

The Santiam News

ECHO OREGON

NEWS OF THE WEEK

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

An explosion occurred at the Monongahela City Coal Mine near Monongahela City, Pa. Two men are known to have been killed. Five were injured, and from 15 to 25 are said to be entombed in the mine.

An explosion took place at San Rafael, Cal., at the United States smelting powder works, which resulted in the death of two men, Charles A. Jenkins and Charles Nelson, who were employed in the material room. Two buildings were completely destroyed, and the roofs torn off the other buildings close by and windows broken for miles around.

A Havana dispatch alleges that Captain-General Blanco and General Maturrol have notified the Madrid government that they will resign their offices if the Spanish torpedo fleet is to be detained at the Canaries in obedience to the demand of President McKinley. Captain-Estate, of the Vizcaya, is also alleged to have sent a similar message to the Spanish admiralty.

Chaplain Chidwick of the Maine has completed his mortuary report, which shows that 257 men and two officers perished in the catastrophe. Six succumbed to their injuries while lying in San Ambrosio hospital; one died on the Spanish transport; 171 bodies have been recovered from the wreck, of which 61 have been identified; 161 have been buried in Colon cemetery and 11 at Key West. This is the official report, made public after careful correction.

Rev. Orson D. Taylor, of The Dalles, Ore., who has been in jail in Saginaw, Mich., for several months, and against whom proceedings for securing money under false pretenses have been dragging along in the circuit court for a year or more, has at last been sentenced to six years in the Jackson state prison. The complainant alleged that Taylor induced him to buy \$5,000 worth of shares in the Interstate Investment Company, of The Dalles, Ore., a concern which did not exist.

Roland Worthington, the veteran journalist, died at his home in Boston. Representative King, of Utah, introduced Tuesday a joint resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba.

The submarine boat Holland has made another trip in New York. At a depth of 15 feet under water she showed good speed, and was handled with ease.

A dispatch to the Berlin Vossische Zeitung from Dars's Salam, 25 miles south of Zanzibar, East Africa, says that last month a party of German fortresses was attacked, and three Germans and many of the native carriers were massacred.

While returning home from church in Wellsville, O., Oliver Reed asked Sarah Walton to marry him, and upon her refusal he shot her through the heart. He then blew his brains out in a short time. Papers found on his body show the deed was premeditated.

The house committee on naval affairs has completed the naval appropriation bill. The bill is calculated as carrying between \$36,000,000 and \$37,000,000, of which about \$3,000,000 will be expended on this year's work on the three battleships, six torpedo boats and six torpedo-boat destroyers.

Replies to a resolution of inquiry, the attorney-general sent to the senate Tuesday a statement that the records of his department do not show that any writs of injunction or restraining orders have been issued by United States courts against labor organizations or their members engaged in strikes in 1897 and 1898.

A dispatch to the New York World from Madrid says: Instructions have been given since Friday night to the press censor to stop all foreign and domestic press telegrams—and even telephone messages—containing news unpalatable to the government. Unauthorized details of naval and military preparations of the movements of warships, particularly of the flying squadron, of the purchase of vessels of war and stores abroad are especially interdicted.

The British Columbia, Seattle & Pacific Coast Railroad Company has made application to the city council of Seattle for a franchise 30 feet wide over Railroad Avenue. It was stated to the council that it was the purpose of the company to construct a railroad from Portland, Ore., to Seattle, and thence to the British Columbia boundary. The company was willing that a condition be imposed in the franchise that the work of construction should begin in 30 days, and the line be finished within 18 months. The two incorporators of the company are Henry J. Brokaw and Austin J. Fletcher, well-known financiers of New York. The road will cost between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000.

After being opened to the public for more than five years for recreation purposes, Castle Island, in Boston harbor, has been closed. Orders from Washington to this effect have been expected ever since the work of handling explosives was begun at Fort Independence on the island some three weeks ago. More than a score of men have been at work painting torpedo shells and getting ready the wiring and other necessary preliminaries to laying them in position in the harbor if necessary.

A dispatch to the New York Herald from Valparaiso says: Chile is confronted by another ministerial crisis. Members of the cabinet have been dismissed, and to Senor Enoljo Altimarina has been intrusted the work of forming a new cabinet. The confidence of all political parties is now sought by the government in view of the seriousness of internal and foreign affairs. In private circles one bears nothing but war talk. Generally it is believed that a conflict is unavoidable, but there is good reason to believe that Chile will not declare war. Argentina has too much to lose to do so.

RELIEF AND MUSKETS.

Senator Thurston Urges Immediate Intervention in Cuba.

Washington, March 26.—A scene dramatic in the intensity of its interest was presented in the senate today during the delivery by Thurston of Nebraska, of a speech on the Cuban subject. Not since the inauguration of President McKinley have so many people been on the senate side of the capital as were there today. The galleries were packed with people, many of whom had arrived at the capital as early as 9:30, in order to obtain seats. A jar of roses had been placed on Thurston's desk, but he spoke from that of Hawley, in the center part of the chamber. His first sentence, in which he spoke of the command of silent lips—a delicate and touching reference to the loss of his wife on his memorable trip to Cuba—commanded instant attention. A hush fell over the great audience, which hung with almost breathless attention and interest upon every word. Some surmised that Thurston's speech, in the general welfare of affairs in Cuba, as shown by the reports by United States consuls, they being reserved for a subsequent message to congress.

The prevailing impression among the Republican leaders of the house is that the president will intervene in Cuba on humane grounds, but it is positively stated by one of them, who is close to the president, that the intervention will not come until after the report of the board of inquiry into the Maine disaster goes to congress.

"The two questions will be treated separately," said he, "and the message relative to Cuba will be sent to congress soon after the report of life by the railroad wreck near Columbus, Ind., not only lacks confirmation, but it is positively denied."

Without knowing the motive which animated Thurston and inspired him to his best efforts, his auditors instinctively realized and sympathized with his emotion. The speech was very generally regarded as a masterly one, and even those who could not agree with his conclusions conceded the power of his oration. As he neared the end of the speech, his voice, which had been clear and ringing, noticeably broke. He was almost overcome with emotion, but rallied with an effort, and closed in a manner that thrilled his auditors.

Staid and dignified senators turned away and wept, and in the galleries tears welled to hundreds of eyes. It was a remarkable scene, and the stillness until the last word had been pronounced was as of death itself. As Thurston sank into his seat and buried his face in his hands, the galleries were swept by such a tumult of applause as has not in a long time been heard in the senate chamber.

As a brother might have done, Allen, Thurston's colleague, walked to him and, placing his arm over his shoulders, quietly led him from the chamber. The act was one of the spontaneous and touching amenities amid the turbulence and discord of political life.

Thurston said he had gone to Cuba firmly believing that the condition of affairs in the island had been greatly exaggerated. He had concluded, however, that an overstatement of the horrors of the situation was impossible. He was prepared not only to endorse every word of the careful, concise speech of the senator from Vermont (Proctor), but was even convinced that he had understated the facts. In detailing the incidents and reciting the facts that came under his observation, Thurston said he had no desire to deal in horrors.

Of the 225,000 soldiers Spain sent to Cuba, less than 60,000 are now available for duty. The remainder are dead, sick or returned to Spain incapacitated.

"I do not believe," said he, "that the entire Spanish army of Cuba could stand one engagement in the open field against 20,000 well-disciplined American soldiers. The Spanish soldiers of all people on earth would most gladly welcome any result that would enable them to return to their homes."

The time for action has come. No greater reason for it can exist tomorrow than exists today. Every hour's delay only adds another chapter to the awful story of misery and death. Only one power can intervene—the United States of America.

"We cannot refuse to accept this responsibility, which the God of the universe has placed upon us as the one great power in the New World. What shall our action be?"

Two Battle Ships Launched.

Newport News, Va., March 26.—The first great battle-ship launched from a private yard in the South Korea, the waves in James river at 10:02 o'clock today at the plant of the Newport News Ship Building and Drydock Company, in the presence of 18,000 people.

At 11:35 the second ship, an exact counterpart of the first one, except in name, followed. They were christened respectively the Kearsarge and Kentucky, proud and historic names that have just representatives in the splendor of fighting machines put afloat today.

Both launchings were successful in every particular.

SAND ISLAND TRAPS.

Governor Rogers Complains to Secretary Eliot.

Washington, March 28.—The governor of Washington has wired the secretary of the interior to stop certain persons who have begun driving piles on the south side of Sand Island, just inside the mouth of the Columbia, saying that fish traps at that place would be a dangerous obstruction to navigation, and that many hundred fishermen would be placed in danger. He has been informed that the navigable waters of the Columbia are under the jurisdiction of the war department, and Sand Island, being a military reserve, is also under the same jurisdiction. The whole matter has been referred to the war department, which will not allow anything done to obstruct navigation.

Queenstown, March 26.—The Spanish torpedo-boat destroyers Orando and Andaluz arrived here from Kingston today. They encountered heavy weather in the Irish sea. They will coal here and then proceed to Ferrol, Spain.

The perspiration from human beings, if injected into rabbits or dogs, causes death.

Near the End.

London, March 25.—Sir Thomas Smith, surgeon extraordinary to the queen, who was called in consultation on the case of Mr. Gladstone, said to an interviewer today that after the examination Mr. Gladstone begged him not to say a word about his condition, unless the queen asked for information on the subject. The surgeon confirmed the report that Mr. Gladstone is suffering intense pain and is very ill.

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ON HUMANE GROUNDS.

President Will Intervene to Stop the Cuban War.

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There has been no change in the plan of sending the Maine report to congress early next week, accompanied by a message from the president. It is definitely settled, however, that the message and papers accompanying it will relate exclusively to the Maine disaster. It will not take in the fear condition of affairs in Cuba, as shown by the reports by United States consuls, they being reserved for a subsequent message to congress.

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