

The Santiam News.

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By D. C. Humphrey.

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EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week. Presented in Condensed Form. Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Convicts at the Oregon penitentiary have struck for better food.

A strike on the Santa Fe railroad has been inaugurated and 8,000 men are out.

An Ohio man is on his way to San Francisco with a wheelbarrow, paying an election bet.

The divers who have been searching for the body of Admiral Makarov have abandoned their efforts.

Baron Hayashi, Japanese minister at London, says the mikado's troops will push on to Mukden and probably to Harbin.

Russians will continue to retire, as they say they will not offer any serious resistance until the fighting forces get into Manchuria.

The central military administration has already dispatched all guns and artillery stores necessary for the rearmament of the Russian army in the Far East.

In memory of the first American government west of the Rocky mountains, many people visited Champoux May 2, where 61 years before the Oregon provisional government was established. Speaking and other exercises were held. A larger crowd was present than at any time since the annual celebrations have been held.

Russia has issued orders forming a third army corps.

The William C. Whitney mansion in New York has been sold for \$2,500,000.

In the battle on the Yalu the Japanese had 16,000 men and the Russians 30,000.

The trouble between the Santa Fe road and its machinists is still far from settled.

Plans for the government building at the 1905 fair are likely to be delayed slightly.

The lumber mills of Washington and Oregon will demand a rate to the Missouri river.

Superintendent Potter, of the Chemawa Indian school, denies the charges made against him.

Prince Outomsky of Russia who is at the St. Louis fair says the world does not understand his country.

Russians believe that while the Japanese are victorious for the present, Kourouatkin will trap them.

A last train in Missouri was wrecked by running into an open switch. Eight persons were killed and 16 wounded.

Chile and Peru are said to be on the verge of war.

Massachusetts has appropriated \$15,000 for the 1905 fair.

A Japanese squadron has been sighted near Vladivostok.

It seems probable that the gold standard will be adopted by Panama.

The canal commission has about decided to have the waterway dug by contract.

Ex-President Kruger, of the Transvaal, is very weak and constant care is necessary.

Ambassador Cassini says of Russia had expected war she would never have evacuated China.

Serious charges have been filed against Superintendent Potter, of the Chemawa Indian school.

The monitor Wyoming and torpedo boat destroyers Preble and Paul Jones will call at Portland on their way north.

NERVE OF JAPS.

Charge Through Water Waist Deep in Face of Heavy Fire.

Tokio, May 4.—The war office has received a dispatch from General Kuraki, commanding the Japanese advance, which tells of a complete Japanese victory in the first general engagement on land of the war.

The Russian army of 30,000, which General Kuraki has boasted declared would sweep the Japanese into the sea, is completely routed and was compelled to retreat in confusion on Feng Huan Cheng.

The Russian losses are very heavy, while those of the Japanese are declared to have been much smaller than might have been expected, considering that they had to wade the Yalu river in the face of a withering fire from the Russians, who were very strongly entrenched.

The Russian artillery had been silenced by the Japanese guns, and they carried the Russian trenches in a gallant bayonet charge in which the men died with the officers to be the first to reach the interior of the Russian position.

The unquenchable valor which resulted in the uninterrupted series of victories during the war with China was again very much in evidence.

Nothing could stop the troops, who, tired with their long stay in the trenches near Wiju, were anxious to show that the army was fully able to bring honor to the mikado's colors as has been the navy.

The scenes in Tokio this morning are well nigh indescribable. The streets have been filled all night with anxious people waiting to hear the latest news from the front.

Unfortunately, beyond the fact that a great Japanese victory has been won, there is little else to be learned. If the war office has received a complete report, it is withheld for strategic reasons.

BULGARIA MAY HAVE TO FIGHT.

The Turkish Movements Are Regarded as Very Hostile.

Sofia, May 4.—Despite the fact that the Turkish-Bulgarian agreement has been drafted into a treaty and subscribed to by both powers, there is a growing feeling here that Bulgaria has been deceived by the sultan and his advisers and that instead of danger having been averted for good and all, the conflict has simply been postponed for a time.

As an indication that this feeling is shared by the higher Bulgarian officials the following facts may be cited:

In the past it has been customary to grant furloughs of absence to officers of the army during the spring and early summer months and a large number of applications are now pending.

However, within a short time, several general orders have been issued by the minister of war, the effect of which has been to do away with all leave for the present, while all officers have been ordered to bring their commands up to the highest degree of efficiency.

This is held by well informed Bulgarians to mean that Bulgaria may yet have to battle to retain her independence. In conversation with an officer of the Bulgarian general staff, whose identity for obvious reasons cannot be revealed, the correspondent was assured that it is generally recognized that war cannot be averted, although postponed for a time by the new treaty.

How the Mines Were Laid.

Port Arthur, May 4.—Details of the demonstrations off Port Arthur April 27 disclose the ingenuity of the Japanese. Their squadron set afloat a string of connected rafts carrying burning material. About 1:40 in the morning, when five miles off shore, the combustibles were fired, the wind and waves bringing the burning rafts toward the harbor.

Under cover of this screen of fire eight Japanese torpedo boats, towing a launch filled with mines, slipped around to a spot near where the Petrovov was sunk, but they were detected by the Russian searchlights, where the batteries opened fire and drove them off, but not before the mines had been placed.

The mines have since been destroyed. The Japanese, knowing that the Russians would intercept wireless messages, tried a neat trick to deceive and worry Viceroy Alexieff. For several nights in succession they sent by wireless telegraph orders to prepare for a landing, to send in fresh troops, to attack with submarine boats, etc.

Sweep Away Opponents.

Tokio, May 4.—After five days of fighting, largely with artillery, the first Japanese army, under General Kouraki, has forced a crossing of the Yalu river and drove the Russians from Chiu Tien Cheng and the heights on the right bank of the Iho or Aida river, which enters the Yalu from the north almost opposite Wiju. The Japanese turned the left flank of the Russian position, and in the battle of Sunday they swept away the new front interposed by the Russians to check their onward movement.

Rules for Decoration Amended.

St. Petersburg, May 4.—The regulations prescribing the acts for which the decoration of the order of St. George shall be conferred will be amended so as to meet the conditions of modern warfare. The present regulations were framed in the area of wooden ships and are hardly possible in this day of steel ships.

Under the new arrangements, the entire crew of a torpedo or submarine vessel sinking an enemy's ship will be decorated.

Antung Burned and Deserted.

Tokio, May 4.—The Russians were forced to abandon Antung yesterday. They burned the town and retreated to Fengshan Cheng. The Japanese now control the estuary of the Yalu.

HAPPENINGS HERE IN OREGON

FROST BLIGHTS PRUNES.

Change of Weather Catches Fruit in Blossom—Pears Also Affected.

Albany.—The prune crop of Linn county will be almost an entire failure this year, according to an orchardist who was in Albany a few days ago. The frost that visited the valley came at a very inopportune time for the orchards. The cold weather that held on until an almost unprecedented late date for this valley had kept the fruit back until orchardists were confident of escaping the spring frosts which usually catch the fruit in March, if at all.

But the warm weather during the first week of April brought the fruit out rapidly, and when the cold rains came again, fruit of every description was in full blossom. The heavy frost found the fruit in full blossom and did much damage.

The prune trees were well loaded with blossoms, which had begun to fall. A close examination of the trees reveals now that although the embryo fruit within the blossom is green, yet the fruitstem leading from the limb of the tree is turning yellow. This is said to mean that the fruit will drop from the tree just as soon as the prune becomes large enough to add weight to the stem.

The dead stem can not bear up any load. The statement of the prunerowner is that at least three-fourths of the prunes are affected in this way, and that orchardists will do well to save one-fourth of this year's prune crop. As prunes constitute the greater part of the fruit crop of the county, the loss will fall heavily upon fruitgrowers in this part of the valley.

Pears are affected in the same way. The young pears were just beginning to form when the frost came and were hit just as hard as the prunes.

Apples are looking well at this time. They were not affected so seriously by the late frost, and the trees are now covered with blossoms that look healthy and give every promise of developing into fruit of Oregon's usual excellent varieties. This crop will, however, depend largely on the weather during the next two weeks. Another frost such as that of recent date would injure the apple crop.

GOLD IN GREAT LUMPS.

Rich Pocket Struck in the Bonanza Mine, in Eastern Oregon.

Baker City.—A wonderfully rich strike is said to have been made in the Bonanza mine in the Greenhorn district recently. A pocket of very rich ore was opened upon the 1200-foot level, out of which less than five tons of ore were taken which is reported to have yielded \$4,000 in gold bullion.

It is against the policy of the mine-owners to give out any facts about rich strikes of this nature, and it is only in a roundabout way that anything can be learned about the opening of the pocket.

It is unusual to find such rich pockets so far below the surface. The old Virginia mine, near this city, has the best record for rich pockets, but they have all been found near the surface and usually by professional pocket hunters, who make it their business to search for these phenomenally rich deposits.

It has always been the theory of experts that while rich ore might be encountered in the depths, that there never would be any "pockets," as the term is usually understood, found below 500 feet from the surface.

The Bonanza has been yielding steadily for several months, since the year ago this strike will encourage deep mining in this part of the state, something that has not been attempted until within the past two years.

May Fly to St. Louis.

La Grande.—Union county is to have an entry in the flying machine contest which will take place at the St. Louis exposition. For several years Grant Key, who lives on Cricket Flat, near Elgin, has been experimenting along the lines of aerial navigation, and now firmly believes he has devised a plan whereby a journey through the clouds will be easily made with his apparatus.

He has ordered the engines and is erecting a large shed on a flat near his home, where he will assemble the various parts of the machine.

Ellis Loses the Meteorite.

Oregon City.—The jury in the replevin suit of the Oregon Iron & Steel company vs. Ellis Hughes for possession of a meteorite discovered near this city last winter, found for the plaintiff. The property in dispute is a metallic mass weighing about ten tons, and is the largest meteorite ever found in the United States, while there is but one other in the world of larger size. This is the second case of the kind ever been tried in the United States.

More Butter From Tillamook.

Tillamook.—Tillamook county's output of dairy products will be much larger this year than formerly, owing to the quantity of excellent grass feed now on the grazing lands. The late season delayed the grass growth for a time, but the herds and especially the milk cows are now in good condition.

Gift to Willamette University.

Salem.—Banker A. Bush has donated \$2,000 to aid in the erection of a building for the medical department of Willamette University. The building will be erected on the university campus, and when completed will cost \$15,000.

FORCE THE YALU.

Charge of Brown Men Irresistible and Russians Fall Back.

Tokio, May 3.—Advices received here state that the Twelfth division of the Japanese army forced a crossing of the Yalu river above Wiju just before dawn Saturday morning. The second pontoon bridge across the river near Wiju was completed at 8 o'clock Saturday night and the imperial guards of the Second division crossed during the night.

The Russian left flank has been turned and a general attack began at dawn Sunday by all the Japanese batteries on the south side of the river and a flotilla of gunboats co-operating with the army.

The Japanese have the advantage of positions and numbers and are confident of routing the enemy.

The News From St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, May 3.—The general staff account of the operations on the Yalu river Saturday is as follows:

"At 4 o'clock this morning Japanese field batteries and 47 guns opened a terrific fire on our position at Turenchen and our troops near Potientensky."

"The overwhelming superiority of the Japanese in artillery and the heavy losses their fire inflicted on our troops occupying these positions made it clear to General Samuilitch that it was impossible to hold Turenchen. Consequently the troops were ordered to retire from Turenchen while still holding the Potientensky road."

"When General Samuilitch dispatched his telegram the Russian troops were retreating in good order from Turenchen and Schakhedsky to their second position, and the battle was continuing at Potientensky and Telnig."

WILL TRY TO KEEP FLEET IN.

Togo Wants No More Raids Made by the Vladivostok Squadron.

St. Petersburg, May 3.—A dispatch received here from Viceroy Alexieff says:

"The continued presence of the Japanese squadron off Vladivostok has convinced the authorities that Vice Admiral Togo has taken to heart the sharp lesson taught him through his failure to consider the possibilities of mischief by the formidable Russian division at that port, and is now seeking means to stop further raiding operations in the Sea of Japan. It is evident that as soon as the Japanese were informed of the operation of the Russians in Korean waters, the government instructed Vice Admiral Togo to dispatch a strong squadron and send it to Vladivostok to cut off the Russian ships and confine them to the harbor so they could do no further damage. The former purpose failed, owing to the celerity of Rear Admiral Yezan's movements."

While there is no expectation that Rear Admiral Yezan will risk an encounter with a superior force by putting to sea, even on a raiding expedition, it is said he is a bold commander and will spring surprises upon the Japanese.

FAIR GATES OPEN.

Great Throng Witnesses Ceremonies at St. Louis Exposition.

St. Louis, May 2.—The Louisiana Purchase exposition was formally opened Saturday afternoon. The inaugural exercises were simple and were carried through without delay and without halt or delay of any description.

The weather was without a flaw. The handling of the crowd, the guarding of inclosures and the police work generally could not have been improved upon. This work was in the hands of officers of the regular army, who directed the exposition guards in their duty.

At 12 o'clock the signal was given to President Roosevelt that all things were ready. In a few minutes came the answering touch over the wire from the White House. This officially opened the exposition.

The crowd was fully as large as that which filled the grounds one year ago when the exposition buildings were dedicated.

Oregon Cannot Get Lands.

Washington, May 3.—The secretary of the interior today confirmed the decision of the general land office cancelling two selections made by the state of Oregon under lists 434 and 444 in lieu of school lands relinquished to the government. The selection under list 434 is rejected because the lands assigned as base are within unsurveyed townships. The other list is canceled because the lands used as base were made base for a prior selection of school indemnity lands.

Russia Heaves Sigh of Relief.

St. Petersburg, May 3.—Without a dissenting voice the Russian press approves of the decision of the government, as announced in its circular note, not to permit mediation and warning the powers that they must keep their hands off when the terms of peace are settled. The Svet says: "All Russia heaves a sigh of relief. We are going to establish ourselves on the Pacific without sharing the spoils of victory."

Russians Find Japs Laid Mines.

Paris, May 3.—According to the St. Petersburg correspondent of the Echo de Paris, specialists who have examined the spot where the battleship Petropavlovsk sank, declare the Japanese laid a large group of connected mines, each containing 80 pounds of lyddite, in Port Arthur roads. These have now been found and removed by the Japanese.

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