

The Santiam News

SCIO OREGON NEWS OF THE WEEK

Interesting Collection of Current Events in Condensed Form From Both Continents.

The state department received word that Alieroff Bey has been appointed Turkish minister to the United States.

Hon. Charles W. Jones, former United States senator from Florida, died at Detroit, after a sickness of several weeks.

The national council of Switzerland has adopted a bill making insurance against sickness compulsory in cases of all dependent persons.

It is reported that an English syndicate has purchased, for \$2,000,000, the big plant of the J. I. Case Machine Company, at Milwaukee.

Jackman and Williams, the O. R. & N. train robbers, were sentenced to the Oregon penitentiary for a term of 20 years and seven months each.

Heavy shipments of wheat to Europe continue. Over 50 grain-laden vessels have left San Francisco during the last two months, and six more are ready to sail.

The naval armor board will leave Washington soon for the South to look at certain places, with a view of ascertaining their adaptability for sites for the proposed armor plant.

The cruiser Baltimore has been put into commission with Lieutenant-Commander Gottfried Blockinger, her first lieutenant, in command. The Baltimore will meet the Philadelphia in San Francisco on the latter's arrival.

The monthly treasury statement of the principal articles of domestic exports shows that during September last the exports of breadstuffs from the United States amounted to \$34,679,946, an increase, as compared with September, 1897, of over 100 per cent, and an increase of about 300 per cent over September, 1895.

General Weyler announces that he will embark from Cuba on October 30.

Benjamin Nelson was found dead on the floor of his cabin near Hendricks, Or.

The general grand chapter of Royal Arch Masons is in session at Baltimore. Delegates are present from all parts of the world.

The whalers that wintered in the Arctic last year are having hard luck this season. Only one of them succeeded in killing a whale this summer, and the fleet that will return this fall will bring only a small revenue to their owners.

Sunday was the sixth anniversary of the death of Charles Stewart Parnell. Five thousand nationalists paraded the streets of Dublin to the bleak Glasnevin cemetery, where they heaped high the grave of their famous and talented leader with flowers brought from all the counties of Ireland.

Senorita Evangelina Cisneros, the Cuban girl who escaped from Casa de Recogidos, in Havana, is said to have arrived in New York city. American friends accompanied her by train from New Orleans. On reaching Jersey City, Miss Cisneros was taken in a closed carriage to the headquarters of the Cuban sympathizers.

Cubans of New York celebrated the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the 10 years' war by a mass meeting, presided over by Tomas Estrada Palma, president of the junta. All the speakers emphasized, amid great applause from the audience, the firm resolution of the Cuban people to carry on the struggle until absolute independence of Cuba is accomplished.

A dispatch from Long Valley, Idaho, says there has been a battle between settlers and sheepherders, and that three of the farmers were killed. The trouble is the outgrowth of the strained relations that have existed in that section between the settlers and sheepmen for some time. It has been no uncommon thing for stock to be maimed and haystacks to be burned, and even for settlers and sheepmen to exchange shots, but no one has heretofore been killed.

The United States board of geographical names, which meets at Washington, D. C., at state intervals, has just rendered decisions determining the spelling of 149 geographical names. These include a number in Alaska, significant at this time in view of the Klondike excitement. Many variations of nomenclature for the same place are encountered, and the board's action settles the uniform usage. As to Klondike, the decision is to spell it as here given, and not Klondyke. The inlet, river and village at the head of Lion canal, which now appears in the newspapers almost daily under the form of Dyak, the starting point for the overland route, is an Indian word which has appeared in many forms. Admiral Meade, in 1869, wrote it Ty-Ya; Kransen, in 1882, wrote it Dejab; Schwatka, in 1883, Daj; Dall, in 1883, Taiya. The board adopts the form Taiya.

In his annual report, Myron H. McConel, governor of Arizona, discussed the question of statehood, and says the requirements as to population, education and wealth are fully met.

More than 1,000 revolutionists and refugees have fled from Guatemala to Mexico, dreading the vengeance of Barrios. The refugees know their property will be confiscated, as the government has issued a decree to that effect. Some people took the precaution to deposit their valuables with the British consul at Quetzaltenango.

Near Austin, Tex., in broad open daylight, the southbound cannonball train on the International & Great Northern railroad was held up by four men and robbed. The conductor of the train was shot by the robbers while resisting them, but fortunately was not seriously wounded. One of the passengers had his shirt collar carried away by a pistol ball that was aimed at his neck, and another received a bullet wound in the hand. The passengers were robbed of about \$300 in money. The bandits attempted to ride the wife in the express car, but were unsuccessful.

EUROPEAN CROP SHORTAGE.

Agricultural Department Summarizes the Situation.

Washington, Oct. 18.—The monthly report of the agricultural department on the European crop condition, summarizing the crop reports of European correspondents to the Statistical Hygiene has been made public. The following is an abstract:

Recent information, while it may in some cases modify the crop estimates for particular countries, does not essentially change the situation as regards the deficiency in the principal crops of Europe. The outlook for wheat in the Australasian countries continues good, but the prospects in Argentina are somewhat less bright, owing to the drought and frosts. Accounts from India are quite favorable, both as to the Kharif crops harvested or to be harvested this fall, and as to the seeding of the Rabi crop to be harvested next spring, which latter includes the wheat crop.

The annual estimate of the world's wheat crop issued by the Hungarian ministry of agriculture gives the following revised results for 1897, compared with 1896:

Wheat production of importing countries, 800,771,000 for 1897; 886,639,000 for 1896.

Wheat production of exporting countries, 1,877,134,106,000; 1,896,1,452,902,000.

Total wheat production of both importing and exporting countries in 1897, 2,147,577,000; in 1896, 2,238,541,000 bushels.

Net deficit, 1897, 302,895,000 bushels; 1896, 120,234,000.

Extremely pessimistic reports as to the extent of the crop failures in Russia have been circulated, but the liberal quantities of wheat coming forward for shipment have led dealers to receive such reports with incredulity. It is probable, however, that much of the Russian grain going to Western European markets is out of the more liberal harvests of former years, and there is evidence there going to show that the crop of 1897 is at any rate considerably below the average.

Comal Eugene Germain, of Zurich, Switzerland, after an investigation of the European fruit prospects, expresses the opinion that there will be a good market for American apples and dried fruits this season if growers would be careful to put up choice stock only. He says:

"Nothing smaller than eight cases in French boxes will pay to ship to Europe, and all other dried fruits must be uniform in size and attractively packed."

EVANGELINA IN NEW YORK.

The Cuban Heroine Arrived From Havana on the Steamer Seneca.

New York, Oct. 18.—Evangelina Cisneros, who recently escaped from a Spanish prison in Cuba, was a passenger on the Ward line steamer Seneca, which arrived today from Havana. Miss Cisneros asked to be excused from saying anything about her imprisonment and escape. On the passenger list she was registered as Miss Juana Sola. She was traveling under the care of a gentleman who accompanied her from Havana. Several newspaper reporters and four women went alongside the steamer, and after the health officers' inspection was over they accompanied Miss Cisneros to this city.

Miss Cisneros' escape and safe arrival on the Seneca was one of the most daring feats ever attempted, and a successful one. On Saturday when the Seneca was to leave Havana, detectives watched the gangways with extra caution. Their vigilance would probably have prevented the departure of Miss Cisneros from Cuba had it not been for refreshments, including wine, served them by friends of Miss Cisneros aboard the Seneca.

A few minutes before the Seneca was ready to sail, a slim young fellow came running across the wharf. He had no baggage and was fashionably dressed. The detectives stopped him.

"My name is Juan Sola," he said, and he showed his passport. Everything was satisfactory. So the senator was allowed to go aboard. It is said if it had not been for the wine, the strange figure of Senor Sola might have aroused suspicion.

Miss Cisneros' friends, when they saw everything was satisfactory, disembarked and watched the ship pull out, carrying the fugitive to safety under the stars and stripes.

A Helena-Alaska Company.

Helena, Mont., Oct. 18.—Today articles of incorporation of the Klondike-Yukon-Copper River Mining Company were filed here by Chicago, St. Louis and Minneapolis capitalists. The capital stock is \$12,000,000. As the name indicates, the company is formed for the purpose of mining in Alaska. The shares are of par value of \$10 each. The main office is to be located at Helena.

Third Victim of the Mob.

Little Rock, Ark., Oct. 18.—As the result of the racial trouble which began in Cleveland county on August 23, in Cleveland county, a negro picnic near Kendall and several white men were killed and out, Tom Parker was lynched last night near Kendall. This makes the third negro to be victim of death as the result of the picnic riot. It is not known who composed the mob.

Havana, Oct. 18.—It is reported in official circles that another filibustering expedition has been landed in the River Arima, province of Santa Clara, and succeeded in joining the insurgent forces.

River Miners Working.

Pittsburg, Oct. 18.—Thirty-five hundred miners of the river district, who have been idle for two weeks, owing to a dispute over the differential, resumed work today, pending settlement by arbitration.

Oakland, Cal., Oct. 18.—Carlos Ezeta, ex-president of Salvador, who resides here, is indignant over the report that he is assisting the Guatemala revolutionists, and declares that he has not taken the least interest in the uprising. He says:

"When I left Salvador much of my property was confiscated and my friends have been urging President Gutierrez to restore it to me. The indications are favorable that the government will do so. My enemies know this, and by showing that I am assisting the rebels, they hope to create a prejudice against me. I regard this country as my home."

HIS WISH GRATIFIED

After Completing Long Term, Justice Field Resigns.

FORTY YEARS OF JUDICIAL LIFE

The Aged Jurist's Letter to His Colleagues—Resignation to Take Effect December 1.

Washington, Oct. 18.—Associate Justice Stephen J. Field today formally retired from the supreme court of the United States, after 34 years of service in that tribunal. The correspondence between Justice Field and the president which was made public today, shows that his resignation was tendered in April last. President McKinley, however, did not respond until October 9.

While Justice Field's resignation does not take effect until December 1, he will not again sit on the supreme court.

His colleagues of the supreme court today called upon him and expressed regret at his retirement and extended their congratulations upon his long service as associate justice—the longest on record.

The following letter was given out this afternoon:

"Washington, Oct. 16.—Dear Mr. Chief Justice and Brethren—Near the close of my long office, feeling that the duties of my office had become too arduous for my strength, I transmitted my resignation to the president to take effect on the first day of December next, and this he has accepted with kindly expressions of regard. My judicial experience covers many years of service. Having been elected a member of the supreme court of California, I assumed that office October 13, 1857, holding it for five years, seven months and five days, the latter part of the time being chief justice. On the 10th of March, 1862, I was commissioned by President Lincoln justice of the supreme court of the United States, taking the oath of office on the 10th day of the following May.

"When my resignation takes effect my period of service on this bench will have exceeded that of any of my predecessors, while my entire judicial life will have embraced more than 40 years. I may be pardoned for saying that during all this period, long in comparison with the brevity of human life, though in retrospect it has gone with the swiftness of a tale that is told, I have not shunned to declare in every case coming before me for decision conclusions which my deliberate convictions exercise of such abilities and requirements as I possessed.

"It is a pleasant thing in my memory that my appointment came from President Lincoln, of whose appointees I am the last survivor. Up to that time, there had been no representative here from the Pacific coast. A new empire had risen in the West, whose laws were those of the east, and the conflicting titles were from Spanish and Mexican grants, both of which were often overlaid by the claims of first settlers. To bring order out of this confusion, congress passed an act providing for another seat on this bench, with the intention that it should be filled by some one familiar with these conflicting titles and with the mining laws of the coast, and it so happened that, as I had framed the principal of these laws, and was, moreover, chief justice of California, it was the wish of senators and representatives of this state, as well as those of Oregon, that I should succeed to this position.

"Few appreciate the magnitude of our labors. The burden resting upon us for the last 15 or 20 years has been enormous. The volumes of our reports show that I alone have written 620 opinions. If to these are added 37 opinions in the circuit court and 365 opinions while I was on the supreme court of California, it will be seen I have voted the decision in 1,042 cases. It may be said that all of our decisions have not met with the universal approval of the American people, yet it is to the great glory of that people that always and everywhere has been yielded a willing obedience to them. That fact is element of the stability of popular institutions, and demonstrates that the people of the United States are capable of self-government.

"As I look back over the more than a third of a century that I have sat on this bench, I am more and more impressed with the immeasurable importance of this office. Now and then we hear it spoken of as an aristocratic feature of a republican government. But it is the most democratic of all. Senators represent their states, and representatives their constituencies, but this court stands for the whole country, and, as such, it is truly of the people, by the people and for the people.

"It has indeed no power to legislate. It cannot appropriate a dollar of money. It carries neither the purse nor the sword. But it does possess the power of declaring the law, and in that is founded the safeguard which keeps the mighty fabric of government from rushing to destruction. This negative power, the power of resistance, is the only safety of a popular government, and it is an additional assurance when the power is in such hands as yours.

"With this I give place to my successor, but I can never cease to linger in memories of the past. Though we have often differed in our opinions, it has always been an honest difference, which did not affect our mutual regard and respect. These many years have indeed been years of labor and of toil, but they have brought their own rewards, and we can all join in thanking the author of our being that we have been permitted to spend so much of our lives in the service of our country. STEPHEN J. FIELD."

Site for Big Guns.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 18.—The board of inspectors of coast defenses, now in this city, visited the Presidio and Lime point today, and examined the proposed sites for the emplacement of new guns. The government contemplates adding to the defenses of this harbor 88 high-power guns, varying from 8 to 16 inches, and 128 12-inch mortars. At present there are only 12 modern high-power guns in position about the bay. Paper sound will have 30 new guns and San Diego about 18. The board will report its findings to the secretary of war at once.

Whitecaps Suffered.

Louisville, Oct. 15.—A special to the Post from Milan, Tenn., says: Whitecaps attacked the home of Dot Price, a negro, last night, and fired into the house. He returned the fire, killing W. Sires, a white man, and fatally wounding four others. A race war is expected as a finale to the tragedy.

A Person Should Never be Wakened to Take Medicine unless the Doctor has given orders to that effect.

Sites for Big Guns.

San Francisco, Oct. 15.—The board of inspectors of coast defenses, now in this city, visited the Presidio and Lime point today, and examined the proposed sites for the emplacement of new guns. The government contemplates adding to the defenses of this harbor 88 high-power guns, varying from 8 to 16 inches, and 128 12-inch mortars. At present there are only 12 modern high-power guns in position about the bay. Paper sound will have 30 new guns and San Diego about 18. The board will report its findings to the secretary of war at once.

TO CUT UP ALASKA.

A Proposition Under Way to Establish a New Territory.

San Francisco, Oct. 15.—The United States revenue cutter Corwin, Captain W. J. Herring commanding, 10 days from Behring sea, dropped anchor in the bay this evening. Dr. Sheldon Jackson, United States general agent of education in Alaska; Lieutenant B. H. Jarvis, from the cutter Bear; Whaler J. A. Peters, of the wrecked whaler Nevarsh, and Richard and Rollo Camden, who went up on the Eliza Anderson, but who returned to wait until spring before going to Dawson. Dr. Jackson spent the summer in the Yukon river valley in the interest of the government. He reports the reindeer herds as doing finely, 150 trained deer being ready for freightage.

The cutter Corwin, after carrying dispatches to the cutter Bear, sailed from St. Michaels on Friday, September 24. On the 26th, the Corwin called at St. Lawrence island, out of the northwest portion of the Aleutian Company to build additional steamers for the Yukon trade this summer at St. Michaels has been changed, and the steamers will be built at Dutch harbor.

Special correspondence from Alaska, brought by the Corwin, conveys the news that it is proposed to establish a territory known as Alaska, extending 30 miles westward. British or Japanese sealers cannot operate within the zone, except to buy skins of the Russian inhabitants of the islands. The Russians themselves are permitted to kill only bachelor seals, there being strict regulations against killing females and pups. The females are guarded with special care, as the killing of one female is regarded as equivalent to the killing of three seals, namely, the female herself, her pup on land and her unborn pup.

The Russians see that these regulations are enforced. A fleet of government ships patrol the 30-mile zone, and any foreign sealer who attempts to operate within these limits are seized. As a rule, sealed seals are taken to Vladivostok, their catch confiscated and punishment inflicted. This has led to many protests, but Russia has maintained her rigid regulations within the 30-mile zone. A notable case was that of the ship Bahia, cleared by a United States consular officer, but manned by a Japanese crew, which attempted to take seals on the Russian islands. The seals were met with armed resistance, and several of the Japanese were killed. Claims for indemnity were made against Russia, but never paid, as the imperial authorities maintained the right to protect their property against intrusion.

It is understood to be the wish of Russia in the forthcoming conference not to stop at the protective regulations already made, but to carry them further by increasing the width of the zone considerably beyond 30 miles. The Russian authorities have found by experience that many of the female seals go more than 20 miles to sea in search of food. The wish is to make the zone so wide that it will extend to the furthest point to which the females go for food.

THE LAW A FARCE.

Customs Officials Making Fortunes Out of Importation of Chinese.

New York, Oct. 18.—Colonel J. Thomas Scharf, Chinese inspector for the southern district of New York, has sent to the secretary of the treasury the report of his investigation into the alleged smuggling of Chinese into the United States. He says that in his opinion, based on four years of practical experience and close observation, the Chinese exclusion act is a farce, and has resulted in the corruption of the treasury department.

Colonel Scharf is an ex-officer of the Confederate army. He was appointed inspector in 1894 under the Cleveland administration, and immediately after his appointment he ordered charges against customs officers, whom he accused of assisting in the smuggling of Chinese. He has never succeeded in bringing about the dismissal of any of the men he accused. He says his failure in that direction was caused by the influence of the Canadian Pacific railway in high quarters.

Colonel Scharf talked on the subject last night. He said frauds existed, and he believed men in the employ and confidence of the government are making \$10,000 a year each from the illegal importation of Chinese. The corruption, he believes, from evidence in his possession, gives the continent, Chinese who have no right to come are admitted all along the Canadian border, at the port of New York, at Seattle and other points along the Pacific coast. He expects to see some revelations which will startle the country. The investigation committee's findings, already provided for, begin his work this winter.

Fardon for Cuban Exiles.

Madrid, Oct. 18.—At the cabinet council today, it was decided to pardon all Cuban exiles not included in previous amnesties, and to suspend the decree of September 21, relating to the legislative reforms in the Philippine islands. The decree ordered a vigorous suppression of political associations and the secret part of blood societies.

Alleged Brutality at Fort Sherman.

Chicago, Oct. 18.—The finding of an inquiry ordered by the department of war into the case of Captain Levering, of Fort Sherman, has been telegraphed to Washington. The inquiry was begun late yesterday by order of Secretary Alger. Six witnesses were called upon to give the facts as to the alleged brutality perpetrated by Levering on Private Chas. Hutchinson, secretary Alger's interest in the case was aroused by newspaper publications.

Life Was a Burden.

Spokane, Oct. 18.—"I have destroyed myself, for life has become a burden." Such was the message left by Archibald Marius Bakker, who early this morning ended his life. After writing a last letter to his wife, Bakker walked to a point in the outskirts of the city, where he made careful preparations for the end. He placed the muzzle of a double-barreled shotgun in his mouth, holding it there with both hands. The triggers he fastened a loop of cloth and fastened it about his right foot. The mangled remains were discovered by paper-carrier boys.

RUSSIA'S PROPOSITION

She Wants the Sealing Zone Extended.

ONLY BACHELOR SEALS KILLED

Government Fleet Patrols the Thirty Mile Limit—Japanese Delegates Have Not Yet Arrived.

Washington, Oct. 18.—Although the formal conference on the Behring sea question will not open until the arrival of the Japanese delegates, yet the presence here of two of the Russian delegates has permitted the authorities to inform themselves quite thoroughly as to the attitude of Russia on the protection of the seals.

It has brought out the fact that Russia takes an advanced position in preserving her herds, and has more stringent laws and regulations in that direction than any of the other countries interested. By the Russian system, a zone of 30 miles is established around the seal islands belonging to the empire. The seals found within these zones are regarded as exclusively Russian, and no one other than the inhabitants of the islands can take a seal within these limits. This gives the Russian citizens exclusive rights over the seals, not only on the islands, but extending 30 miles westward.

British or Japanese sealers cannot operate within the zone, except to buy skins of the Russian inhabitants of the islands. The Russians themselves are permitted to kill only bachelor seals, there being strict regulations against killing females and pups. The females are guarded with special care, as the killing of one female is regarded as equivalent to the killing of three seals, namely, the female herself, her pup on land and her unborn pup.

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YELLOW JACK RAGING.

Disease Is Spreading Rapidly in the South.

New Orleans, Oct. 14.—From the reports there is little hope in the yellow fever situation. The board of health is daily demonstrating that with a fair show it is possible for modern science to restrict and stamp out the disease. But the people who must suffer from a strict application of scientific methods rebel, the case being that the pathway of the board is beset with difficulty. If there were strict compliance with the health laws, if prompt report was made of cases, the fever germs would be quickly wiped out. But it begins to look now as if from 30 to 40 new cases and from four to six deaths would be daily reported until Jack Frost puts in an appearance. Today, as on nearly every day since the fever first appeared here, about 50 per cent of the fatalities were traced to neglect and a disposition to hide cases until it was too late to save life.

The official bulletin issued by the board of health tonight shows 27 new cases and four deaths.

Galveston was one of the first cities to raise the bars. Dr. Gutierrez on Saturday pronounced several cases of yellow fever as existing in Galveston, but not a line has reached Dr. Oliphant relative to these from the Texas health officials. The only information which Dr. Oliphant had received was from Surgeon-General Wyman.

About 50 Italians reached the city this morning, coming, it is said, from New York. Orders were given by the board of health to prevent their leaving themselves in the city limits, and the health officers were instructed to have them sent to one of the camps of detention.

At Biloxi there were 12 new cases; at Edwards, five, and two deaths.

Wants to Retire.

New York, Oct. 14.—A Washington dispatch to the Herald says: Associate Justice Field of the supreme court, has made formal application to President McKinley to be retired from the bench under the law allowing members of that court to be retired when 70 years of age. This statement is made on high authority, and also that Attorney General McKenna will be nominated to succeed him on December 16, when congress convenes, five days after the retirement of Justice Field takes effect.

Jaeger Tribesmen Surrender.

Sinala, Oct. 14.—A dispatch from Mohmand announces that the Jaeger tribesmen has surrendered their Martini breech-loading rifles, and have solemnly sworn to maintain peace and drive out Umroo Khan. The troops forming the Mohmand punitive expedition have destroyed 26 fortified villages and have killed many of the insurgent natives.

A German Spy Arrested.

Paris, Oct. 14.—The Gil Blas says a German was arrested yesterday at the camp at Chalons, and on being searched the authorities found upon him notes regarding the organization and mobilization of the French troops at the camp. The prisoner was also said to have endeavored to obtain specimens of the cartridges and shells of the latest design.

Choked to Death by a Manic.

Austin, Tex., Oct. 14.—J. B. West, who has been attending the law class of the state university, became violently insane yesterday. He was confined in the asylum in a cell with another inmate named Denge. At an early hour this morning he choked Denge to death, notwithstanding that four attendants were trying to tear him loose.

Elko, Nev., Oct. 14.—Mark Wilson, a brakeman on the Southern Pacific, fell from a freight train near Battle Mountain today, and was killed. The body was horribly mangled.

REPLY TO SALISBURY.

Sherman Suggests Separate Sealing Conference.

Washington, Oct. 14.—Secretary Sherman has written a reply to the note of Lord Salisbury, expressing Great Britain's inclination to take part in a Behring sea conference in which Russia and Japan will participate. The essential features of Mr. Sherman's reply have been sent by cable to the British government, and the reply in full is on its way to the British authorities. Lord Salisbury's note of declaration, it can be now stated, bears date of October 6, so that the response is made with promptness.

The answer states that the United States government views with astonishment the determination of Great Britain not to participate in a conference including Russia and Japan, and the statement is made that up to the 23d of last month, the United States authorities had fully expected that the conference would proceed with Russia as well as Great Britain present. It is pointed out that, aside from the written conference which Lord Salisbury has called attention to, there were verbal negotiations between Ambassador Hay and his lordship, in which a special reference was made to the participation of Russia and Japan. At one of these verbal exchanges, it is stated, Lord Salisbury said he would advise with the officials of the foreign office concerning the subjects discussed, which included the participation of Russia and Japan. Subsequently, on July 29, Ambassador Hay wrote to Lord Salisbury saying the president hoped to have Russia and Japan participate in the conference. In view of these circumstances, the United States had confidently expected that Great Britain would take part in the conference, and that Russia and Japan would be represented, with the approval of Great Britain.

Besides the foregoing reply, and in view of the difficulties which have arisen, the state department suggests a conference in accordance with the terms of Lord Salisbury's agreement, as he construes it, namely, between experts of Great Britain, the United States and Canada. This last feature is now under consideration by the British government, the substance having been transmitted by cable, but it is not expected that an answer will be made until Mr. Sherman's answer in detail reaches London.

In the meantime, preparations for the conference between the United States, Russia and Japan are proceeding.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST

From All the Cities and Towns of the Thriving State of Oregon.

A sealhunter just returned to Marshfield states that he killed 267 seals.

Bears are numerous in the foothills near Seio, to the delight of sportsmen.

Ten thousand bushels of onions were raised on 16 acres of land near Progress.

A Corvallis lady made 435 words out of the letters in the word "enthusiastic."

The body of a large whale was recently washed ashore at Nelly's Cove, in Lane county.

Steps are being taken in Pendleton looking toward the organization of a poultry association.

More than 24 tons of silverside salmon were received within two days at the Nehalem cannery.

A cranberry grower in North Slough, Coos county, states that his crop this year is about 150 bushels.

A number of Lion county farmers cultivated sufficient hog manure this year to supply their home use.

The Florence cannery has finished packing fish, having canned 35,000 cases and salted 100 barrels of salmon.

Mrs. James Patterson, while mentally deranged, set fire to her husband's residence near Elgin. The building and contents were destroyed.

Fred Wheeler was kicked in the stomach by a horse at the Peckler ranch near Pendleton. He walked to his house, but died two hours later, after much suffering.

Stockmen in Pine creek neighborhood, in Grant county, report some loss among their cattle by blacking. The disease does not exist to a great extent, however.

Of the \$18,928.03 taxes to be collected in Tillamook county this year, all has been collected except \$9,311.65, and this will probably be reduced to \$5,000 or less by the time the delinquent tax roll is published.

A brickmaker at Weston is now putting out about 40,000 brick per week. During the winter he expects to increase the capacity of his yard, so that 75,000 or 80,000 brick may be put out weekly. He looks for plenty of building and a good market next year.

The five-mile ditch for the mining company at Glendale, Douglas county, has been completed, and the company is now having constructed a monster reservoir into which this ditch will empty. There are now about 10 men at work at their mine getting things ready for a full run this winter.

The scalding-mill plant for the new flax fiber mill has arrived in Salem and is being placed in position. The machinery weighs about 8,000 pounds and was manufactured in Portland. The mill will employ 10 persons, who will work up about 100 tons of flax straw, and about 30 tons of fiber.

WASHINGTON.

Ritzville is to have an electric light plant.

The tax levy for Tacoma for 1897 has been fixed at 10 mills.

Lewis county must pay \$14,991 state tax this year, and \$15,568 school tax.

The Mealy-Lacy mill at Chehalis, after being idle for some months, has resumed operations.

A vegetable farmer near Dayton expects to make \$1,000 this year from the products of 22 acres.

The owners of the cannery at Whatcom, which was recently destroyed by fire, will rebuild the structure.

Ferry effort is being made to get enough threshers into the Palouse country to save all of the wheat crop.

Notice has been given in Colville that all of the business houses in that place must close Sundays henceforth.

The Port Townsend board of trade is endeavoring to devise ways and means for the completion of the Port Townsend Southern railroad.

The tax levy in Whitman county for current expenses this year will be about 16 mills and 3.6 mills additional to raise funds to pay warrant indebtedness.

The foreign exportation of lumber from Gray's harbor for the first eight months of 1897 has exceeded the entire foreign trade from the harbor for the year 1896 by 100 per cent. The exports from Gray's harbor for 1896 were: Eleven cargoes of lumber, aggregating 2,000,000 feet of this amount being shipped to Mexico, while Japan, the Fiji islands and the South Sea islands each received one cargo of 500,000 feet. The shipments from Gray's harbor for eight months of 1897 are 7,357,000 feet of lumber, valued at \$75,000. The trade with Mexico for eight months of 1897 was 4,472,000 feet, or more than twice as much as the entire trade for 1896. The trade with Honolulu for eight months is 1,880,000, while in 1896 they had no Honolulu trade.

The warehouse at Guy collapsed under the weight of 60,000 bushels of wheat. The building, 50x150 feet, is a total wreck. The foundation gave way and the wheat burst through the sides, letting the roof fall in. Only two men were injured, neither seriously. Only three men were in the warehouse at the time. Had the crash occurred 10 minutes earlier, seven men and four teams would have been caught and crushed to death. The report could be heard half a mile and created great excitement in the little village.

Port Townsend was visited recently by a committee of army officers known as the artillery board, appointed by Secretary of War Alger for the purpose of visiting the various sites of fortifications and coast defenses and reporting on their needs in the way of artillery.

During the past year 1,988,800 jute bags have been manufactured and disposed of at the Walla Walla penitentiary. The brickyard is in active operation, there having been an output of 925,000 brick, and 2,500 wool bags have also been sold to the sheep raisers of the state.

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