

BRIEF REPORT OF THE DAILY WORK OF NATION'S LAWMAKERS

Washington, June 9.—An attack on the Democratic wool tariff bill on the ground that it affords protection to the so-called "worsted trust" was made in the house today by Murdock, of Kansas. He attacked the 40 per cent duty on worsted cloths which the bill contains, declaring that it meant immediate protection to the combination that controls the worsted output.

Murdock said the worsted trust has also lowered the quality of goods that the consumer buys, that "clothing manufacturers have been ashamed to pass the fabrics on to the wearers," and at the same time, he said, the cost of worsted goods has been increased.

"The worsted trust has, by stock manipulation," said Murdock, "paid out in 11 years, probably on not over \$15,000,000 original investment, \$22,000,000 in dividends and has built up besides an establishment carrying a capital of \$60,000,000, with a surplus of \$10,000,000 on top of that."

Republican leader Mann opened the attack on the Democratic bill with a criticism of its effectiveness as a revenue producing measure. He accused the Democrats in the house of following misinformation in their support of the bill.

He declared that the passage of the bill would throw open the markets of this country to the cheap woollens and clothing of foreign mills, and that Americans soon would be forced to wear inferior clothing because of the decline of American manufactures.

Washington, June 9.—A conference was held today between the Interstate Commerce commission and counsel for the trunk line railroads on the question of rate allowances made to terminal roads affiliated particularly with the iron and steel industry.

The allowance now made to the terminal roads aggregates millions of dollars a year and it is asserted that in some instances, where the terminal lines are controlled by the large shippers, they amount practically to a rebate.

The particular problem involved is whether the terminal railroads performing principally switching duties, shall be considered as common carrier under the law.

Washington, June 9.—The proposed treaty between the United States and Nicaragua, providing for the refunding of the debt of the Central American republic, was transmitted to the senate today by President Taft with a special message strongly urging immediate and favorable action.

Immediate consideration also was asked for the Honduras treaty, which has been pending in the senate since last session. The Nicaraguan treaty was referred to the committee on foreign relations, which will meet tomorrow to consider both treaties.

Washington, June 9.—After a speech by Senator Works, of California, urging the resolution for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, the senate today adjourned until next Monday, when under agreement a vote will be taken on the resolution.

Washington, June 9.—Legislation to replace the Sherman anti-trust law, to protect property interests and the people's welfare alike, was urged by Elbert H. Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel corporation, in concluding his testimony today before the house steel trust investigating committee.

Judge Gary said he hoped the committee in its report would give the United States Steel corporation what the committee thinks ought to be the corporation's standing under the law.

Washington, June 10.—Danger for this nation in case of war might lurk in the private ownership of lands along the Panama canal, testified Colonel Goethals, chairman of the Isthmian canal commission, before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce. He suggested the government purchase every acre within the canal zone. "Such ownership," said he, "would assure our having none but friends within the zone in times of war. The canal is a war measure, you cannot escape that fact." Asked why the land was not purchased years ago, Colonel Goethals' reply was that much of the private land consists of islands in the artificial lake along the canal. The owners refused to sell, but accepted damages for such of their land as was submerged.

Mexican Troops May Cross Line.

Washington, D. C.—Mexican soldiers will be allowed to travel across American territory to Lower California to reach rebel forces. The State department has given its consent to this plan, with the stipulation that the troops shall not carry arms, but the arms may be carried in sealed baggage cars until the party reaches its destination on the boundary near San Diego.

Washington, June 7.—Abandoning hope of defeating in committee the Root amendment to the Canadian reciprocity bill, affecting the print paper and wood pulp clause of the agreement, friends of the measure today began on the floor of the senate an active campaign to prevent its acceptance.

The president showed anxiety over the situation when, after an executive session of the senate finance committee, he appealed to the Democratic senators to stand out against the amendment. Stone expressed confidence that more than a majority would be found voting against the Root and all other amendments.

The administration has contended that amendment of the bill probably will be fatal and by reason of this, the measure was passed by the house in the form desired by the State department. The same argument was advanced when the measure was turned over to the senate finance committee and Chairman Penrose, of the committee has endeavored to prevent consideration of amendments.

Secretary Knox did not appear before the committee to explain the inwardness of the agreement and to urge the committee to report the measure to the senate in its present form. He was expected to devote considerable time to the Root amendment, explaining wherein it would nullify or postpone the agreement, but he sent word that previous engagements prevented his appearance.

The principal fight on the floor will be based on the Root provision, but whether it be accepted or rejected, the friends of reciprocity are now hopeful of success. The reason is found in the decision of a majority of the Democratic senators to make no effort to attach the house free list bill to the reciprocity measure.

Washington, June 7.—Carrying out the program agreed on yesterday by the senate committee on privileges and elections, Dillingham today introduced in the senate a resolution authorizing the special committee of eight members of the regular elections committee to reinvestigate the charges against Lorimer. Culberson objected to the immediate consideration of the resolution and it went over.

The committee is authorized by the resolution to sit during the sessions of the senate and during any recess of the senate or of congress, to hold sessions at such place or places as it shall deem most convenient for the purpose of investigation, to employ stenographers, counsel, accountants and to send for persons, books, records and papers, to administer oaths and as early as practicable to report to the senate the results of the investigation.

The committee is further and specially instructed to inquire fully into and report on the sources and use of the alleged "jackpots," or any other fund in its relation to and effect on the election of Lorimer.

Washington, June 7.—The Steel trust came into the limelight more than ever today. Sensational rumors regarding prosecution in the immediate future, also involving criminal actions against the magnate of the gigantic corporation, created excitement in various circles.

The salient fact seems to be that the government is giving serious consideration to the case of the trust in question, and while no definite course of procedure may have been decided upon as yet, the department of justice has aroused added interest in the situation by refusing to affirm or deny the stories in circulation.

Washington, June 6.—The house of representatives authorized \$25,000 for the investigation of the American Sugar Refining company, directed an investigation into alleged inadequacy of the taxation assessments in the District of Columbia, turned over to the judiciary committee the question of a change in the extradition laws and discussed many other subjects in a full day's session.

Two hours were spent in a contest between committees for the custody of a \$6,000,000 appropriation bill affecting certain mail routes. The appropriations committee finally won, taking the bill away from the post-office committee.

The house tabled the Berger resolution for a committee to investigate the taking of the alleged Los Angeles dynamiters out of the jurisdiction of Indiana, but it turned over to the judiciary committee all testimony taken in the matter and left it to that committee to determine whether changes ought to be made in extradition laws.

Drug Law to Be Demanded.

Washington, June 8.—Informal conference will be held shortly by Senators who wish to amend the pure food drug act of 1906 as to make it apply to misstatements about the curative effect of medicine, as well as misstatements about the ingredients. The Supreme court of the United States, on May 28, held that the law did not prohibit misstatements as to curative effects.

CHINA DEMANDS COIN.

Wants 12,000,000 Pesos Indemnity From Mexico.

Mexico City.—An indemnity of 12,000,000 pesos will be demanded of Mexico by the Chinese government for the slaughter of Chinese subjects in Torreon. The demand will be backed up by a cruiser which is on the way to Mexican west coast ports.

Three investigators have just returned from Torreon and placed in the hands of Shung Hai Sun, charge d'affaires of the Chinese legation, a detailed report. This shows 303 Chinese were killed and that besides a bank and club house 59 places of business were sacked.

In addition to the indemnity, an apology for insult to the Chinese flag will be demanded; also that aid be extended to destitute families of the victims; that the guilty be punished and the constitutional guarantees of protection to Chinese lives and property be made effective.

Of the 12,000,000 pesos indemnity, 2,000,000 is for property damage and the remainder for the loss of lives.

Commenting upon the matter, Mr. Shung said that, owing to the savage manner in which the Chinese were killed, there has been no attempt by his nation to fix the amount of the indemnity by prescribed methods.

HEAT BURNS MIDDLE STATES.

Wells Dry, Water Famine Feared—Fire Danger Imminent.

Chicago, June 10.—The entire Middle West is baking under the merciless heat that has continued several days. Chicago, which has been exempt by reason of the lake breezes, lost its advantage today when the temperature rose to 98.8, the hottest June day in 39 years. The police tonight report two deaths and scores of prostrations.

The heat was so intense that thermostats in the Boston department store were melted, turning on the automatic sprinkling apparatus over the big structure.

Night advices from various cities throughout the Middle West tell the same story of unusual torridity and intense suffering. In the country districts the hot spell has continued so long that wells and streams are drying up and crops are shriveling. There is grave fear of disastrous fires because of the lack of water and the fact that all buildings are dry as tinder.

Today's temperature of 98.8 was recorded on top of the Federal building, hundreds of feet above the street and away from the fierce sun's rays.

PRUSSIAN FREIGHT HIGHER.

Rates Nearly Double, Wages of Workmen Only One-Third.

Chicago.—How American railroad freight charges compare with those of leading countries of Europe is shown strikingly by comparison of statistics of railways included in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland. These states have nearly the same railway mileage as Prussia.

Latest statistics obtainable for Prussian roads show the average charge for hauling a ton of freight one mile on roads of that country was 1.2 cents. In the same year the average charge for hauling a ton of freight one mile on railways of the group of states referred to was only .64 of one cent.

Jalisco Is Shaken.

Mexico City, June 10.—Several dispatches to the Diario and the Herald report much damage from the earthquake in Zapatlan in the state of Jalisco. The railroad station and 230 houses were destroyed. It is believed that many people were killed and injured, but the number is not known. At the ranches and the smaller towns in the district great damage has been suffered.

According to these specials, Colima suffered great damage. The volcano of that name emitted streams of lava on the towns of San Andres and Tonilata, where many houses were destroyed, but no details are given of the extent of the destruction.

Fisherman Gets Relics.

Astoria, Or.—While making a drift in the lower harbor a couple of days ago Jens Nelson, a gillnetter, picked up two handaxes and a buggy spring that were a part of the cargo of the old steamer Great Republic, which was wrecked near Sand Island in 1879. The axes were in fairly good condition, considering how long they had been in the water. The wreck of the British bark Delharrie, which was lost below Sand Island as she was going to sea on March 10, 1880, is being uncovered by the tides.

Gates Fights Standard.

Denver.—The Times says: "John D. Rockefeller and John W. Gates, owners of the two greatest oil concerns in America, are preparing to commence a bitter rate war in oil, and the opening gun is to be fired in Denver. The invasion of Denver territory three weeks ago by the Texas Oil company, owned by Gates, is said to be the cause of the proposed fight."

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR HOME STATE

UMATILLA CROPS ROSEATE.

Farmers Believe 6,000,000-Bushel Record Will Be Surpassed.

Pendleton.—With the wheat in thousands of fields just beginning to head and with the promise of additional showers, Umatilla county farmers are freely predicting the greatest harvest the county ever had. From all sections of the county and regarding all kinds of grain the same reports are being received. All say they never saw the prospects brighter.

It is said that the normal crop of 5,000,000 bushels of wheat will be harvested even though there should be no more rain between now and harvest, while many say that 1907's record yield of 6,000,000 bushels will easily be surpassed if the normal amount of rainfall comes during June.

Prettier stands of fall wheat were never seen than are now to be found in any direction from Pendleton, while the May rains have brought the spring grain out until a good crop is assured. A peculiar feature of this year's fall-sown grain is that it is heading out as early as the barley, which usually precedes it by a week or two. The harvesting of the two crops will therefore probably start simultaneously.

BUYS GYPSUM LAND.

St. Louis Company Said to Contemplate Plant in Eastern Baker.

Baker.—The Acuma Cement company of St. Louis, Mo., has purchased 3,000 acres of gypsum deposit land near Huntington and will erect a plant of 200 ton daily capacity on the Buchanan spur of the Northwestern railroad. The plant will cost upwards of \$100,000 and will employ several hundred men. The land was purchased from Major John H. Aitkin of Portland, J. P. Hannon and H. C. Northey of Huntington and John L. Rand of this city. The St. Louis people were interested in the proposition by Frank Nelson of Boise, Idaho, who negotiated the sale of the property and brought about the closing of the deal.

The gypsum industry is fast becoming important in Baker county, along with others being developed. The big lime and cement plant, on the main line of the O.-W. R. & N. east of this city, is being increased in capacity all the time. The gypsum deposits seem practically inexhaustible and of high quality.

UMATILLA ALFALFA SHORT.

Mowing to Begin This Week—Later Crops to Be Heavy.

Pendleton.—Growers of alfalfa in Umatilla county are preparing to harvest the first crop of the season. The song of the mower will be heard in several fields this week but it will be about ten days yet before the harvest is in full blast.

According to most of the growers in the vicinity of Pendleton, the first crop will be about 25 per cent short this year. This is due to the exceptionally chilly spring which retarded the growth in most sections. The shortage will be more than made up by the increased acreage and by the second and third crops which promise to go above normal.

State School Receives Presents.

Salem.—From the result of efforts made by Multnomah Camp, No. 77, Woodmen of the World, and the Artisans of Polk county, a new piano and moving picture machine will be installed at the Oregon state training school. When Governor West was at the Woodmen reunion in Portland and at the Artisan picnic at Rickreall, he called it to the attention of the lodges. The Woodmen immediately raised \$50 toward a piano and promised that the balance would be forthcoming. The governor received a telegram from H. S. Hudson, of Portland, supreme master of the Artisans informing him that the picture machine had been purchased and awaits the order of the governor.

\$300,000 Issue Is Legal.

Marshfield.—Judge John S. Coke has given a decision in the Port commission case which is of great importance to Coos Bay. The case was a friendly suit started to test the validity of a port bond issue of \$300,000.

This case has been decided in favor of the Port commission, and means that the proposed bond issue is legal.

Hood River Strawberries Move.

Hood River.—The first carload of strawberries 'of the season was shipped from this city June 3, by the Applegrowers' Union. The berries were consigned to the Stacy Fruit company, of Fargo, N. D. The berries are ripening fast now and hereafter carload lots will be shipped every day.

HAS GREAT PROSPECTS.

New Flouring Mill Spur to Production of Cereal Crops.

Baker.—The crop outlook for Baker county was never better than at the present time, in spite of the lateness of the season in Eastern Oregon. The steady rains of the last week have done a world of good to all crops, which are looking up fine. More wheat has been sown than ever before in this county. This is due largely to the new flouring mill in Baker, which in order to stimulate interest in the industry, has offered a number of prizes for the best crops, both in size, quality and variety. For several reasons the mill people have been experimenting with which varieties are best adapted to the different localities and have come in close touch with the farmers.

Oats and alfalfa give great promise of large yields and the former crop will be of high quality, probably in excess of the high standard of Baker county oats, which have frequently won prizes at agricultural shows for their fine quality. The alfalfa crops on Powder river, lower and upper Burnt river, in the Eagle, Pine and Baker valleys, are looking fine, and bountiful harvests in this staple resource are confidently expected.

In the Powder river valley there will be no shortage of water such as caused trouble last year. The snow in the Blue mountains is melting slowly and the reservoirs are sure to contain a supply to last the entire season. Last year the snow melted rapidly and practically all the mountain snow went off quickly in the spring freshet, causing a shortage nearly all summer. The Baker Irrigation company has increased the capacity of its reservoir, making it a total height of 70 feet, with a width of 60 feet at the top and length from side to side, 600 feet. At present there is enough water stored to cover 2,000 acres a foot in depth and from the way the snow has been melting recently it will contain a sufficient supply to prevent the possibility of shortage.

PLANT SPRUCE AND LARCH.

Large-Burned Over Area Reseeded By Forestry Department.

Baker.—R. M. Evans, assistant forester of the Wallowa national forest, with headquarters at Wallowa, has finished planting an area of about 200 acres near Medical Springs to Norway Spruce and European larch. This is part of the area burned over in the forest fires of last summer. Mr. Evans says the land was so completely burned over that nothing but straight, charred sticks remain of what was once a heavy forest.

An interesting experiment was tried by Mr. Evans to overcome the depredations of squirrels and chipmunks, which have rendered many of the planted areas of the forest useless by eating the tree seeds before they had a chance to germinate and produce saplings. Poisoned grain was scattered over the ground liberally.

The forestry department is contemplating dividing the Wallowa reserve, as the district handled from the Walla Walla, Wash., office is of too great extent to be properly attended to. The headquarters of the forest office for the new district as proposed would be this city.

The rangers and chiefs are taking all precautions to prevent forest fires this season, although the Wallowa reserve did not suffer nearly as much as some of the other districts in the state.

Henry Ireland, superintendent of the Sumpter reserve, is also making preparations to prevent such losses as occurred from forest fires last year, although as was the case with all the national forests of the eastern end of the state, there was not nearly the loss sustained in the Southern district.

Building Sawmills.

Medford.—The Pelican Bay Lumber company is erecting saw mills to handle the 100,000,000 feet of timber in that section. A canal three-fourths of a mile long is being dug through the marsh to bring the timber to the deep waters of the lake, and equipment and machinery are being taken to the grounds for the construction of a logging railway.

Interior Fruit Shipments.

The Dalles.—Large shipments of Dalles strawberries and cherries are being made daily to Central Oregon cities. Three hundred crates of berries were shipped in one day last week to Madras. Warm weather in the last week has ripened the cherry crop and picking has been going on for several days.

Postal Savings Bank Ordered.

Grants Pass.—Postmaster Donnell has received notice to open a U. S. postal savings bank June 27. He was also instructed to go to Astoria where a class is to be held June 19 to instruct postmasters in postal savings bank work.