

CURRENT EVENTS OF THE DAY

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

The Minnesota state board of pardons refuses to pardon the Younger brothers.

The National Republican League convention met in Detroit. Delegates were present from nearly all the states.

The departure from Portland of the British ship Glenelg brings the grain fleet for the present season up to 77 vessels compared with 68 the year before.

Advices from Constantinople indicate that the sultan is absolute regarding the acceptance of the peace proposals.

Advices from the south of France show that the destruction by the floods there was greater even than earlier reports indicated.

The parliamentary South African commission, which has been inquiring into the Transvaal raid, has agreed upon its report.

Henrique Laidley, Portuguese vice-consul at San Francisco, is at Monterey, Cal., at the request of the Portuguese minister at Washington to make a thorough investigation regarding the disappearance of the boat upon a man with Manuel Ortiz's grocery store and the burning of the flag.

Reports from the North say the Alaska Commercial Company's steamer Arctic was crushed by ice.

The International Geophysical convention at Denver selected Salt Lake City as its next meeting place.

By the explosion of a lamp Samuel W. Brown, a miner, and his wife, Mary, were burned to death in bed at Pittsburgh.

Five thousand wrought nail workers of South Staffordshire and North Worcestershire are on strike for 10 per cent advance in wages.

Preparations are in foot in Dublin for the Parnell anniversary demonstration in October, and it is believed this year it will be larger than ever.

The British government has notified the collector of customs at Vancouver that no duty will be charged on salmon brought from the United States.

The statement of the Bank of Spain, which has been formally gazetted, has increased the adverse comment on the bank management.

Fully 900 men are employed on the branch line from Slocan, crossing to Slocan lake. About 400 men are on each end of the line working toward the center, and the contract requires that grading be completed by October 15.

The difficulty growing out of the boundary dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua is nearing the point where diplomacy and arbitration will be out of the question.

What is said to be the greatest oil discovery ever made is reported from Alaska. Some gold prospectors several months ago ran across what seemed to be a lake of oil.

The ninth session of the trans-Mississippi commercial congress is being held in Salt Lake. Every state and territory west of the Mississippi river will be represented.

COAL AND OIL TO BURN.

Company Organized to Develop Recently Discovered Alaska Fields.

Seattle, Wash., July 19.—The Alaska Development Company was organized today, to develop the coal and oil fields recently discovered in Southeastern Alaska by E. C. Johnson, of Los Gatos, Cal. The report made to the company by Mr. Johnson and T. J. Hamilton, of this city, the experts who made a thorough examination of the property, shows that the discovery is really the most wonderful find the world has ever known.

A prominent oil man has given a guarantee of all the capital necessary to build a refinery there as soon as may be necessary to handle the product. The oil is pronounced of the best quality ever seen and the quantity is unlimited.

IN HAVANA PROVINCE.

The Cuban Patriots Are Still Marching Westward.

New York, July 19.—A Herald dispatch from Havana says: The invasion of Havana province by insurgent forces on their march westward is now an accomplished fact. The local papers are prohibited from publishing even accounts of "official" victories in that province, the object being to discredit the news of unusual activity.

The Herald's correspondent at Matanzas writes that Colonel Alvarez Armandez, with 70 men, was completely routed July 11, near Jaguay Grande, by the insurgent General Carrillo.

A report is current and generally believed in Matanzas that the insurgents have attacked and partially burned Cardenas. There are fully 5,000 rebels in the vicinity of Matanzas and Cardenas.

General Weyler has not succeeded in capturing Gomez, and has evidently given up the idea, for he has left Sancti Spiritus and is now at Cienfuegos on his way back to Havana.

THREE WERE DROWNED.

A Scow Goes Over a Dam With Fatal Results.

Manchester, N. H., July 19.—Five young men employed in Baldwin's bobbin shop ventured out on the swollen Piscataqua river in an old scow without oars, depending for the guidance of the boat upon a man with a sword. The rains of the last two days had caused a flood and the river was a raging torrent.

The men were unable to control the old hull and in a short time it was swept over the dam, the occupants in their efforts to prevent this losing the scow through the paddles. When the boat went over the dam it fell bottom upward with the men beneath it.

Three got clear, but only two were able to reach shore, and, although the other man was an expert swimmer, he was drawn under by the strong current.

The drowned were Frank Simmond, Joseph Lavoie, George Tirion. They were all single. Thomas Tirion and William Lavoie were swept close ashore, and by hard swimming got within reach of those who had gathered along the bank, and were dragged out.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

Pacific Railroad Matters Are Discussed in the Senate.

Washington, July 17.—Pacific railroad affairs occupied the attention of the senate throughout the day, and the Harris resolution relating to the pending proceedings against the Union Pacific finally went over. Early in the day, Stewart and White indulged in sharp personalities in connection with the contest over the San Pedro deep-water harbor.

Washington, July 17.—No business was transacted by the house today. Immediately after the journal was approved a recess was taken on Cannon's motion until Monday, Cannon having given assurances to Bailey that, in his opinion, a partial or complete conference report of deficiency bill would be ready by that time.

General Forsythe's Petition.

Washington, July 19.—General George A. Forsythe, U. S. A. (retired), is the author of a remarkable petition, which was presented to the house of representatives yesterday by Mr. Belknap, of Illinois. The petition prays the house to strike the sugar schedule from the tariff bill.

The Army Bicycle Corps.

Table Rock, Neb., July 19.—The twenty-fifth infantry bicycle corps checked here at 3 o'clock this afternoon, after a day's run covering 60 miles. From here the run will be made to Reno, where the corps will cross the Missouri river into Missouri.

OVER ONE BILLION DOLLARS

Balance of Trade in Our Favor Is Growing.

A VERY REMARKABLE SHOWING

Exports of Merchandise Never Reached So High a Figure as During the Fiscal Year Just Ended.

Washington, July 19.—The annual statement of imports and exports of the United States, issued by the bureau of statistics, makes the remarkable showing that never before in the history of the country have the exports of merchandise, which includes practically all the exports except gold and silver, reached so high a figure as during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1897, nor has the excess of exports over imports ever been so large.

The total imports of merchandise during the fiscal year just closed amounted to \$764,373,965, of which \$381,932,505 was free of duty. The total imports were about \$15,550,000 less than last year, and the excess of exports over imports for the year was \$287,418,186.

This is an excess of about \$185,000,000 over last year, and an excess of about \$23,000,000 over any previous year.

The exports of gold, including ores, for the fiscal year 1897 amounted to \$40,359,780, as compared with \$112,409,447 for 1896.

The imports of gold amounted to \$85,913,575, an increase of about \$51,500,000 over 1896.

The exports of silver during 1897 amounted to \$61,946,638, and the imports \$20,533,227.

The excess of gold imports over exports therefore was \$14,655,795, and the excess of silver exports over imports, \$41,413,411. Never before has the silver movement, both export and import, reached so high a figure.

WOMEN AT THE ROCK PILE.

Female Prisoners in Kansas City Will Not Be Put to Work.

Kansas City, July 19.—Women prisoners are not to be put to work on the rock pile with men in Kansas City, Kan. The board of police commissioners, who decided last week that this should be done, have found public sentiment too strongly opposed to their plan.

In deference to the first outburst of popular opposition, the police commissioners proposed to restrict that part of the order compelling the women to wear men's overalls, but this failed to tally to stop the flood of protest, and the order is wholly rescinded.

The agitation here has developed the fact that the same rule is enforced by the police of Leavenworth, Kan. Leavenworth's women prisoners are made to break rock, and to wear overalls. They are worked separate from the men, and break rocks with small hammers, under a shield in the jail yard.

A PROPOSED AERIAL VOYAGE.

From the Summit of Pike's Peak to Colorado Springs.

Colorado Springs, July 19.—The announcement was made today that W. D. Felts will make an aerial excursion from the summit of Pike's peak to Colorado Springs, a distance of 10 miles, in an air line, and drop 8,000 feet.

In making the flight, Felts will use a series of rigid aeroplanes, modeled after the wings of a condor. The body of the voyager will hang suspended from an easy harness. In order to steer the apparatus, Felts has provided a movable vane, which will be operated at the will of the navigator.

Felts announced today that he would first alight on Cameron's cone, a distance of five miles, and a drop of 4,000 feet. From this he said he would make a descent of 4,000 feet more to Colorado Springs, where he would alight.

A Scorcher Caused Her Death.

Chicago, July 19.—A scorching is responsible for the death of Mrs. M. A. Morton, who was yesterday killed in a runaway accident. She was riding, with elevated back and lowered head, while bowing along, at a rapid rate, collided with the horse driven by Mrs. Morton.

Miner's Day in Wallace.

Wallace, Idaho, July 19.—The single-handed drilling contest resulted in a victory for C. A. Patterson, of Murray, he drilling 17 5/8 inches. There was voting for the most popular young woman on Miner's Union Memorial day, at 25 cents a vote, and 6,000 votes were cast. Miss Jennie Graham, of Burke, won the prize, a gold watch, with 1,645 votes.

A Bad Counterfeit.

Washington, July 19.—Chief Hazen, of the secret service, has given notice of the discovery of a new counterfeit \$10 silver certificate. It is of the series of 1891, check letter D, with the small emblem, seal, the portrait of Hendricks and the names of Mezes, Tirlmann and Morgan as register and treasurer, respectively. The counterfeit is described as apparently a wood-cut production, very poorly executed, the seal being light pink instead of carmine, the numbering irregular and the printing and engraving bad.

DEADLOCK ON TARIFF.

Latent Conferees Are Still Far From an Agreement.

Washington, July 16.—The tariff conferees found themselves today apparently further apart than at the beginning of the conference. There was no immediate prospect of agreement, and more than one member stated that the entanglement was such that settlement might be indefinitely prolonged.

The best reports represent the house conferees, with Speaker Reed behind them, as holding out for the house sugar schedule, without any change whatever, and the senators are quite determined not to yield to this extent.

The house conferees insist that this schedule must be definitely fixed before other questions shall be again taken up. One of the questions of secondary importance, upon which sharp differences have arisen, is the senate amendment for a stamp tax on stocks and bonds.

The representatives also resist strenuously the 20 per cent duty placed upon hides, and at the same time persistently hold out for a restoration of gunnysack, cotton ties, etc., to the dutiable list.

A senator who talked with some of the conferees said: "They are in a deadlock, and they are tied up all along the line. It looks as if the situation must remain unchanged for a week."

THE TREATY OF ANNEXATION.

Senate Committee Will Report a Resolution for Its Ratification.

Washington, July 16.—The senate committee on foreign relations today agreed to report a resolution for the ratification of the Hawaiian annexation treaty without amendment. Of the 11 members of the committee seven were present.

Senators Daniel and Turpie did not take a positive stand in opposition to the treaty, but both expressed the opinion that it was not expedient nor consistent with the vast importance of the subject that the treaty be pressed to immediate consideration, and that if the senate was not to take the subject at the present session, the better course would be to leave it in committee until the senate had expressed its opinion.

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A RESERVOIR BURST.

Five Persons Were Drowned and Two or Three Are Missing.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., July 16.—The two large reservoirs in the Fishkill mountains, which supplied water to the town of Poughkeepsie, burst their walls at 2 o'clock this morning, and the water that was released swept through the Dutchess valley, causing ruin and death. Five bodies have been taken from the wreckage left in the wake of the flood and there are more lying somewhere beneath the piled debris.

The flood washed away 200 yards of the Hudson River railroad track. There were two reservoirs in the mountains, the lower one a mile distant from the other. The upper one gave way, letting a volume of water into the ravine. The Van Buren and Tinsin bridges collapsed, and were just below Dutchess Junction, are a mile distant from the site of the lower reservoir. Without warning the flood reached them through the ravine and made general havoc. Buildings were torn in pieces and the occupants carried away in the raging flood.

JOHN F. CAPLES NAMED.

The Portland Attorney for Consul at Valparaiso.

Washington, July 16.—The president today sent the following nominations to the senate: W. L. Merry, of California, to be minister to Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador; Matthew and Patrick, burg their walls at 2 o'clock this morning, and the water that was released swept through the Dutchess valley, causing ruin and death.

Charles M. Webster, of Montana, to be collector of internal revenue for the district of Montana.

In the executive session of the senate there was a general agreement to take up the contested nomination of M. H. McCord to be governor of Arizona. These confirmations were made.

Tin-Plate Works Shut Down.

Cleveland, July 19.—The Crescent tin-plate works closed in every department this morning. The heaters refused to go to work, and without them it was impossible to operate the mill. The company decided to shut down indefinitely.

Wool in Heppner.

Heppner, Or., July 19.—Wool is being baled and shipped East from here as fast as two presses can bale it. A large line of wool sold here during the past four days at from 8 1/2 to 10 cents. Offers of 10 1/2 cents have been made on some and refused.

A West Virginia Mine Closed.

Wheeling, W. Va., July 19.—The only change in the mining situation in West Virginia is the closing of the mines of the Flemington Coal Company, on the Baltimore and Ohio, near Grafton.

A VAST POCKET OF GOLD

Marvelous Richness of the Clondyke District.

THIRTEEN MILES IN EXTENT

Millions Taken Out in a Few Weeks.—The Ground Is Said to Be Literally Stripped With Gold.

San Francisco, July 19.—A story rivaling in intensity of interest that told of the fabulous wealth of Monte Cristo was related by passengers on the little steamer Excelsior, which has just arrived from St. Michael's, Alaska.

Millions upon millions of virgin gold, according to the story, await the fortunate miner who has the hardihood and courage to penetrate into the unknown depths of the Yukon district. There was tangible evidence on the little steamer of the truth of the story told by the travelers, for in the cabin were scores of sacks filled to the very mouth with "dust" taken from the placers of the far North.

The new Eldorado lies just across the Alaskan boundary in British territory. It is of recent discovery, but already there are at least 3,000 people on the ground and more are flocking in that direction as fast as transportation can be secured.

The discovery of the Clondyke region presents a story that is uniquely interesting. Around Forty-Mile, on the Yukon, is a tribe of Indians known as the stickers, and with them is a man who years ago was known as George Cormack, but who is now called "Stick George."

On January 4 last, Creede and his wife separated and agreed to divorce at once, as far as possible, without legal proceedings. Mrs. Creede accepted \$20,000 cash and surrendered all further claims upon her husband, at the same time voluntarily withdrawing from the premises. It was understood that the necessary time had elapsed, Creede would institute legal proceedings and begin suit for absolute divorce.

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The excitement on the river is indescribable, and the output of the new Clondyke district is almost beyond belief. Men who had nothing last fall are now worth a fortune. One man has worked 40 square feet of his claim and is going out with \$10,000 in dust. One-quarter of the claims are now selling at from \$15,000 to \$50,000. The estimate of the district given is 13 miles, with an average value of \$500,000 to the claim, in which some are valued as high as \$1,000,000 each.

The following is an extract from a letter received by the Excelsior. It was sent from the Clondyke region by a prominent man, a wealthy young business man from San Francisco to his brother in this city:

"The excitement on the river is indescribable, and the output of the new Clondyke district is almost beyond belief. Men who had nothing last fall are now worth a fortune. One man has worked 40 square feet of his claim and is going out with \$10,000 in dust. One-quarter of the claims are now selling at from \$15,000 to \$50,000. The estimate of the district given is 13 miles, with an average value of \$500,000 to the claim, in which some are valued as high as \$1,000,000 each.

"Some of the stories are so fabulous that I am afraid to repeat them for fear of being suspected of the infection. "Labor is \$15 a day and board, with 100 days' work guaranteed, so you can imagine how difficult it is to hold employes. If reports are true it is the biggest placer discovery ever made in the world, for though other diggings have been found quite as rich in spots, no such extent of discovery has been known which prospect and worked so high right through."

AN OFFENSIVE ALLIANCE.

Spain and Japan Again Said to Be Combining Against the United States.

London, July 19.—A Paris dispatch to a newspaper here says that inquiry at the American embassy there has elicited a confirmation of the rumor that the governments of Spain and Japan have arranged an offensive alliance against the United States.

The terms of the undertaking, which is for the mutual protection of Cuba and Hawaii, provides that in the event of aggressive action on the part of the United States, tending toward interference in Cuban affairs, or persistence in the annexation of the Hawaiian islands, both Spain and Japan shall declare war simultaneously against the United States, and shall make hostile demonstrations along both the Atlantic and Pacific coast lines.

Sudden Death of John Wiley.

Seattle, July 15.—John Wiley, president of the board of regents of the university of Washington, a prominent attorney, and one of the leaders of the river cause in this state, died today of pleuro-pneumonia.

A St. Louis woman had a guardian appointed for her husband on proving that he spent all of his pension money—\$30—every month for patent medicines.

Another Tarpedo Boat.

Washington, July 15.—Secretary Long has decided to accept the recommendation of the majority of the board of naval bureau chiefs as to the award of the contracts for building three torpedo-boats, in which case the contracts will go to Harland & Hollingsworth Company, of Wilmington, Del.; the Morris Heights Gas & Engine Company, of New York; and Wolf & Zwickler, of Portland, Or.

It is estimated that 75 per cent of the silks worn by American women are of American manufacture.

OREGON OFF FOR HAWAII.

The Administration Thinks a Battleship Is Needed There.

New York, July 14.—A special from Washington says: Recognizing the gravity of Japan's attitude toward Hawaiian annexation, the administration has decided to send the big battleship Oregon to Honolulu to relieve the cruiser Philadelphia and the old corvette Marion, now stationed there. The orders were issued by the navy department Monday.

The Marion returns home at once and her instructions will go to Honolulu by the steamer leaving San Francisco July 17. The Philadelphia is a very unserviceable condition in consequence of her long anchorage in semi-tropical waters. The Philadelphia will remain at Honolulu, however, until the Oregon reaches there, and perhaps longer.

It has been intended by the navy department for some time to send the cruiser Baltimore to Honolulu, but it will take longer to make repairs than was expected at first. This unexpected postponement of her assignment to the islands has served a good purpose in allowing the navy department to send the Oregon, one of the most formidable ships in the service, without giving Japan an opportunity of constraining this action as a display of unfriendliness on the part of the United States.

In detaching both the Philadelphia and the Marion, the navy department will not weaken its naval force at Honolulu. The Oregon is more formidable than both, and capable of combating any vessel in the Japanese navy. She is so far superior to the Japanese cruiser Naniwa, now at Honolulu, that comparison is out of the question.

How Japan will view the assignment of the Oregon to Hawaiian waters remains to be seen, but it is certain that if other vessels are sent to escort the Naniwa the United States will respond in a vigorous manner that will leave no doubt as to the determined policy of the administration that foreign countries must keep their hands off Hawaii.

CREEDE IS DEAD.

Millionaire Minewoman Committed Suicide at Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, July 14.—Nicholas Creede, the millionaire minewoman, after which the town of Creede, Colo., was named, committed suicide with morphine this evening, at his home in this city, because his wife, from whom he had been separated, insisted upon removing their marital relations.

On January 4 last, Creede and his wife separated and agreed to divorce at once, as far as possible, without legal proceedings. Mrs. Creede accepted \$20,000 cash and surrendered all further claims upon her husband, at the same time voluntarily withdrawing from the premises. It was understood that the necessary time had elapsed, Creede would institute legal proceedings and begin suit for absolute divorce.

At that time it appeared that both husband and wife were well satisfied that they were not required to maintain intimate relations, and while Mrs. Creede considered the amount of cash settled upon her was insignificant as compared with her husband's wealth, she left him and took up her home in Alameda. About three weeks ago she returned to Los Angeles and proposed to her husband a reconciliation. This was much to avoid his wife, but being unsuccessful, he determined to end his life.

This evening he took a large dose of morphine and went into the garden to die. He was discovered by a servant, and medical aid was summoned, but he died two hours after.

Mrs. Creede was notified of her husband's death, but declined to discuss the tragedy. The 2-year-old child of Elith Walters Walker, adopted by Creede over a year ago, is in the care of his friends at Escudilla, Mrs. Creede declaring she would not be bothered with the child when she separated from her husband.

An Englishman Borrowing Trouble.

London, July 15.—The critics, commenting upon Japan's attitude toward Hawaii, says: "The Japanese know the strength of the American navy, and are perfectly aware of their own superiority. It does not require the knowledge of an expert to foresee that in an ocean conflict the United States would make a poor showing. It is morally certain that the Japanese ships would ravage the Pacific coast of the United States, should that country once become involved in hostilities with Japan. In that event Spain would have an opportunity of which she would hardly fail to take advantage."

Rioting Begins in Danville.

Danville, Ill., July 15.—The strife between the miners commenced in this district tonight. About 400 or 500 Belgians gathered at the Pawnee mine, and, when a cage full of colored miners who had been at work reached the top of the shaft, they were assaulted with different kinds of weapons, some using knives and other staves. One of the colored miners secured a revolver and defended his life. Shots were fired, wounding several strikers. This infuriated the striking miners, and they retaliated by an exchange of shots, at the same time retreating to the woods. It is reported that one miner was killed.

San Lash says that he was waylaid and robbed of \$150 each while near Shiloh. The robbery was in broad daylight, being about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Alexander Fraser, who served through the Crimean war, was found dead in his cabin in Everett. He was sitting in an easy chair, with his clothes and hat on, clutching a revolver, which was recognized as his own. He had placed the weapon close to the middle of his forehead and pulled the trigger.

The Wenatchee state road is being constructed in three sections, each employing about 25 men. The eastern division is working in the Colville Indian reservation, near Marcus; the mountain division, near the summit, in Okanogan county, and the other near Marble Mount.

Judge Carroll, of the superior court for Pierce county, has settled the question of priority of claims in the Tacoma Ledger receivership. The tax liens will be paid first, the labor liens next, the lien for supplies furnished between July 9, 1896, and May 15, 1897, come next, and finally the Hellar mortgage.

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—Important Notes in All Industries—Oregon.

One hundred teachers registered at the recent summer school at Pendleton. It is thought the salmon pack at Astoria this season will exceed 350,000 cases.

Henry Anderson Hamsted, a stevedore, was found dead in a scow on the Willamette river at Portland.

A wagon loaded with mixing machinery turned over on Harry Weaver near Olalla, fatally crushing him.

G. L. Wood, of Oakley Green, near St. Johns, committed suicide by swallowing the contents of a two-ounce bottle of morphine.

The present year's wool clip of Umatilla county has nearly all been disposed of and the buyers have left for other fields.

At Shanawab two robbers bound and gagged a Chinese merchant and stole from him \$400 in cash and a large quantity of gold dust.

It is estimated that Umatilla county will harvest nearly 7,000,000 bushels of wheat this year. This, at 50 cents a bushel, will bring \$2,500,000.

The Independence and Dallas Hop-growers' Association have agreed to pay 9 cents a box for picking. The Dayton association will pay 30 cents a box, or 60 cents per 100.

The Portland Home Packing Company, whose plant is located at Linton, has received an order for 5000 barrels of cured home meat from dealers in Paris, France, and the order is now being filled.

In Elgin county there are 21 church organizations, 45 church edifices with a seating capacity of 13,845; 31 bibles, with a seating capacity of 1,155; valuation of church property, \$117,375; number of communicants, or members, 3,495.

The superintendent of the state penitentiary has filed his report for the quarter ending June 30 with the secretary of state. It shows there were 350 convicts at the close of the quarter, an increase of three over the preceding quarter. During the quarter 46 were received, 44 discharged, and one re-entrained.

On the trial of the case of Hartin vs. the Southern Pacific in Roseburg, last week, it developed that there was no law in this state requiring that engines should whistle at crossings. But the ruling of the court is that in order to reduce the dangers of crossing to a minimum approaching trains should give proper warning.

Everett has 1,255 children of school age, a gain of 206 over last year. The capacity of the Cheney roller mills is being increased from 80 to 150 barrels of flour a day.

Mrs. C. L. Myers owns the largest bay ranch in Lincoln county, between 6,000 and 7,000 acres.

At the pike on the Chehalis reservation the Indians treated their white visitors to a clam bake.

The supreme court has granted the petition for a rehearing in the case of ex-Treasurer J. W. McCaskey, of Tacoma.