

Interesting Collection of Current Events

In Condensed Form From Both Continents.

A terrible railroad accident has occurred in Warsaw. While a passenger train was stationary at the terminus, a heavy freight train ran into it, owing to the error of a pointman. Eleven persons were killed and 22 others were seriously injured.

The receipts of the customs so far this fiscal year undoubtedly will fall considerably short of estimates made by the managers of the new tariff bill during its pendency in congress. At that time it was estimated that the customs would yield about \$180,000,000 during the first year. The indications now seem to be that the receipts from this source will not aggregate more than \$165,000,000.

A plate of armor, representing a lot of 500 tons for the turrets of the battleships Kearsarge and Kentucky, was tested at the Indian Head proving grounds Tuesday. For testing purposes, two eight-inch shells, one a Carpenter projectile and the other a Wheeler projectile, were fired at the plate, one at a high and the other at a low velocity. Neither penetrated nor cracked the plate, but both partially welded themselves into it.

Word comes of a wreck on the Santa Fee near Williams, Ariz., in which three men lost their lives and much valuable property was destroyed. After the first section of freight train No. 33 had pulled out of Williams the air that controls the brakes gave out and the train dashed down the steep grade with rapidly increasing velocity.

The hand brakes were unavailing to check the speed, and when a post about 10 miles west was reached the train left the track. Two engines were coupled to the train, which was a very heavy one. Engineers Newton and Watson and Fireman Berry were pinned under their respective engines and lost their lives, it is said, by being hurled to death.

The celebration in honor of Oregon's martyred missionary, Dr. Marcus Whitman, was begun in Walla Walla, Wash., Monday. Large crowds were in attendance. The opening address was made by Rev. L. H. Hallock. A monument is to be erected over the grave of Dr. Whitman.

Senator Lodge, of the committee on foreign relations, was at the state department early in the week. He would say nothing about the Cuban situation except that the committee had accomplished a great deal. The first business would be to confirm the annexation of Hawaii, which would be done by ratifying the treaty, or by legislation.

Asphyxiation caused the death of three men in the Grand Trunk railway tunnel at Port Haron, Mich. The train which was being hauled through the Canadian side, broke in two. The engine backed down to get the detached portion of the train, but for hours nothing was heard of the crew. Finally a searching party found the dead bodies, and also rescued two men, in an unconscious condition. Three members of the searching party were also overcome, but were rescued by another party. The tunnel gas arises from the hard coal used by the locomotives.

Colonel Donville, M. P., who went north in the interest of the Klondike-Yukon Stewart Company of London, says his company will build a wagon road through White pass, placing steel bridges over the canyons. Work is to commence immediately, and the road is to be ready by February. They will build steamers to run from Lake Bennett to White Horse, rapidly, and others which they will have a transitory. From the end of this tramway they will have steamers to run direct to Dawson. These steamers, he says, will be ready when the river opens. The wagon road through White pass is to be followed immediately by a railway.

One of the bills that will be pushed in the coming session of congress is that introduced by Representative Shafrath, of Colorado, which provides for changing the time when congress shall meet. It is a very sensible bill, and ought to be passed. The first session of congress after an election would be in the January following the election in November. This session could last as long as would be necessary. The congress elected in November could legislate before another election was on hand. The second session could meet in December previous to the coming congressional election, and the congress would expire before the election took place. As the matter now stands the first session of congress is given over to politics by representatives who wish to be re-elected. The short session is often a discredited and defeated congress and oftentimes enacts very bad legislation because it will not be called to account before the people. Possibly, Mr. Shafrath's bill will get a hearing, though such reforms as this move very slowly.

Emperor William opened the session of the German reichstag in person for the first time since 1894. The ceremony took place in White hall, in the royal castle. His majesty read the speech from the throne.

The steamer San Blas has arrived in San Francisco from Panama and way ports. She brings the news that the Salvador coffee crop for this season will be one-third larger than ever before, and will do much toward making up the loss occasioned by the revolution.

The London papers assert that China has practically agreed to cede England a strip of territory near Hong Kong, and all the surrounding islands in order to enable England to fortify them securely and to increase the garrison. Secretary Gage is quoted as saying that in the annual estimate he would send to congress he would name about \$30,000,000, and not above \$25,000,000, as the amount of the treasury debt for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898. The secretary said he expected the receipts from customs to increase steadily, and in the coming month he anticipated quite large importations.

DECISION BY GAGE.

Dutch Sugars Subject to a Discriminating Duty.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The secretary of the treasury today decided that the Netherlands government pays bounty on its raw and refined sugars exported from that country, and hence, under the new tariff act, all sugars from the Netherlands entering the United States are subject to a discriminating duty equal to the export bounty paid. The exact rate of this countervailing duty has not yet been definitely ascertained, but it is said that it will approximate 48 cents per 100 pounds on raw sugar and a slight advance on those figures on refined.

It is known that the secretary has also come to the conclusion that the Belgian government pays an export bounty on sugar, and a decision to this effect may be expected in a short time. The additional duties will apply from September 22 last.

The amount of raw sugar imported from the Netherlands during the last year was 85,000,000 pounds, of which about 25,000,000 was not subject to No. 16 Dutch standard. The sugar imported from Belgium during the last year aggregated over 123,000,000 pounds, of which nearly 121,000,000 was below No. 16.

THE CASE CLOSED.

Consular Agent Clark, at Lima, Peru, Forced to Resign.

Washington, Dec. 6.—Secretary Sherman has closed the case of Emil Clark, consular agent at Lima, Peru, which attracted much attention some months ago, by resigning for the resignation of Clark. April 22 last, Clark was ousted from the quarters used by him as the United States consular office, and above as a residence. It was stated that the consulate had been sacked, the house plundered, and Clark was in arrears to a considerable amount on rent for the building; that only the lower portion was used for consular purposes, although he had placed the United States out-of-arms on all the doors of the house, thus using the American emblem for ignominious purposes. The reports had given a regular decree against Clark, it was stated, directing him to vacate the premises for non-payment of rent, and in pursuance of this decree he was ejected.

The Peruvian minister, Senor Eguerra, put a different phase on the matter, by submitting a statement that Clark was in arrears to a considerable amount on rent for the building; that only the lower portion was used for consular purposes, although he had placed the United States out-of-arms on all the doors of the house, thus using the American emblem for ignominious purposes. The reports had given a regular decree against Clark, it was stated, directing him to vacate the premises for non-payment of rent, and in pursuance of this decree he was ejected.

Secretary Sherman waited until recently for Mr. Clark's statement, and as this was not furnished, after five months, the secretary directed our minister at Lima, Mr. Dudley, to call on Clark for his resignation, unless the proofs of the alleged sacking were in hand. Mr. Dudley has evidently not received the proofs, for he has notified the state department that he has called on Clark for his resignation.

GHOST MADE HIM CONFESS.

William Kern Implicates His Sweet Heart in the Killing of His Son.

Waterloo, Ia., Dec. 6.—William Kern was arrested for the murder of his father, Jerome Kern, who has made a confession in which he implicates his sweetheart, Deltiah Falko. Kern's father opposed his marriage to the woman, and Kern states that she plotted killing both his parents, and prevailed upon him to attempt the carrying out of her plot, that they might acquire possession of the family farm and live there together. Jerome was lured by the son into the woods, and there the girl shot him. The dead man's clothing was then saturated with oil and set on fire. Kern was scared into his confession by detectives, who haunted him in the guise of a ghost of his father. He also confessed that the murder of his mother was to have been accomplished at a later date.

CHARCOAL-BURNER'S CRIME.

Milford, Del., Dec. 6.—Salvage Biderback, a charcoal-burner, attempted to kill his family last night. He said to his wife: "I have just learned how to use the kind of a sword the Cubans use. Now, I want all of you to stand up."

The mother and four children arose and Biderback tied their hands with a rope, which he fastened to the rafters. Obtaining a corn-knife from an adjoining room, he commenced cutting his wife's throat, and she screamed loudly. Before he could complete his work, his son came in. Biderback seized a musket and disappeared. The villagers threaten to lynch him. The condition of Mrs. Biderback and the children is serious.

AN ECCENTRIC CLERGYMAN.

Toronto, Dec. 6.—Rev. William Byles, rector of the Anglican church at Toronto, was arraigned in the police court on a charge of having "shoplifted" two dozen lead pencils, four books, a hairbrush and a quantity of stationery from stores. The clergyman wore a long cloak and the police allege that he was caught secreting articles which he had not bought under this garment. Mr. Bates is a graduate from Cambridge and one of the most scholarly men in the church. His friends state that he has been somewhat eccentric for some years, and if guilty he committed the act in a fit of mental aberration.

PATROONING HOME INDUSTRY.

Washington, Dec. 6.—A policy of using, wherever possible, American-made goods in the supply of the postal service is announced in a letter addressed today by First Assistant Postmaster-General Heath to M. Lewis, superintendent of the division of postoffice supplies.

LOST IN A MONTANA BLIZZARD.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 6.—The body of Herbert W. Sherman, of Butte, was found in the snow just below his cabin over the range in Madison county today. He was interested in mining claims, and left November 19 to go to them. Nothing being heard of him, search was instituted and he was found near his cabin. He evidently got lost in a blinding snow storm, and, becoming exhausted, laid down and froze.

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GENERAL PANDO SHOT

Spaniards Discredit It in the Absence of Proofs.

SPANISH DEFEAT AT MATANZAS

Santa Clara Has Reported Some of Pando's Last Fight—Smallpox in San Domingo.

New York, Dec. 6.—A Herald dispatch from Havana says: A report that General Pando, who was placed in charge of military operations in Cuba by General Blanco, has been killed in an engagement with insurgents in Santa Clara province, has just reached Havana. This has caused the utmost excitement in palace and social circles, and every effort is being made to get news from General Pando's force to verify the startling news.

No details of the killing of the commander have been received, but the statement is that he was shot in a battle with insurgents while on the march from Sagua la Grande to the southern coast of Santa Clara, where he was to take a ship for Matanzas.

Officers at the palace declare that the story must be thoroughly confirmed before they will believe it. General Pando's plan was to march right through the heart of the territory where General Gomez's forces are said to have control. Simultaneously with the report of Pando's death comes news of a battle near Matanzas in which the Spanish forces were driven from the field. This engagement was bitterly fought, and it is asserted that the losses of the Spaniards were very heavy.

The same report says the Cubans will not allow any more grinding, and also that the Spanish towns do not favor grinding, because they hold the views of cultivation and grow tobacco with cheap labor, which they would lose if the reconcentrados return to work on the estates.

A letter received by a local paper from a correspondent in the East gives news of big fighting last week near Bayamo between the rebel Chabí Rabi and General Linares. Chief Rabi had only 500 men when General Linares had two columns. No details of the fight are at hand, but the Spanish force is said to have been driven, one column being nearly destroyed.

A force of 1,000 Spaniards, with artillery, have forced the rebels into the hills of Pinar del Rio. They must remain there or come out and fight, a thing the Spanish commanders think are not likely to do. Small bands are still moving about with great caution.

Reports of the condition and movements of rebels in the east are most conflicting. It is said that Gomez is coming west with 40,000 men, but it is also said that Gomez is still at the camp where he has been for the last 10 months, and is being attended by Dr. Candea, staff surgeon.

SMALLPOX IN SAN DOMINGO.

Havana, Dec. 6.—The deplorable condition of the country grows more and more apparent. Refugees and reconcentrados are growing more and more miserable. According to reports from San Domingo smallpox is making terrible ravages among the reconcentrados. Since April last more than 4,000 have died in the city alone, to say nothing of the suburban towns, which are likewise affected.

The local authorities take no steps whatever to check the mortality. The streets of the city are thronged with famished wretches, who succumb to disease under perhaps some lonely porch, and sometimes fall dead in the gutter, where they remain.

DUE TO THE KLONDIKE RUSH.

Big War in Passenger Rates to Arctic Seas.

Milwaukee, Dec. 2.—The war in passenger rates between Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul is likely to continue, and railroad men look for the liveliest kind of cutting in rates further west, owing to the big rush to the Klondike. A well-known railroad man said today that since the rate dropped to \$7, reductions in fares will likely result as far west as Portland. The nominal rate is \$49.70 second-class on the St. Paul road, and \$59.70 first-class. With \$7 from Chicago to St. Paul as a basis, the fare will probably be changed to \$47 second class and \$57 first-class. He added that this was merely a preliminary for the establishment of an entirely new schedule of rates to the West January 1, which will be much lower. All the roads are preparing to make special rates to the points nearest the Klondike region, and each road is after all there is in it.

OUTLAW WERE FRUSTRATED.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 6.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from San Antonio, Tex., says: "Adjutants were received here this morning of an attempt to hold up and rob a passenger train on the Mexican National railroad near Monterey, Mexico, by nine masked and well-armed Mexicans. The passengers made resistance, and the outlaws were unsuccessful. They are being pursued by soldiers, and if captured will be shot."

KILLED HER BABIES.

Philadelphia, Dec. 6.—Anna Niggle, the young wife of S. Niggle, a pig-breeder, tonight killed her two babies, one aged 2 years and the other aged 6 months, by smothering them with illuminating gas. The woman attempted to commit suicide in the same manner, and the returning husband found his children dead and his wife in an unconscious condition. She may recover.

THE MEXICAN MURDERERS.

Bakersfield, Cal., Dec. 6.—Because Emilio Ramos refused to buy a drink for Yasbel Molina, an ex-convict, today, the latter walked outside the saloon, and when Ramos appeared, she shot him dead and fled. A large posse has been searching for the murderers. The Mexican population of this city is greatly excited, and many Mexicans are joining in the search for Molina.

TO REDUCE THE WHISKY OUTPUT.

Lexington, Dec. 5.—At a meeting of the Kentucky Distillers' Association called to consider the question of restriction of production for a term of three years, a plan was mapped out in order to keep down the output to 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 gallons yearly. In some years the production has been over 40,000,000 gallons.

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A number of commissioners have been sent out by Spanish officers to confer with the insurgents, but have not returned. It is feared they have been killed.

MEDAL OF HONOR.

Brave Union Soldier Receives One by Recommendation of Former foes.

Washington, Dec. 5.—"The medal of war has been granted a secretary to a Federal soldier on the battlefield of a Confederate, said Charles I. Evans, of Texas, last night, "and it is probably the first instance on record of this kind."

"The federal soldier who received the medal was Thomas I. Higgins, now of Hannibal, Mo. During the war he was court-martialed for deserting from the Ninety-ninth Illinois regiment, and was holding that position at the siege of Vicksburg. In the assault on May 22, 1863, the Ninety-ninth Illinois was ordered to charge and not to look back. I was a member of the Second Texas regiment, and we confronted the charging Illinois. We repulsed the Illinois regiment, a short distance from the breastworks, and sent it back in confusion."

"Higgins, however, was literally obeying the orders. He never looked back. He never noticed the retreat of his regiment, but came bounding forward with his colors flying as prettily as a soldier ever saw. When within 40 yards of our works word was passed along the line not to shoot the brave soldier, and all firing ceased."

"When Higgins saw his predicament he started to retreat with his colors, but he was told to stand firm or we would shoot him. Several men ran out and brought him within the breastworks. We kept him several days, during which time we learned to like and admire him. He was then paroled."

"I was one of the men who witnessed the heroic deed, and made an affidavit to that effect. Several of my companions who remembered Higgins and his charge also made affidavits. On these the secretary of war granted him a medal. Higgins could have been vouched for by members of his regiment, but the novelty of recommendation by his former foes led to the adoption of the opposite course."

RAN INTO A CANNERY.

The Steamer Columbia Caught in a Fog at Astoria.

Astoria, Or., Dec. 3.—In the fog early this morning the big O. R. & N. steamer Columbia ran into the union fishermen's cannery, doing considerable damage. The Columbia arrived in from San Francisco about 4 o'clock. She was overtaken by a dense fog when nearing the city, and was obliged to come to anchor. The anchor, however, unbeknown to the officers, and when the breakage was discovered the steamer was started slowly ahead, the officers believing the steamer was pointed up stream. She crashed into the union fishermen's cannery, demolishing 20 feet of the warehouse and dumping between 700 and 1,000 cases of salmon into the river, entailing a loss upon the cannery of about \$5,000 on goods and about \$300 on the building. The steamer was not damaged at all. If she had been under full speed she would have gone through the entire cannery like a knife through a piece of cheese.

AN EXCITING DAY.

Prague, Bohemia, Dec. 6.—This afternoon a mob attacked the German schools. The mob fired four volleys. One report says 25 persons were killed and scores were wounded. The city is in a panic and many are fleeing. Nearly 3,000 reinforcements left Vienna for this city tonight.

CHARLES YERKES' SCHEME.

Proposes to Turn the Chicago River into a Boulevard.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Twenty miles of docks on the lake front and the transportation of the city should be directed in a systematic way by the leaders of secret societies. Some Jews seized their premises by placing crucifixes between lighted candles in their shop windows.

The street-car magnate appeared before the city council today and vigorously opposed the proposed deepening of the river and the lowering of the tunnel. He urged that the city should grant the land front it owns between Randolph street and Park row to a corporation with \$50,000,000 cash to build 20 docks, each a mile long, which at the end of 50 years will revert to the city at the bare cost of construction.

"Build them of stone," said he, "and Chicago will have the finest docks in the world, not excepting those at Liverpool."

Mr. Yerkes frankly declared it to be his opinion that money spent to beautify the lake front is merely thrown away. If his lake front harbor plan was carried out, he suggested that the river be covered with culverts and made into a boulevard, extending from the mouth to the ends of the North and South branches, making, the speaker said, the most magnificent boulevard in the world.

BURNED TO DEATH.

The Sad Fate of a Child Near North Yakima.

North Yakima, Wash., Dec. 6.—The home of State Senator Lesh, a few miles from this city, was totally destroyed by fire last night. Mr. Lesh's 1 1/2-year-old child was burned to death. The child's nurse had a very narrow escape. The fire originated in an air-tight stove in the nursery. Mr. Lesh's wife died 18 months ago in giving birth to twin girls, one of whom died three months ago, the other being the victim of last night's fire. The remains of the little one were recovered today, and the funeral will be held Saturday.

Life-Savers Drowned.

Margate, England, Dec. 6.—A volunteer lifeboat casted this morning off Naylor rock. Of 14 men comprising her crew, 10 were drowned. When the accident occurred, the lifeboat was on her way to the rescue of the crew of the Persian Empire. Later in the day for London. The Carlisle City, which was steam, the Persian Empire had been in collision, proceeded on her voyage.

Another Fire at Sea.

London, Dec. 6.—Fire on the coast broke out over the coasts of England last night, and the scene recorded during the early part of the week are recurring. Heavy hail, snow and rain storms accompanied the gales. The Dover and Calais channel service is temporarily suspended. Several vessels are reported to have been wrecked on Goodwin sands. A number of vessels were wrecked off the Norfolk coast, and the fury of the storm on the Knetish seaboard was unexampled. Heavy snows have fallen in several parts of France.

UNDER MARTIAL LAW

German Schools in Prague Attacked by Rioters.

TWENTY-FIVE PERSONS KILLED

Prague, Bohemia, Dec. 6.—A proclamation establishing martial law was made in all parts of the city and suburbs today. Detachments of soldiers, headed by an officer and a police commissioner, marched from point to point. After taton on the drums the commissioner read aloud the imperial decree ordering a military government.

By evening order had been restored, which has not been broken since. Throughout the early morning anarchy reigned. The window smashing and looting was varied with constant fights between the rioters and troops and police. The shops of the principal German jewellers were plundered. The rioters drank their fill in German wine cellars and then let the contents of the caskets run out.

Incendiary fires were started in many directions, and the fire brigade was kept galloping from one end of the city to the other for hours. When the firemen arrived at the scene of a fire, the mob would drive them back.

In some cases the rioters wrecked the railroad engines. During the day special trains were employed carrying reinforcements to the scene. There are now 10,000 soldiers here, fully equipped for a long campaign.

Official returns for the 24 hours preceding show that four persons were killed and 160 dangerously wounded. Three hundred and fifty received lesser injuries. Twenty shops were burned out. The authorities are not confident of the continuance of order, the appetite of the mob having been whetted by successful plundering which has been directed in a systematic way by the leaders of secret societies. Some Jews seized their premises by placing crucifixes between lighted candles in their shop windows.

DEBATE ON ANNEXATION.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 3.—International interest is felt in the Yale-Harvard debate which will take place Monday. The speaker is, "Resolved, that Hawaii should be annexed to the United States." Many Hawaiians and Japanese will be present, including the attaches of the two legations at Washington.

The selection of the affirmative side by Harvard is regarded as a neat bit of diplomacy. The president of the Yale Club debating society is Hiram Biggam, jr., of Hawaii, and he was naturally anxious to have Yale allowed the annexation argument. Harvard, however, wanted that side herself, and forced Yale to act on the defensive.

FOOD FOR STARVING CUBANS.

New York, Dec. 3.—President McKinley is considering the most method of placing before the charitable citizens of the United States an appeal for food to relieve destitution in Cuba. According to the Washington correspondent of the World the Spanish minister has informally conveyed the information to this government that any contributions which will be made will be welcomed. In view of this it is expected that within a few days Consul-General Lee will be authorized to take charge of the supplies donated by citizens of the United States. The administration hopes a general relief movement will be started in this country. In such an event steps will be taken to have the supplies admitted without the payment of duty.

FILLED BY CUBANS.

Havana, Dec. 2.—The insurgent generals, Rabi and Salvador Riez, pillaged the village of Guisa, about 15 miles from Bayamo. Yesterday they destroyed several blockhouses, killing the military commander and one lieutenant. The garrison, after having lost 50 soldiers, killed and wounded, surrendered. The insurgents plundered the stores, securing rich booty, two months' supplies, a good quantity of ammunition and some rifles. The Spanish have sent reinforcements to retake the town.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF CUESTA.

London, Dec. 2.—A dispatch to the Times from Montevideo says that an attempt was made there yesterday to stab Senor Jose Cuesta, president of the inst of Uruguay. It was unsuccessful, the bystanders warding off the would-be assassin. The man was formerly a member of the Montevideo police force. News of the outrage spread rapidly and caused great excitement, but the city is under martial law, and there has been no outbreak.

OREGON STATE NEWS.

Brief Review of the Week Throughout the State.

Salem has at last a chamber of commerce organized and in working order. The government improvement work at Hanlon has stopped, the appropriation having been fully expended. An old-fashioned freight train arrived in Lakeview from the south last week. It consisted of 10 wagons and 32 horses.

The entrance to Coos bay harbor is marked by a new whistling buoy—placed there by the lighthouse tender Manzanita last week. During the recent heavy storms the buoy has been drifting south until at least half the crop will be lost.

The Baker-Canyon Telephone Company now has the long-distance line between Baker City and the Grant county town in working order. Lyons' broomhandle factory, in Coos county, shipped 40,000 of its best product to San Francisco last week. A portion of the consignment will be forwarded to Australia.

Captain Berry, the aged lighthouse keeper at Port Angeles, died in the Sisters' hospital at Port Townsend Sunday. He has been keeper of the light at Angeles for the past 20 years. The farmers who supply the Coquille creamery received 20 1/2 cents a pound for butter fat, delivered during October. Two thousand dollars was distributed among those who supplied the creamery.

A Polk county farmer has been experimenting with tobacco culture, and has been successful that cigars made with tobacco grown by him are said to be as good as the average cigar smoked in Oregon. It is said that the next grand jury in Curry county will not meet until September next. If this is the case, it is apt to be a long time before the Van Felts will have to answer the charge of killing A. Coolidge.

A drove of about 125 nice 1 1/2 year young ones, which had been bought in Lake county, were secured at the low average price of \$15 per head. They will be taken to Huntington and then shipped to the Eastern market. Joe Siver, who is making a tour of the United States from New York and return on a bicycle, was fined \$10 in Harzburg for riding on the sidewalk. He was allowed to go on condition of his leaving the city at once.

The checks for the second dividend declared by the controller of the currency in favor of the creditors of The Dallas National bank have been received by Receiver Wilson, and are ready for delivery to the owners. The Albany iron works is a very busy place these days. The company shipped out 10 tons of machinery last Friday, including a quartz mill manufactured for Southern Oregon mines, and machinery for the state pumping station at Salem.

One hundred and forty-four bales of hops, aggregating over 27,000 pounds, belonging to five growers in the vicinity of Laurel, were sold Monday for 13 cents per pound. Tuesday 41 bales, aggregating over 8,500 pounds, were sold to J. M. Russell & Co., for 11 1/2 cents per pound. The grain acreage in Jackson county for the coming year will in all likelihood surpass in extent any year in the history of Rogue river valley, and if conditions prove favorable, the greatest number of bushels of grain in the history of the county will be harvested in 1898. This, says the Tidings, is the opinion of well-informed persons.

During the last few months a Crook county firm has purchased 1,000 head of sheep, and are now handling about 22,000 head. They are all in their winter range, and each flock is within convenient distance of big stacks of hay, more than sufficient to carry them through the harshest winter. The sheep are all reported to be in fine condition and thriving.

Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Albert celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Salem Monday. They were married at Wheeling, W. Va., in 1837. Mr. Albert is 82 years old, and Mrs. Albert 81. A reception was held at their home and a large number of friends paid respects to the venerable couple. The guests included seven children, besides grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The controversy between two quarrelsome members of the Vernonia church was submitted to a jury of members of church members. One of the members was expelled. The other was censured and reduced from full membership to six months probation. It was ruled by the committee that no one in the Nehalem valley is entitled to church membership unless he is imbued with love and righteousness.

The Eastern Oregon Sheep Association at Baker City offers a reward of \$1,000 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons found guilty of willfully injuring the sheep or property of any member of the association. And a further reward of \$250 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons guilty of robbing sheep camps the property of the members of the association.

Messrs. Rice, Flint & Co. have struck a vein in their Black Republic tunnel, in Michael Creek mining district in Southern Oregon, showing very promising ore containing zinc and copper. No assays from the low level has been made. The third tunnel is 210 feet, and will be pushed some 50 feet further to crosscut this and another parallel vein further in. Promising ledges are being uncovered in the district. A number of placers are running light.

The immediate necessity of a quarantine station at the mouth of the Klamath river will be the subject of a joint memorial soon to be addressed to congress by the Portland and Astoria Chambers of Commerce. The matter was taken up by the Portland chamber with Representatives Tongue and Ellis before they left for Washington, and both promised to use every effort to secure an appropriation for this purpose. With the increased traffic of the port, a station has become indispensable, and no means will be neglected to place this fact clearly and forcibly before congress.

LETTER-CARRIERS PAY FOR OVERTIME.

New York, Dec. 3.—A dispatch from Washington says: American Post, a letter-carrier of Salt Lake City, recently sued the government under the eight-hour law for overtime, and a decision was rendered in favor of Post. The government appealed to the United States supreme court. The highest court has affirmed the finding. The suit of Post and the decision of the supreme court opens the way for the bringing of suits to collect claims of a similar character aggregating a very large sum.

ARMOR-PLANT BOARD

Files Its Special Report With Secretary Long.

WILL COST ABOUT FOUR MILLIONS

Expensive Undertaking for the Government—Report Accompanied by Plans for a Plant.

Washington, Dec. 2.—The board appointed by authority of congress to ascertain the cost of an armor-plant made its report through Commodore Howard to Secretary Long today. The report makes a voluminous document, treating every detail of the process of armor making, and the cost of the plant, and the product. It is also accompanied by elaborate plans for a plant, which have been made by Expert Frita. The cost of a plant suitable for making naval armor at the rate of about 6,000 tons per annum, which is fully equal to the capacity of both the existing private plants, is set down at about \$3,750,000. No recommendation is made as to the location of the plant, but the board has accumulated much information as to the merits of many eligible locations, which may be had by congress.

Secretary Long will now proceed immediately to take the next step necessary to carry out the wishes of congress, namely, invite proposals by advertisement for building such a plant as that designated for the use of the government. It was the intention of the secretary to withhold the report from congress until he should be able to include this information in it, but he has decided to send in the report as soon as congress assembles and, meanwhile, put out the advertisements and notify congress of the result later. It is expected that congress will be advised also