantinople, March 29.—It is asserted here tonight, on what is regarded as reliable authority, that in consequence of the refusal of Lord Salisbury to join in a blockade of Greek ports, Germany has given notice to the powers of her intention to withdraw from the concert.

Fire in The Duffin Corset Factory.—The Dalles, Or., March 29.—From ashes in a paper box was started a fire in the corset factory over the Van Norden jewelry store at 3 o'clock this morning. Prompt action by the fire department prevented serious damage. Van Norden's loss amounts to \$200, fully covered by insurance.

A great international congress of science will be held at Dover, England, and across the channel at Boulogne, France.

Des Moines, Ia., March 29.—Five children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Penrod, at Ladleville, a mining town on the Wapello and Davis county line, were burned to death last night. Three were cremated, and two died a few hours later. They are: Harry, aged 10; John, aged 8; Minerva, aged 6; Ross, aged 4; Blaine, aged 3. The parents were at church, leaving the children in bed.

A proposition to reorganize forty counties in Western Kansas in four large ones is being agitated in that state.

THE WILLAPAS WRECKED

Ran On a Rook Near Queen Charlotte Islands.

THERE WAS NO LOSS OF LIFE

Accident Occurred in a Blinding Snow Storm—Passengers Camped on Beach Near Bella Bella.

Seattle, Wash., March 29.—A Nanaimo, B. C., special to the Post-Intelligencer says:

The steamer Barbara Boscowitz arrived from northern ports this morning with eighteen of the passengers and crew of the steamer Willapa, which sailed from Seattle for Drea, March 16, with as much freight and as many passengers as she could carry, the steamer having run around on Regatta reef, seven miles north of Bella Bella, opposite the lower end of Queen Charlotte islands.

The accident occurred last Friday morning at 2:30 o'clock during a blinding snow storm and heavy gale. At the time she struck the engines stopped and the steamer, drifting with the wind and tide, slid on a rock, low first, without a jar, but could not be pulled off, and as the tide was falling rapidly, she was soon hard and fast. A strong sea swept the stern to seaward, the bow acting as pivot. The vessel, getting into shallow water on the lee of the reef, settled down on a sharp rock with the falling tide, listing her over on her bow. In spite of the large number of passengers, there was no panic or disorder, Captain Roberts showing admirable coolness and judgment.

The passengers stayed on board several hours, until it was found that the tide was rising as fast in the hold as outside, and the pumps had no effect. The women were then taken in the boats to Campbell island, a distance of two miles, and afterward the men, dogs and baggage. A camp was formed, and sixty or more passengers made as comfortable as possible, the deserted shacks on shore serving as cockshells. The ship stores, which were not damaged, were brought ashore.

Until Sunday no vessel passed, and during that time the captain and crew worked removing supplies, baggage and freight, much of which, being such goods as rice, beans and flour, was lost. There were nine horses on board, but, as they could not be removed without steam, they were shot in the hold.

During the two days after the accident the steamer was badly battered by winds and seas, and Sunday was only a brief, being sprung and badly broken by the waves. Captain Roberts endeavored to remove the cargo to the island.

The steamer Boscowitz reached the wreck on her way south Sunday afternoon, and brought all the passengers and food to Bella Bella, where they are now staying, the purser, engineers and twelve Yukoners only coming down to Nanaimo and Victoria. The contingent at Bella Bella had only about ten days' supplies, and hoped for the arrival of a steamer soon.

The Boscowitz reports that the steamer Dora, which left here with a full list and cargo of coal several days before the Willapa, went on the rocks on Green island, near Port Simpson, last week. The tide, however, was on the rise at the time, and she got off the rocks in a few hours, but, finding that she was taking water rapidly, she was run on the beach. The passengers and crew were safely landed, and an effort is being made to effect sufficient repairs to bring her to Seattle.

To Can Reef in Mexico.—Washington, March 29.—A syndicate headed by Solon Humphreys, who has interested J. Pierpont Morgan and others, is getting ready to establish a beef-canning establishment in Mexico if the cattle duties proposed by the Dingley bill are enacted. As the law now stands there is a big profit in bringing live Mexican cattle across the border and fattening them for the northern market. The bill will shut these cattle out, and will compel the Mexican owners to find a new outlet. Humphreys and his syndicate will have a million-dollar concession from Mexico, which they propose to utilize for cattle-raising, and in connection with this they propose to put \$1,000,000 into a beef cannery. The establishment they are planning will compete with the output of Chicago and Kansas City firms to foreign markets.

Governor's Choice.—Olympia, Wash., March 29.—The governor has selected George P. Wright, of Columbia county, chief grain inspector, vice P. W. Lawrence, of Tacoma. Milton Evans, of Walla Walla, will succeed R. C. McCrocker, of Garfield, on the state grain commission. These appointments will soon be made.

A number of the militia companies have sent remonstrances to Governor Rogers against being mustered out, signifying their willingness to bear their own expenses during the next two years. This privilege the governor is willing to grant, as the only reason for mustering them out was to keep expenses within the appropriation granted. What companies will be let out is not announced yet, but ten will go. Three Seattle companies will be consolidated into two.

Steamer Ashore on Fox Island.—Tacoma, March 29.—The steamer Cyrus Walker was blown ashore on Fox island, Puget sound, today. The steamer was left high and dry by the receding tide. A boom of logs she was towing broke up and scattered along the shore.

Cincinnati, March 29.—At an informal meeting of distillers and wholesale whisky dealers here today, it was agreed to advance the price of spirits in a few days.

Rivers Rising in Illinois.—Virginia, Ill., March 29.—The Sangamon and Illinois rivers continue to rise, having risen two or three inches daily for the past two weeks. The high water marks of former years are passed and the situation grows alarming. Many families have vacated their homes on the lowlands, going to the bluffs for safety. The Illinois river is still below the high-water mark by six inches. The mayor of Beardstown has called a meeting to devise ways and means to protect the Beardtown-Fredrick road, which is now threatened with destruction.

ALL GOING TO PIECES.

Western Traffic Associations Are Breaking Up.

Chicago, March 29.—The Chicago & Northwest, the Missouri Pacific and the St. Louis & San Francisco filed notices of withdrawal today from all the traffic associations of which they were members. The Louisville & St. Louis Air Line also withdrew from the Southern States Association, of which it was a member.

A meeting of executive officers of Western roads was held today at the office of the third vice-president of the Santa Fe to talk over the situation. At the close, however, it was announced that no concerted action had been decided upon, and none was likely to be.

The more the decision of the supreme court is considered, the more clearly does it appear that not a vestige of ground is left traffic associations, as they have heretofore been conducted, on which to stand. All that remains for the roads to do is to direct their energies toward securing legislation that will open some way for them to conserve their interests and prevent their revenue from being dissipated.

None of the associations attempted to do anything today. No circulars were issued by any one of them, and no attempts were made to enforce observance of agreements. As yet, no rate-cutting has been resorted to as a result of the action of the association. The roads are attending to routine business, and seem to be afraid to take aggressive action of any kind.

Some meetings of passenger men, representing the Western, Transcontinental, Ohio river and Southern lines, was held today. It was entirely informal, no resolutions being adopted or concerted action of any kind agreed to.

BRYAN'S ROYALTIES.

A Committee Appointed to Expend Half the Amount.

Lincoln, Neb., March 29.—W. J. Bryan will give half the royalties from the sale of his book, "The First Battle," to the cause of bimetallicism, and has appointed a committee, whose duty it will be to properly expend the funds reserved for that purpose. The committee is composed of the following persons: Senator J. K. Jones, of Arkansas; Senator H. M. Teller, of Colorado; Senator Allen, of Nebraska, and A. J. Warner, president of the National Bimetallic Union.

In answer to his publishers, W. B. Conkey & Co., Chicago, stating that \$16,000 was due him as royalty on the first month's sales, Mr. Bryan at once instructed them to forward \$1,500 to Mr. Jones; \$1,500 to Warner, \$1,500 to Allen and \$500 to Teller, and certified checks for these amounts were sent today.

Mr. Bryan based his division on the vote he received from the four parties represented by the gentlemen named.

Brothers Fought a Duel.

Greensburg, Ind., March 29.—George and Calvin Holmes, brothers, fought a duel to the death near Moore's Hill, yesterday. They were twins, 22 years old. They were members of a prominent and wealthy family.

Miss Higgs, over whom they fought, is 20 years old, the daughter of one of the wealthiest families in the county. About a year ago George Holmes began paying attentions to Miss Higgs, and was favorably received. Last Christmas his brother Calvin returned from college and met the young lady at a neighborhood dance. They at once seemed smitten with each other, and this aroused the jealousy of the girl's lover. Nothing was known of his feelings, however, until Sunday night when Miss Higgs jilted him for his brother, and a quarrel ensued.

Yesterday the brothers met in the road. They quarreled and struck each other, when Calvin fired. Several shots were exchanged, when George dropped dead. Calvin is wounded over the heart.

The Tokat Massacre.

Constantinople, March 29.—The Greek patriarch issued an official report that there were 700 persons, including a number of Greeks, killed in the recent massacres at Tokat. The massacre here, however, has arrested eight Armenian suspects. They are being held in the city.

It is stated that the sultan is soliciting an explanation, through the Turkish ambassador at St. Petersburg, of the concentration of Russian troops upon the Turkish frontiers. On the other hand, the rumor is revived of the existence of a secret treaty, by the terms of which Russia undertakes to uphold the integrity of Turkey, who thereby becomes her vassal. It is alleged there can be no other reason for Russia's unexpected attitude toward Greece.

Found Half Starved.

Tacoma, Wash., March 29.—Officer Desmond, while patrolling his beat today, heard a child screaming. On investigation he found a half-starved child chained to the wall of a four-story building. Frank Youcum claims to be the father of the child. The child was turned over to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the police are investigating the matter and will probably arrest Youcum.

Kinead Exchanged.

Salem, Or., March 29.—The state board of agronomy has a meeting here today. The members of the board claim that the act creating the board carries the appropriation, and Secretary of State Kinead was waited upon to ascertain if warrants would be issued for the fair. Secretary Kinead reasserted his former declarations that no warrants would be drawn for the agricultural societies, unless compelled by mandate of court.

Caused by a Stove Explosion.

Beaver, Pa., March 29.—The Buchanan building, a three-story structure occupied by the postoffice, the Star Publishing Co., the Western Union Telegraph Co., and a number of lawyers, burned today. Loss, \$50,000, fully insured. The fire was caused by the explosion of an oil stove. No one was injured.

For the Omaha Exposition.

Lincoln, Neb., March 29.—Governor Holcomb this afternoon signed a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the trans-Mississippi exposition.

DINGLEY TARIFF IN THE HOUSE

The Four Days' General Debate Is Ended.

SEVERAL SPEECHES WERE MADE

The New Tariff Bill Will Now Be Discussed in Five-Minute Speeches—The New Senator From Florida.

Washington, March 27.—The four days' general debate in the house on the Dingley tariff bill closed tonight. The bill will now be open for debate under the five-minute rule for five days, when the vote will be taken.

Raley, the opposition leader, who was to have closed the general debate for his side today, was unable to make his speech, owing to a sore throat, and a mutual arrangement was made for an hour's debate on each side just before the final vote is taken.

The speech-making today was not of a very lively order, but the crowds in the galleries continued.

Five members of the ways and means committee spoke today—Tawney, Dalzell, Russell, Payne and Stone. The other speakers at the session were Talbert, Clark, Maguire, Gunn, Cox, McKee, Groves, Simpson, Curtis, Burke, Lentz, Calson, Hawley, De Armond and Fitzgerald.

The Routine Report.

Washington, March 27.—This was the last day of the general debate on the tariff bill in the house. Talbert, Democrat of South Carolina, in the presence of a scant audience, opened the debate. The house rapidly filled. Talbert talked a great deal about robber barons.

Champ Clark, Democrat, of Missouri, followed. He said as a Democratic politician he rejoiced in the passage of the pending bill, because after it had become a law every stockholder would be obliged to make a Democratic speech every time he made a sale. The passage of this bill, he said, would give the Democrats a hundred majority in the next congressional election.

After brief remarks by Maguire, Democrat, of California, and Gunn, Populist, of Idaho, Tawney, Republican, of Minnesota, member of the ways and means committee, took the floor for twenty minutes. Tawney defended the lead schedule, which had been attacked by Gunn. The latter said he had no criticism to make of the rates. He only asked that they be collected.

Tawney asserted the classification of this schedule was such that the duties could not be evaded. The purpose of the framers of the schedule was to give American labor employment in smelting Mexican and Canadian ores, and at the same time fully protect the American lead miner.

Simpson, Populist, of Kansas, entertained the house for five minutes. He read from McKinley's speech at the Minneapolis convention a declaration that the foreigner paid the tax, which he ridiculed. The last congress, he said, increased the appropriation \$50,000,000, and now, according to McKinley's theory, taxes on foreigners were to be increased to pay for extravagance. The foreigner should be glad, he said, that the last congress had not been a two-billion-dollar congress. If the taxes of the foreigner could be sufficiently increased, he observed sarcastically, the surplus could be distributed among our people and every day would be Sunday here. (Laughter.)

Simpson said he was himself a farmer who farmed farms, not farmers. If the Republicans had desired to do something practical for the farmers, why, he asked, had they left hides on the free list? Simpson announced himself a free trader.

Cox and McKee of Arkansas followed. The latter ridiculed the idea that property had existed under the McKinley law, or would exist under the Dingley bill, if it became law.

Groves, the venerable ex-speaker, made a general speech in favor of the theory of protection. The latest Democratic cry of more money and less taxes, he said, was preposterous.

Dalzell reviewed the results of the Wilson and McKinley laws and denounced the ad valorem system as giving opportunity for immense undervaluation.

The Senate Proceedings.

Washington, March 27.—The senate had a half-hour open session early in the day and then was four hours in executive session on the arbitration treaty and resumed the open session to go on the bankruptcy bill. The latter measure, generally known as the Torrey bankruptcy bill, was read at length and Nelson offered a substitute differing in a number of particulars from the committee bill. The debate has not yet opened.

Amended credentials were presented in behalf of John W. Henderson, appointed by the governor of Florida to the seat vacated by Call. It brought out a statement from Hoar, acting chairman of the committee on privileges and elections, that as in his pending election cases was delayed by the uncertainty as to the committee organization in the senate. The revised credentials were referred to the elections committee.

Spooner suggested that the question had already been elaborately argued and settled—settled both ways.

"The inference from that suggestion," pursued Stewart, "is that we vote on these cases according to our political convictions."

"The manner of settling this is by means of an international agreement for the free coinage of silver," remarked Hoar, facetiously. "When that is accomplished, the senator from Nevada will have no further objections."

Stewart said the general feeling was that the senate was capricious in its action on these cases and that there should be some definite and final settlement of the whole subject.

The senate took up the arbitration treaty immediately after going into executive session today. The Chilton amendment was still the immediate subject under discussion. Senator Chilton, author of the amendment, spoke at length. He urged that the change was necessary to protect American interests and said they were not safe under less explicit provisions.

The senate at 4 o'clock adjourned.

THE FRUIT OUTLOOK.

A General Survey of Present Conditions in the Northwest.

A correspondent writing from Salem, Or., in regard to the fruit outlook in the Northwest, says:

All are looking anxiously to see the fruit trees of our wide region pass through the ordeal of springtime, to that is the critical period with orchards. It is not often that any severe injury is done in the fall and winter, and if fruit trees are in good condition at the middle of May there is no reason to fear harm while the fruit is being perfected.

The past fall was exceptional in respect to damage done, for the heavy freeze that occurred late in November was quite disastrous in many localities. While this is no doubt true, it will not be possible to trace the extent of the injury until the growing season comes, for while in the dormant state it cannot easily be known how much harm was done.

It was said at the time that the Italian prune was especially affected, which appears to have been true at The Dalles region; also at Hood River. Mr. D. J. Cooper, of Wasco county, told me that much harm had been done in that district. He thought it was chiefly due to overmuch and too late cultivation and irrigation, for he says he had noticed that where there was light cultivation and irrigation was not continued late, the wood ripened early and trees are all right.

Mr. E. L. Smith, of Hood River, who is a very close observer, says much harm was done in this country to young apple trees, and the Spitzenbergs were especially suffering, the heavy freeze having in many instances, killed the tops, as it occurred when the sap was flowing. In many cases the bark had split on the trunk, but he doubted if the damage would all show until spring came.

Mr. Smith thought the excessive rainfall in the mountains made it worse there than out in the open country. The Hood river valley is in the very heart of the Cascade range, and when there were light rains west of the ranges, there was constant heavy rain there last fall, and the effect was to keep the sap flowing and the trees growing. At the time the freeze came, late in November, the leaves were all on and held their dark green color, so the effect of the cold snap was more disastrous than if it had occurred in a normal season, as the sap was frozen, and much tender young wood was killed. We expected to hear of harm done wherever people had plowed or cultivated late, and so kept sap flowing; but conditions at Hood-River were exceptional, and the damage seems to have been general.

There seems to have been damage done in many parts of the country. Clark county, Wash., was said at the time to have suffered loss in the Italian prune, which is planted largely there. As to orchards in this valley (the Willamette), it is not probable that much harm was done where they had not too much and too late cultivation. People had to learn that there can be too much of a good thing. There has been too much pruning, as well as too much cultivation. What is needed is to assist nature, not to take the job too much out of her hands. Only a few days before that freeze, one of those very enthusiastic orchard men told me he had kept on plowing and cultivating up to date. I asked him where he would be when a freeze came, and thought of him that first thing which it did come.

I hear of some damage to Italian prunes especially done to orchards near here on prairie land, and to some extent in the hills. The Oregon Land Company has 3,000 acres of trees on high hill land a few miles south of Salem, that they cultivated late, and I ran some farms was done there. The lesson to fruitgrowers is that there is a time when trees should mature their wood, as well as their fruit, and if we ignore the laws of nature, we are apt to pay heavily for it. A gentleman who is engaged in fruitgrowing reports that he was in Southern Idaho after the freeze, and young orchards along Snake river were almost destroyed by it. They were, no doubt, forcing growth by irrigation, and overdid it, so suffer as a consequence. It was a warm November up to the freeze, and the change came suddenly and was disastrous.

While this must be true of many, it is safe to say that the older orchards of the Pacific Northwest are in good condition to produce well, and that we may hope for the largest yield for the season of 1897 that ever was known. The short crop of 1896 led the trees well rested, and with vigorous growth of fruit buds. We are almost at the end of March, and yet the trees are not in bloom, when they often are in full bloom before this time. There is more danger from late spring rains than from winter freezes. If we have a late bloom time, and no cold rains later, we may look for an exceptional fruit year all over this Western Oregon, as well as the inland Empire. We have had so much to learn that it has been a school of experience up to date, and henceforth we should reap some of the practical results.

The Bill Killed.

Springfield, Ill., March 29.—The senate anti-department store bill came up in the house today on first reading, and was ordered laid on the table. This action practically kills the measure.

The Case of Butler.

San Francisco, March 29.—United States Marshal Baldwin has received the mandate ordering him to deliver the Australian murderer, Butler, to the agents of the British government. Two men will watch the murderer day and night until he sails April 1 for Australia. The Australian detectives fear he may commit suicide.

Five years penal servitude was the sentence imposed recently on a bicycle thief in England.

Manual Training for Women.

New York, March 29.—William R. Grace, his wife, Lillian Grace, and his son, Joseph Grace, have jointly set aside \$200,000 for the founding of a manual training school for young women and girls. A bill providing for the incorporation of the institution has been introduced in the legislature. The school when established will be known as the Grace institute of New York city. The plans are not yet completed in detail.

An Iowa couple have just been married who had been engaged forty years.

BRIEF PACIFIC COAST NEWS

A Resume of Events in the Northwest.

EVIDENCE OF STEADY GROWTH

News Gathered in All the Towns of Our Neighboring States—Improvement Noted in All Industries—Oregon.

About forty tons of corn are being shipped from Nebraska to Dallas. The principal of the Jacksonville public schools is paid \$1,000 a year. Eleven hundred sacks of potatoes were shipped south by the latest steamer out of Coos bay.

An eagle was shot on the Siuslaw last week that measured seven feet from tip to tip and weighed ten pounds. The grand jury in Douglas county reported that the county jail in Roseburg is insecure, for the safe custody of prisoners.

Frosts in Umatilla county have in places taken off the tops of the grain a little, but no serious damage has been sustained. Farmers in Sherman county have about finished plowing and are now waiting for the ground to dry enough to begin seeding.

A boy living near Centerville, in Washington county, a few days ago shot a hawk on the wing that measured four feet six inches from tip to tip. Lambing has begun on some of the sheep ranches in Sherman county, and, in spite of unfavorable weather, a good percentage of the lambs is being saved.