

The Santiam News.

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NO. 39.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

In a Condensed Form for Our Busy Readers.

HAPPENINGS OF TWO CONTINENTS

A Resume of the Less Important but Not Less Interesting Events of the Past Week.

Salvador has joined Honduras against Nicaragua.

Harriman has bought the Salt Lake railroad from the Clark syndicate.

A New Mexico grand jury has indicted six corporation employees for land fraud.

President Ripley, of the Santa Fe, says Roosevelt is to blame for the anti-railroad agitation.

The fisheries agreement between the United States and Great Britain is being discussed by the house of commons.

Germany and Austria are said to have changed front and now favor discussion of disarmament at The Hague peace conference.

There are signs that Roosevelt and the railroad presidents will reach an understanding on the new laws, the latter showing a stronger desire to obey.

The Nebraska land thieves who have been on trial for some time have been found guilty and sentence to pay a fine of \$1,500 each and remain in jail a year.

Sylvester R. Rush, of Nebraska, has been appointed a special assistant to the United States attorney general. He has a reputation of being as ruthless a prosecutor as Henry.

Thaw is almost certain to go to the asylum whether acquitted or convicted.

An Illinois woman will organize an army of drunkards' wives to carry local option.

President Roosevelt is said to be back of a move to start a boom for Taft for president.

President Roosevelt has appointed a commission on the improvement of waterways.

Attorney General Thompson, of Nebraska, says the new 2-cent passenger rate law is constitutional.

Germany and Austria have combined to oppose consideration of disarmament at The Hague peace conference.

Governor Johnson, of Minnesota, proposes a conference of government and state officials on railroad laws.

The reclamation service has sustained Engineer Ross, of Idaho, saying the charges are the result of work by disgruntled contractors.

The flood loss at Pittsburg is expected to reach at least \$10,000,000, and many other towns in the path of the high water are reporting losses proportionately as high. At Wheeling, W. Va., 18 people have lost their lives.

Tilman says third term will be the issue in 1908.

An Austrian officer predicts an American-Japanese war and American defeat.

The Interstate Commerce commission is after the coal roads of Illinois and Indiana.

London woman suffragists declare themselves ready to wear short hair to win their cause.

The G. A. R. national encampment will be held at Saratoga, N. Y., the week of September 9.

In a clash between American troops and Cuban rural guards at Santa Clara, Cuba, five were seriously injured.

Oklahoma's constitution has been completed. The initiative and referendum and direct primary laws of Oregon have been copied.

Roosevelt has demanded Harriman's deposition and his backers will take away control from him so he will lose all his railroads.

The railroad presidents have concluded they have no mandate to present to the president and have decided they want to obey the law.

The Japanese agreement has been carried out in San Francisco and Washington.

Dowie's funeral sermon, written by himself, cursed his enemies.

Harriman wants railroads excepted from Sherman anti-trust law.

Finland has just held its first election under universal suffrage.

So great has been the Japanese immigration through El Paso, Tex., that Mexicans have been displaced by the brown men after assisting them to enter this country.

Schmitz and Ruef, the San Francisco grafters, have lost every point so far in the courts.

PLUNDERED BY HILL-MORGAN

Attorney General Asked to Air Northern Pacific Scandal.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 19.—Reduced to the form of affidavits and documents, the authenticity of which have been proved in legal proceedings, revelations concerning the wholesale plundering of the rights of stockholders in the Northern Pacific railroad are about to be presented before Attorney General Bonaparte. At the time of the Hill-Morgan reorganization of the Northern Pacific railroad, Brayton Ives, then a prominent New York banker, was the president of the old company.

In February of 1896 Mr. Ives, as president of the Northern Pacific, appointed from his board of directors a so-called "protective committee," claiming authority to proceed with the work of reorganization. Morgan & Co. were not only reorganization managers, contracting with themselves as syndicate managers, but they were also syndicate subscribers, and thus appeared in a three-fold capacity, being joined as syndicate subscribers with Mr. Ives and other directors of the old Northern Pacific company. Millions of dollars were collected in assessments levied upon the stockholders of the old Northern Pacific company, which it was thought by the public were to be used to rehabilitate the company.

Instead of being so appropriated they were gathered in and divided among the syndicate as commissions and profits. This is one of the features of the "sell-out" of the old Northern Pacific company and is one of the many amazing things connected with this remarkable reorganization for which a complete investigation is being demanded of the authorities at Washington.

ROCKEFELLER MAKES WILL.

Plans to Give An Immense Fortune to Use of the Public.

New York, March 19.—The Herald will tomorrow say that according to a member of John D. Rockefeller Jr.'s bible class, and who is also a personal friend of John D. Rockefeller and in a position to know of his affairs, the latter proposes to make a princely gift to New York City. It will amount to at least \$50,000,000. It will be partly charitable and partly educational. The Herald will add:

"This man said that when Mr. Rockefeller was conferring with his son at Lakewood, N. J., a fortnight ago, the meeting was not for the purpose of discussing any immediate gift, but was on the subject of Mr. Rockefeller's will, which document the oil king was then completing with the aid of his son and his lawyers. It was said that this document will astonish the world when it is made public.

It will, it is declared, give no less than \$250,000,000, for charitable and educational purposes, and it will be so bestowed that the benefit therefrom will almost be perpetual.

Rate War on the Atlantic.

London, March 19.—Heri Ballin, director general of the Hamburg-American Steamship line, who is here attending the shipping conference, today said there was every likelihood of a renewal of the rate war for the North Atlantic trade with the Cunard line. Within a fortnight he expects to see a decision one way or the other. Further Heri Ballin declared the German line had a working agreement with the White Star line, and that all possibility of friction, owing to the removal of that line to Southampton, had now been obviated.

Yellow Fever in Port.

Galveston, Tex., March 19.—A case of yellow fever was discovered aboard the British steamship Basil, which arrived in port Saturday afternoon nine days out from Para, Brazil. The case was conveyed to the St. Mary's Infirmary, where the patient died Sunday, and a postmortem examination corroborated the antemortem diagnosis. The ship was placed under guard and thoroughly fumigated by the state quarantine authorities, so as to destroy all lurking mosquitoes, and towed out by the pilot boat into Bolivar roads.

Fire Gale Sweeps Bay.

San Francisco, March 19.—A fierce south and southeast gale swept the bay today, which drove small craft to shelter, caused vessels in the stream to seek positions of safety and made the ferry steamers roll unpleasantly. Outside the heads the gale raged with a velocity of 50 miles an hour, and the seas ran high. Several vessels were compelled to put back, owing to the rough condition of the weather.

Torpedo Boat Is Rammed.

Ajaccio, France, March 19.—During the maneuvers last night without lights the torpedo boat destroyer Epee rammed torpedo boat No. 263. A steam-pipe on the last named vessel burst, killing two men and mortally injuring another. The Epee towed the torpedo boat ashore, where she was beached.

Japan Adds 24 Regiments.

Tokio, March 19.—In pursuance of the program to increase armaments, 24 infantry regiments have been organized, mainly concentrated in Northern Japan. The main base will be Kurume.

GRAFT WAS RAMPANT

Ruef and Schmitz Secured Large Sums In Bay City.

SUPERVISORS TELL ALL ABOUT IT

Traction Company Mulcted of \$450,000—Money Taken from Two Telephone Companies.

San Francisco, March 19.—Before tomorrow morning dawn, Abraham Ruef, fallen boss of San Francisco, now on trial for extortion, will have been indicted by the grand jury on various counts, aggregating nearly 100 in number, covering a period of many months and based on bribes running into hundreds of thousands of dollars. With him will be criminally involved Mayor Schmitz, almost a score of the officials of the city government and a number of millionaires of prominence in San Francisco and in the East.

Seventeen of the 18 county supervisors went before the grand jury today and confessed in detail graft operations and their magnitude carried on during their tenure of office. Principal among these was the award of a blanket franchise to the United Railroads to transform its cable lines into an overhead trolley system, for which Ruef had mulcted Patrick Calhoun, president of the company, in the sum of \$450,000.

But the corruption surrounding the history of the franchise granted to the Home Telephone company was even more damnable, and explodes the cherished proverb that "there is honor among thieves." The board of supervisors was bought twice, once by the Pacific States Telephone company, which wished to keep the rival corporation out of the city, and once by the Home Telephone company, which was fighting to get an entrance into the city. The Pacific States company paid the most money.

This was brought about by the purchase of Mayor Schmitz and Abe Ruef by the foreign concern, and they, with their pockets well lined, cracked the whip over the supervisors and forced the granting of the coveted privilege. Most of the supervisors had got \$5,000 apiece from the Pacific States company. A little later the Home Telephone agents paid a number of the supervisors \$3,000 each, but Ruef and Schmitz, having been seen meanwhile, the sum was considered enough to complete the transaction.

The confessions revealed details also of the Ocean Shore railroad franchise deal and others less extensive, but involving in the aggregate upward of \$1,000,000. It is believed that the supervisors who confessed have been promised immunity from prosecution.

HERMANN WROTE ANSWERS.

Many Letters Received at Land Office Sustain Case.

Washington, March 19.—Yesterday opened the sixth week of the trial of Binger Hermann on the indictment charging destruction of 35 letterpress copybooks alleged to have contained official correspondence of the general land office. The prosecution will probably conclude by the end of the week and it is expected the defense will occupy two weeks with its witnesses before the case goes to the jury. To date approximately 1,000,000 words of testimony have been taken.

Yesterday the prosecution placed on the stand seven chiefs of divisions of the general land office who served under Hermann, and all identified original official letters from the land office files which were answered in person by Hermann as commissioner. All testified that they have been unable to find in the files copies of the replies to these letters, the memorandum in each case stating specifically that the letters were answered by the commissioner. There were no such letters.

Smallpox Hits Paris.

Paris, March 19.—The appearance of a few cases of smallpox here has greatly alarmed the people. Thousands of persons have been vaccinated during the past few days and the hospitals and academies of medicine are besieged by crowds of people anxious to be vaccinated. The authorities, however, say that there is no real danger of an epidemic. Dr. Mesquiere, director general of public service, informed the Associated Press that the reports that the situation had grown worse were untrue.

Civil Service for Porto Rico.

San Juan, Porto Rico, March 19.—The legislature adjourned today, after the most important session since the American occupation, 15 bills of the 257 introduced being passed. Among the measures approved is a civil service bill which will become effective next January. Appropriation bills finally were passed in the form presented by the governing council.

POINT AGAINST HERMANN.

Answered Letters, but Copies of Answers Not Found.

Washington, March 15.—Evidence decidedly damaging to Binger Hermann was introduced by the government today in the trial of the ex-land commissioner for destruction of 35 letterpress copybooks, alleged to have contained official correspondence.

Charles L. Dubois, chief of survey division; D. C. Sherman, formerly Hermann's financial clerk, and John S. Wile, another clerk in the land office, all identified several letters taken from the files of the land office, all pertaining to government business and all endorsed on the back, "answered by commissioner."

They all agreed that this endorsement signified that Hermann himself dictated the replies and that his answers were press-copied in what were known as the commissioner's "personal" letter-books. It was also brought out by the government that careful search through the letter-books now in the land office failed to disclose copies of the answers to these particular letters, thereby strongly intimating that the letters must have been copied in the books destroyed by Hermann as charged in the indictment, and that the books, therefore, contained official correspondence.

No stronger evidence in support of indictment has heretofore been given during the protracted trial. In fact, most of the evidence submitted up to this time has been designed to show a motive for the destruction of the books and had no direct bearing upon the actual charge contained in the indictment. Today's evidence is very strong in support of the indictment, and while it is circumstantial, yet leaves little doubt in the minds of those who have followed the case that Hermann's so-called "private" letter-books in fact contained much correspondence relating to the business of his office.

MAY PROMOTE IMMIGRATION.

Government Will Not Interfere With Movement of Southern States.

Washington, March 15.—Information received today renders it clear that the immigration authorities, as one result of the several conferences recently held, in which the president, Secretary Straus, Attorney General Bonaparte, Commissioner of Immigration Sargent and prominent men of the South have participated, will interpret the existing immigration law as it was interpreted in the South Carolina case. The attorney general has held that the immigrants landed at Charleston, S. C., last November, are legally in the country. They were induced to come to America by authorized agents of South Carolina and the passage money for some, at least, of them was paid by the state, and others by contributions of the citizens. Several other Southern states have decided to seek immigration along the same lines as were followed by South Carolina and it is understood they will not be interfered with.

CHANGES CANAL BOARD.

Roosevelt Receives Resignations and Appoints New Members.

Washington, March 15.—The president today received the resignations as members of the Isthmian Canal commission of Rear Admiral Endicott, Brigadier General C. P. Haines and D. M. Harrod, to take effect tomorrow. To fill the vacancies he announced the appointment of John F. Stevens as chairman of the commission to succeed T. P. Shonts, and as commissioners Lieutenant Colonel Goethals, Majors Gaillard and Siebert, Civil Engineer Rosson, Dr. Gorgas and Jackson Smith.

Ex-Senator Blackburn will have to await the retirement from the commission of Mr. Stevens about April 1.

Advance in Postal Salaries.

Washington, March 15.—First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock has made a compilation showing how many clerks in postoffices and letter-carriers will be affected by the increased pay recently provided for them by congress. The additional pay will begin on July 1 next. The total number of clerks promoted at that time or as soon afterwards as they shall have completed a year's service in the grades in which they are now serving will be 19,900. The increase will affect 42,433 carriers throughout the country.

Sell to Insurance Company.

Milan, March 15.—In the town of Borsano, near this city, 2,000 persons were today made homeless by a fire which destroyed the greater part of the village. The people were indifferent to the spread of the flames, because their property was insured, and the authorities were obliged to force peasants to work to check the fire.

FLOOD IS RECEDING

Damage at Pittsburg Estimated Ten to Twenty Millions.

AT LEAST TWENTY LIVES LOST

Whole Business Center of the Smoky City is Submerged When Ice Gorges Go Out.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 16.—With the rapid receding of the waters in the Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers, conditions are resuming normal proportions. The approaches to the bridges are now clear of water and street car service in the flooded district has been resumed.

At 9 o'clock last night the river had fallen almost eight feet. At that hour the stage was 29 feet and dropping six inches an hour.

Ten square miles were inundated. The loss is summarized as follows:

Loss in output of steel mills, \$3,000,000.

Loss in output of other industries, \$2,000,000.

Losses in wages of employees, \$1,837,777.

Damage to industrial plants, \$2,500,000.

Total, \$9,337,000.

Various other estimates are being made, ranging from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000.

Reports from numerous Western Pennsylvania towns are to the effect that the flood is subsiding.

The water in this city reached 37 feet at 6 a. m. yesterday, the highest stage ever recorded. More than 100,000 persons were temporarily thrown out of employment; every transportation company in the city was interrupted; skills carried hundreds of people to their places of business, and the utilization of wagons and horses as conveyances, which did valuable service, was discontinued, owing to the strenuous protests by the Humane society.

Twenty fatalities have occurred in Allegheny county, directly due to high water.

In a fire that threatened the entire Mount Washington section of the city 25 business structures and dwellings were destroyed or damaged today, causing a loss estimated at \$200,000. Many of the dwellings were tenements or apartment houses, and there were many narrow escapes.

The structures were mostly of frame construction and, because of a break in the water main, the only available fire-quenching materials were chemicals from extinguishers and buckets.

Two attempts were made to stop the flames by dynamiting buildings on either side, but each time the wreckage caught fire. It finally burned itself out.

COLLUSION, SAYS GREENE.

Substance of Idaho Irrigation Fraud Charges by Inspector.

Washington, March 16.—Secretary Garfield is working on a report sent to his predecessor by Special Agent A. R. Greene, detailing alleged frauds which he believes he has uncovered in connection with the construction of the Boise-Payette irrigation project in Idaho.

Mr. Greene, so it is reported, alleges there has been collusion between contractors on the Deer Flat reservoir dam and Reclamation Engineer D. W. Rose. It being rumored that Mr. Greene charges that the contractors, in return for favors shown by Mr. Rose, made him a present of 12,000 acres of land. Officials of the reclamation service absolutely discredit the report, and have the utmost confidence in Mr. Rose. It is their belief that investigation will show Mr. Greene to be in error.

Three Drown in Ohio Town.

Zanesville, Ohio, March 16.—Three Hungarians were drowned here as the result of the flood this morning. A score of foreigners were living in a house that was surrounded by the Muskingum river, which overflowed during the night. When they started to wade to land three were caught in the current and swept out into the river. Flood conditions through Muskingum county are unprecedented and growing worse hourly. The Muskingum and Licking rivers are out of bounds in this city and doing much damage.

Another Naval Disaster.

Brest, March 16.—There was another accident to a French warship off this port today. During torpedo practice the coast defense ship Fulminant was struck and seriously damaged on the water line by a torpedo. Collision masts were at once applied to the vessel's side and she was towed into port in a sinking condition.

TOO SOON FOR FAIR.

California Governor Will Not Sign Bill for Appropriation.

Sacramento, Cal., March 18.—Governor Gillett will not sign the Pacific Coast Exposition bill under any circumstances. No amount of influence will tend to change his resolution in this respect, which, he says, is unalterable. It is not because the governor is opposed to the exposition itself, but because he is fully convinced in his own mind that the project has been sprung too early and at a time when the taxpayers of the state will be burdened enough to repair the damages inflicted on the state institutions and on California cities by the disaster of last April. In expressing his views the governor said: "I told these people from the first that I would not sign this bill, that I would not burden the taxpayers of the state with a tax to raise \$1,000,000 at this time. In the first place, this proposed fair is six years in the future, and it will be plenty of time at the next session of the legislature for the state to do her share. Another thing, it is absolutely foolish to begin operations now, when labor is scarce and materials high.

"It is foolish for a man to have a housewarming before he builds his house, and for the next two years, to say the least, the streets of San Francisco will be filled with bricks and debris. The bill provides that the people of San Francisco must raise some \$1,000,000 as well as the state. Let them do this and then the state can act.

OVER A HUNDRED DEAD.

Catastrophe in Forbach, Germany. Mine from Firedamp.

Forbach, Germany, March 18.—An explosion of firedamp in the coal mine at Kleinrosseln, near here, last night, resulted in the death of over 100 miners and the injury of 12 others. The disaster occurred between 10 and 11 o'clock in a small gallery in which 80 miners were at work.

As the work of rescue progresses it is seen the disaster was more serious than the first reports indicated. Up to a late hour 67 dead men had been brought to the surface, while 40 men were still missing. All the missing have been given up as dead, as they undoubtedly were buried under falling wreckage. Of the wounded two have died, and the doctors think that only one of the remaining 10 will recover. The De Wendels brothers, owners of the mine, have given \$25,000 to relieve the immediate necessities of the afflicted families.

One hundred and seventeen others escaped into adjoining galleries. Two hundred and ten men went into the mine at 5 o'clock last evening, and about midnight the news was spread to the nearby village that a terrible disaster had occurred.

Almost the whole population of the countryside gathered at the mouth of the shaft, among them the families of the men below. Rain began to fall heavily, and distressing scenes of grief were witnessed as the bodies were brought to the surface and laid out under a blaze of electric lights.

Many of the bodies were so disfigured that they were scarcely recognizable. The work of bringing out the injured men and the bodies of the dead was very slow, the galleries being choked with wreckage.

The De Wendels are one of the richest mining families of Alsace-Lorraine.

Children's Suicide Pact.

St. Louis, March 18.—It was developed today through testimony at the corner's inquest into the suicide last night of Lielbling Sloom, aged 10, that she had entered into a suicide pact with Gertrude Harper, also 10 years old. Gertrude testified that she had told her mother that she was going to take her life, and was prevented. J. P. Slinger, the drug clerk who sold the carbolic acid to the Sloom girl, was arrested today. He asserts she bore a note purporting to be from her mother asking for 5 cents worth of carbolic acid.

Steamer Suesvic Ashore.

London, March 18.—The White Star line steamer Suesvic struck on the rocks and went ashore near the Lizard in a thick fog at 11:30 o'clock last night. Two lifeboats have been launched and others have been summoned to go to the assistance of the vessel. The Suesvic went ashore on what is known as Maentere rock, under a lighthouse. On board the vessel were 400 passengers and 160 members of the crew. No loss of life is expected. The passengers and crew of the Suesvic are being landed. No lives have been lost.

Six Die in Virginia Mines.

Norton, Va., March 18.—An explosion occurred in the mines at Greenough this morning after several miners had entered. The mine is seven miles east of Norton. As far as can be learned, ten miners have escaped slightly injured, two dead have been taken from the mines and four are known to be in the mines and are supposed to be dead. The cause of the explosion is unknown.